

Yolanda Sanchez

Ph.D.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Scientific, strategic, and people-oriented R&D leader with extensive combined experience in academic and industry settings. Currently focused in helping biotech teams adopt innovative and pragmatic strategies to advance drug discovery programs.

Extensive expertise in early drug discovery, spanning novel target/pathway identification and validation, lead optimization, candidate selection, IND-enabling studies, human biology translational studies, biomarker strategies, and early clinical studies. Extensive experience in implementation of collaborations and business initiatives, embedding of new technologies, line management and people development. Extensive experience in developing and leading

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 – Present

The Bracken Group Senior Consultant

Sept 2019 – Present

YSLB Drug Discovery Consulting LLC Founder and Senior Consultant

- Providing scientific, technical and strategic expertise to early drug discovery programs in biotech, including small molecule, synthetic biology, and gene therapy approaches for various indications (respiratory, skin, and renal diseases).
- Growing portfolio (over 10 client companies) in the biotech and start-up space.

Scientific Advisory Boards

- Scientific Advisor for BioSymetrics, a phenomics-driven drug discovery aimed to improve clinical translation and advance precision medicine (July 2022-present).
- Clinical Translation Advisor for RAGE Biotech, a biotech company developing novel therapeutics targeting the Receptor for Advanced Glycation Products (RAGE) for difficult-to-treat inflammatory diseases (March 2022-present).
- Senior Translational Advisor at 20/15 Visioneers, a start-up company that integrates culture, data, process and technology to translate better vision into better outcomes for pharma and biotech (September 2020-present).

Guest Lecturer

- Precision Medicine Guest Lecturer at University of Pennsylvania Masters in Biotechnology (2021-2022).

Apr 2019 – Aug 2019

GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals

Vice President, Interim Head of Clinical Biomarkers Clinical Pharmacology and Experimental Medicine, Research, R&D, Collegeville, PA

- Interim Head of the Clinical Biomarkers group, in charge of forming a new group to deliver strategic end-to-end biomarker plans to build confidence in mechanistic understanding, therapeutic indication and patient selection.
 - Successfully built new Clinical Biomarkers group in record time, attracting talent across the organization and obtaining strategic and organizational buy-in from senior leadership.
 - Embedded biomarker strategies on projects across the GSK portfolio (excluding Oncology) to enable quantitative decision making and data-driven decisions.

Jan 2016 – Mar 2019

Respiratory Therapy Unit, King of Prussia, PA

Vice President, Respiratory Therapy Area Head, Stress and Repair Discovery Performance Unit

- Head of the Stress and Repair DPU at GSK, responsible for the delivery of a portfolio of novel mechanisms for respiratory chronic diseases. The DPU was a multidisciplinary and integrated (biotech-like) group of about 35 scientists (chemistry, biology, DMPK), focused on identifying and progressing novel targets for COPD and other chronic respiratory diseases.



CONTACT

+1 – 215-648-1208 Ext. 720

YSanchez@thebrackengroup.com

[LinkedIn Profile](#)

www.thebrackengroup.com

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science

University of Oviedo, Oviedo (Spain),
Biology

PhD

University of Oviedo, Oviedo (Spain),
Biology (Biochemistry and Molecular
Biology)

PUBLICATIONS

- [Selected Publications](#)
- [Full list available in PubMed as Sanchez Y and Lopez-Boado YS](#)

- Specific areas of scientific focus spanned cellular mechanisms of defense against oxidative stress and mechanisms of repair and remodeling in disease, including genetics and functional genomics approaches. This scientific strategy extended to chronic diseases in other therapeutic areas (e.g., renal, skin) where oxidative stress is a driver of pathophysiology.
- Played a key role as a member of the Respiratory Therapy Area Executive Team, responsible for overseeing the progression of the respiratory portfolio and interactions with the commercial team.
- Developed the scientific strategy and 3-year business plans for the S&R Discovery Performance Unit.
- Led clinical programs towards early development (up to Phase 2a/PoC); the S&R DPU portfolio included programs in lead identification, lead optimization and early clinical studies.
- Identified and implemented strategic collaborations between GSK and academic institutions and/or biotech companies, including due diligence activities and direct/indirect alliance management.
- Managed team in various disciplines, including managing performance and attracting and developing talent.
- Managed an overall \$5-8 m/year project budget.
- Chaired the GSK DPU Heads and Discovery Leaders Community (2017-2019), a group of about 40 senior leaders (VP and SVP level) collectively responsible for the early drug discovery space.

Respiratory Therapy Unit, King of Prussia, PA

2013 – 2015

Senior Director and Head, Stress and Repair Discovery Performance

2011 – 2013

Unit Director (Biology), Stress and Repair Discovery Performance Unit

2005 – 2011

Epithelial Defense and Repair (Respiratory Center for Excellence in Drug Discovery; Stress and Repair Discovery Performance Unit, Respiratory Therapy Unit), King of Prussia, PA
Group Leader (Biology)

Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC

Assistant Professor

Departments of Internal Medicine (Molecular Medicine) and Microbiology and Immunology, NC

- Independent Principal Investigator funded by WFU School of Medicine start-up funds and research grants from the American Lung Association and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Washington University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, MO

Research Instructor, Department of Pediatrics

Research Associate, Department of Medicine (Dermatology)

University of Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain

Research Associate, Department of Biochemistry

National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

Postdoctoral Fellow