

# Antonio Alcamí Pertejo

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**Position:** Research Professor, Spanish Research Council (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, CSIC), Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa, Madrid

**Research group:** Modulation of the immune response by viruses (INMUNOVIR)

**Web page:** [www.cbm.uam.es/antonio.alcami](http://www.cbm.uam.es/antonio.alcami)

Antonio Alcamí received a PhD in Biology from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid in 1987. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher in the University of Oxford (UK) and established his research group in 1998 in the University of Cambridge (UK) as a Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow. He identified the first cytokine receptors encoded by poxviruses and herpesviruses as a novel viral immune evasion mechanism. He moved to CSIC in 2003 as a Research scientist working at Centro Nacional de Biotecnología in Madrid. He is now a Research Professor from CSIC at Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa (CSIC-UAM) en Madrid, and until 2012 he was Senior Visiting Fellow in the Department of Medicine (University of Cambridge, UK).

His research interest is the understanding of how poxviruses, such as variola (smallpox) virus, and herpesviruses, such as herpes simplex virus, evade the host defense mechanisms. Viral mechanisms of immune modulation have been optimized for millions of years of evolution. A. Alcamí is using the information found in viruses to develop new medicaments based on viral strategies to inhibit immunopathologies that cause human diseases, and he is inventor of 12 patents in this area. More recently, he is interested in metagenomic studies using next generation sequencing technologies to identify new viruses and their role in natural ecosystems (Antarctica and Arctic) and human pathologies. His laboratory is funded by projects from the National Institutes of Health (USA), European Sequencing and Genomics Infrastructure (EU FP7), Plan Nacional and Carlos III (RETICS Red Española de Esclerosis Múltiple).

A. Alcamí is a member of the Editorial Board of *Virology* and *Journal of Virology*, is advisor to the World Health Organization Advisory Committee on Variola Virus Research and belongs to the Midwest Regional Center of Excellence in Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases (Washington University, St. Louis, USA). He has participated as reviewer of research grant proposals in European Agencies (UK, France, ...) and has been a member of evaluation panels from the National Institutes of Health (USA) and Spanish Plan Nacional. He is chairman of the evaluation panel of Biomedicine grants (Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness, MINECO). He has 86 scientific publications listed in PubMed and 4.585 citations; h index: 32.