

Irene Miguel-Aliaga is Professor of Genetics and Physiology at Imperial College London, and MRC Investigator at the MRC London Institute of Medical Sciences.

Irene's group explores the idiosyncrasies of adult organs: how they differ between the sexes or across life stages, and why they engage in crosstalk with other organs. They were one of the first labs to tackle the study of the brain-gut axis using the powerful genetics of *Drosophila*. They discovered that the brain-gut axes of males and females are very different, and that these intestinal sex differences impact food intake, gamete production and tumour susceptibility. They have also investigated how the intestine senses nutrients, revealing unexpected roles for metal sensing in the regulation of feeding and growth.

Irene trained as a biochemist in Barcelona, Spain and received her PhD in Genetics from the University of Oxford (UK). She investigated how neurons develop and function during postdoctoral work at Harvard (USA), Linköping University (Sweden) and NIMR (UK).

Irene has been awarded three ERC grants. She has been elected to the Royal Society, the Academy of Medical Sciences, EMBO and the EMBO YIP programme. She has won a Suffrage Science Women in Science award and the Genetics Society Mary Lyon Medal.