



Universidad
de Navarra



Nerea Lopez Fernandez I am a Ph.D. student at the University of Navarra, focusing on the development of DIVA vaccines against different *Brucella* species. My academic background includes a bachelor's degree in biomedical science from the University of Westminster and a master's degree in molecular biology from the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU). During my master's thesis, I investigated the immunomodulatory properties of *Lactobacillus* (<https://doi.org/10.1080/19490976.2021.1939598>).

My research interests lie in microbiology, immunology, and vaccine development. In my current Ph.D. research, I aim to contribute to the understanding and improvement of protective immunity against *Brucella* infections, with a focus on the design and evaluation of DIVA vaccines that can differentiate infected from vaccinated animals.

Throughout my academic journey, I have gained expertise in molecular biology techniques, bacterial genetics, and immunological assays. Additionally, I have worked with various cellular models, including THP-1, RAW, HeLa, PBMCs, and BMDM. My work seeks to provide valuable insights into vaccine development strategies that can enhance disease control and prevention efforts.

Beyond research, I have a strong interest in science communication and outreach. Last year, I participated in Pint of Science in Pamplona, and I continue to be part of the organizing team, contributing to bringing scientific knowledge closer to the public.