

Jon Darpón, Minister of Health of the Basque Government, visits CIC biomaGUNE

José María Mato and Luis Liz Marzán, General Director and Scientific Director of CIC biomaGUNE respectively, explained the biomedical applications of the research conducted by the Centre.

(Donostia, 8 February 2017). The Centre for Cooperative Research in Biomaterials - CIC biomaGUNE – today hosted a visit from Mr. Jon Darpón, Minister of Health of the Basque Government. Mr Darpón was accompanied on the visit by Mr Iñaki Berraondo, Vice-Minister of Health of the Basque Government, and Ms. María Aguirre, Director of Innovation and Health Research.

In the course of the visit, José María Mato, General Director of CIC biomaGUNE, and Luis Liz Marzán, Scientific Director of the Centre, explained to the Basque Government health representatives the cutting-edge scientific work being taken forward by CIC biomaGUNE at the interface between Chemistry, Biology and Physics, and particularly on the properties of molecular level biological nanostructures and their biomedical applications. In this sense, CIC biomaGUNE works in close collaboration with Osakidetza through its Health Research Institutes and research groups in areas such as oncology, amongst many others.

The Health Minister and the members of his team were given a guided tour of the Centre's facilities in the Gipuzkoa Science and Technology Park, the main objective of which is to promote state-of-the-art scientific research and technological innovation and to contribute to the creation and consolidation of a new economic sector based on biosciences and biomaterials, in line with the RIS3 strategy of the Basque Country.

Mr. Darpón's visit to CIC biomaGUNE took in the Molecular Imaging Facility, which is included in the Spanish State's Map of Singular Scientific and Technological Infrastructures (ICTS). Amongst other pieces of equipment and facilities explained to the Basque Government delegation was the cyclotron, a particle accelerator capable of producing a wide variety of positron-emitting isotopes, the Radiochemistry and Nuclear Imaging Laboratory equipped with automatic synthesis modules, and state-of-the-art nuclear magnetic resonance and imaging cameras.

Since it was founded in 2006, CIC biomaGUNE has established itself as a nationally and internationally recognised leader in the field of science and as a knowledge builder in the field of biomaterials. Amongst other achievements, this has led to the generation of new knowledge (publications, patents, etc.), collaboration with international bodies and institutions and to its technological equipment and scientific personnel being at the service of the scientific community and business fabric.

