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Maria de Lourdes Pereira, PhD in Biology by the University of Aveiro (UA), is Associate Professor with Habilitation at Department of Medical Sciences of UA. With 40 years of teaching experience and research in histology and cell biology, and as a member of the Associate Laboratory CICECO-Aveiro Institute of Materials, research has been conducted on adverse effects of pesticides, nanomaterials and drugs. As a member of the World Union for Herbal Drug Discovery (Leader: Prof. V. Nissapatorn, School of Allied Health Sciences, Walailak University, Thailand), studies on natural products with biomedical applications have been done. She was President of the Portuguese Society of Electron Microscopy and Cell Biology (2004), Director of the Master in Molecular and Cellular Biology at UA (2008-2018) and Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, London (2021), being a member of the Pathology Council. She published several papers in international journals, collaborates as editor and has organized several international conferences. Recently, she was distinguished with two Pedagogical Innovation Awards, in co-authorship, and received the Dr. Matthew A. Eichler Memorial Award Research Fellow, by the Asia-Pacific Consortium of Researchers	