

## Eight years of research on the characterization of the Ciguatera Poisoning risk emerging in Europe: main achievements and challenges

### Ana Gago-Martinez

Analytical Chemistry and Food Department and Research Center on Nanomaterials and Biomedicine (CINBIO), University of Vigo, Spain

The emergence of Ciguatera Poisoning (CP) in European North Atlantic coastal areas has been an issue of concern for the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). As a result of this, a Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA), involving several EU Institutions, has been established, in order to characterize this risk. This FPA was first established in 2016 under the Coordination of the Spanish Food Safety Authority, the four-year initiative was extended for an additional three years, in a second edition of the FPA, which was coordinated by the Spanish Ministry of Health. The risk evaluation and characterization were focused on subtropical areas of Europe, located in the Canary Islands (Spain) and Madeira Archipelago (Portugal). The University of Vigo (UVIGO) led the activities related to the analytical characterization of the CP risk, being responsible for several tasks, among others, method development and optimization, development of reference materials, methodological training and capacity building provision. The analytical methods developed in this project allowed us to confirm that Caribbean Ciguatoxins were the responsible for the fish contamination in the areas selected for this study. The main achievements, the most critical challenges and the future needs on this risk characterization are going to be presented and discussed.

*Navigating and Unraveling the Future of Food and Environmental Analysis*



*Advancing analytical science for food safety bring together government, industry and academia*

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**2025 Annual Meeting**

Asilomar Conference Center  
Monterey, CA

**Keynote Speaker:**  
Dr. Katerina Mastovska – AOAC INTERNATIONAL  
Deputy Executive Director and Chief Science Officer

**Conference Speakers Include:**  
Dr. Linda Monaci – CNR ISPA, Italy  
Marc Dreyer – Lawrence Livermore Labs, Ca  
Dr. Lukas Vaclavik – Eurofins, UK

Dr. Baback Gharizadeh – ChapterDX (Chapter Diagnostics)  
Dr. Zeyu Han - Mérieux NutriSciences, BC, Canada  
Dr. Susan Leonard – US FDA  
Dr. Ana Gago-Martinez – Professor, Univ. of Vigo, Spain  
Dr. Olukayode O. Jegede – UC Davis , Ca  
Jonathan DeCenzi – Now Foods, IL

*Additional Speakers to be Added*