

CAROLINA POLA DE VIVAR, Ph.D.



Carolina is **CEO of STAb Tx**, a biotech spin-off from the Hospital 12 de Octubre, which uses genetic engineering **for the development of STAb-T therapies, a next generation cell immunotherapy aimed at efficiently re-arming the patient's immune system in cancer**. She is a **collaborator of the UCAM HiTech**, an incubator of tech spin-outs from the UCAM, and she is also a **permanent collaborator of the Scientific Board of the Ramon Areces Foundation**. Carolina is an **Associate at the business angel association WA4STEAM** to support women tech entrepreneurs and has been an **Adjunct Faculty at the IE University** since 2023 teaching a Technology course for the IE IMPACT Program. She is also a **Termeer Fellow Class of 2025**, a US program for first-time CEOs of early-stage biotechs who are committed to developing life-changing treatments for patients.

Carolina graduated from the Complutense University of Madrid with a B.Sc. in Pharmacy at the top 10 of her class. Upon finishing her studies, she obtained a prestigious "la Caixa" Fellowship to carry out a PhD in the US. Carolina graduated from NYU School of Medicine in 2009 with a PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology. During her graduate training, she was selected to join an interdisciplinary program offered by the Center for Biotechnology of New York called Fundamentals of the Bioscience Industry.

Her first post outside academia was as Editor for the prestigious journal *Nature Medicine* in NY, where she managed the front-half content covering biomedicine and translational research. After 12 years in NY, Carolina returned to Spain as Director of Corporate and Scientific Communications at the biopharma company, PharmaMar where she gathered experience in the biotech private sector from R&D to regulatory approval. In 2016, she joined the Spanish National Cancer Research Centre (CNIO) in Madrid as Director of Innovation. She led partnerships and contract negotiations with the biotech industry and VC to create strategic alliances for tech transfer and lead the successful launch of biotech spin-offs. In 2020, Carolina returned to the private sector as Innovation Strategist in Kaudal to develop financial and funding strategy for the R&D ecosystem. During this time, she was also Head of Intellectual Property at Arquimea, establishing an IP strategy from the business and product perspective. In 2023, Carolina joins STAb Tx as CEO of the biotech spin-off to lead the company strategy and growth in the field of advanced therapies.

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