

Research statement by Paulo Lopes

I began my career as a researcher, in parallel with my clinical practice giving psychological support and treatment motivation to drug addicts, right after graduating in Psychology (ULHT, 2002), I started by studying homophobia in addicts and alcohol consumption habits in teenagers. During my PhD studies in neuropsychology (Univ of Salamanca, 2005-2011), I validated and optimized motivation for treatment scales using Rasch rating-scale model.

At the same time, I started to participate in LabPsiCom research. After my PhD (2011), I strengthened my participation in this group, with a special focus on neuropsychological assessment and development and testing of cognitive stimulation programmes while retaining collaborative ties to Brazilian researchers working on motivational aspects of addiction.

In my future research, I want to continue to broaden my focus to other addictive behaviours beside drug addiction (alcoholism, tobacco); and to incarcerated populations, besides continuing my current work on neuropsychological assessment, cognitive stimulation and rehabilitation programmes with positive technology (pc's, tablets, smart phones), and with a personal focus on psychometric work to produce, adapt, and assess psychological and neuropsychological tests with traditional and Rasch model analyses.