



Jennifer Barreto Estrada, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology
Pilot Project Investigator, RCMI Program

Dr. Jennifer L. Barreto is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, School of Medicine, University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus.

Dr. Barreto received her bachelor's and doctoral degrees in biology from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus. She conducted postdoctoral studies in neuroendocrinology at the University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus.

Dr. Barreto's research studies focuses on the hormonal regulation of molecular and cellular substrates underlying socio-sexual behaviors and anxiety-related behaviors. In particular, how the abuse of anabolic androgenic steroids (AAS) affect the expression of peptidergic neuromodulators that are found in the central nervous system and that are known to be associated with different domains of behavior. Other studies seek to determine the hedonic and rewarding properties of the different classes of AAS, as well as determine the misuse and prevalence of AAS abuse among athletes and young adolescents in Puerto Rico.

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Research Areas: Behavioral neuroendocrinology

Contact Information

UPR Medical Sciences Campus
School of Medicine
Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology A-553
PO Box 365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067

Phone: 787-758-2525 ext. 7013
Fax: 787-767-0788
E-mail: jennifer.barreto1@upr.edu

