

Dr. Héctor A. Vélez-Cortés is assistant professor at Ponce Health Sciences University and director of clinical oncology research of the U54 protect in collaboration with Moffitt Cancer Center. He is the president and principal investigator of Ad-Vance Medical Research overseeing of over 40 research projects and with expertise in clinical studies related to cancer. Has experience in research with novel immuno oncology medications, cannabis in the treatment of cancer related pain and psychological impact of cancer and it's treatment in Puerto Rico's cancer patient population.

Dr Vélez dedicates time to teaching developing medical students, psychology students, internal medicine residents, and oncology fellows providing initial exposure of this new scientists in training to clinical research in the community setting.

Dr Vélez is also actively participating in outreach programs linking clinical research with community needs and developing strategies to improve community cancer care in rural areas of Puerto Rico.