

Afonso Miguel Cavaco, PhD

Afonso Miguel Cavaco was born in March 1966 and has one son. He graduated from the University of Lisbon (Portugal) as a pharmacist in 1990, obtained an MSc degree in Community Pharmacy from the same University in 2002, and a PhD degree in Pharmacy Practice and Policy from the University of London (UK) in 2006. In 2007, he was a post-doctoral Fulbright Fellow at Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health (USA), working with Prof. Debra Roter in Health Communication.

Afonso holds presently an Associate Professor position at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lisbon as well as a visitant professorship (Docent) at the University of Helsinki (Finland). He is responsible for undergraduate social pharmacy teaching as well as postgraduate courses (MSc and Doctoral Programs), lecturing Health Communication, Pharmacy Management and Research Methods in Health. Afonso's teaching experience comprises also one year of fulltime work at the University of Oslo (Norway).

Other relevant academic experiences comprise a TUBITAK funded research project at Hacettepe University (Turkey), expert consultancy at the Council of Europe EDQM (European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and Health Care) in Strasburg (France), scientific management as Principal Investigator in a national competitive funded research and acting as the Portuguese deputy in the steering committee of EACH (European Association for Communication in Healthcare).

He is actively involved with teaching and researching communication skills within pharmacy practice, both for undergraduates at the university level and professionals through continuous education programs promoted by the Portuguese Pharmaceutical Society. Amongst other academic work, he has been the supervisor of Master and PhD students, nationally and internationally, as well as the invited opponent in social pharmacy and nursing PhD thesis viva-voice defenses. In 2009, he was awarded with an Astra-Zeneca research grant for health communication research.

Afonso has more than 50 original full-papers published in indexed scientific journals with impact factor. He works as a reviewer for 17 biomedical journals and he is on the editorial board of journals such as the Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy. Afonso was also the chairman of the 16th International Social Pharmacy Workshop (2010) and has participate in several conferences scientific and organizing committees.

Presently his main research interests are on customer-provider interaction studies (including non-verbal communication), health information research and patient safety. In this sense, he has been invited to lecture on health communication and qualitative research at several European and Latin American public Universities.