

Dr. Plinio CASAROTTO

I graduated in Pharmacy and Biochemistry from the Federal University of Paraná, Brazil and received his Master's in Pharmacology by the same institution, and later his PhD in Pharmacology from the University of São Paulo. Following a short visit to the University of Helsinki, I started as a senior postdoctoral researcher at UH from 2014-present in Eero Castrén's lab. In UH, I coordinate a group of junior postdocs, PhD and Master's students investigating the mechanisms of pharmacological reinstatement of plasticity. To this aim, we apply bioinformatics tools to identify putative domains that could serve as potential binding sites for drugs in protein complexes; and several methods of gene manipulation and immunoassays both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Recently we have developed a model from computer simulation to behavioral analysis describing a common mechanism for chemically distinct antidepressants; and we developed the tests to high throughput screening for new compounds, both *in silico* and *in vitro*.