



## Kilometers that give life to the research against pediatric cancer

**LOCATION:** Seville

**DURATION:** 2'02"

**SUMMARY:** Every year in Seville they celebrate the Run in Solidarity against Pediatric Cancer. It's an event organized by the Spanish Society of Hematology and Pediatric Oncology, or SEHOP, a non-profit organization that raises funds for research. Thanks to them the doctors and researchers at Hospital Virgen de Rocío were able to initiate a study that allows us to better understand pediatric tumors, making it easier to find a cure. Through a sample of blood they can identify the DNA of cancerous cells and their possible mutation. With this they hope to accelerate the diagnosis and find less invasive, more effective treatments against childhood cancer.

### VTR:

Every year in Seville they celebrate the Run in Solidarity against Pediatric Cancer. And they have invited us to run with them.

### BACKGROUND:

-“Run with us, your kilometers give us life!”

-“Your kilometers give us life!”

It's not only a metaphor. The race, organized by the Spanish Society of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology, has been organized to raise money for research through the registration of runners and with the number 0 bib. Because of this, they were able to initiate a study at the Virgen de Rocío Hospital that allows us to better understand Pediatric tumors, making it easier to find a cure. It all starts with a blood test to identify and understand the DNA of cancerous cells.

**Gema Ramírez**  
**Pediatric Oncologist**  
**Virgen del Rocío Hospital**

*“The study consists in finding a way to obtain information about the child's tumour through a blood sample.”*

**Hada Marcher**  
**Clinical Biochemist**  
**Virgen del Rocío Hospital**

*“The first thing is to know the genes that have been altered by the initial cancer and that will allow us to determine what therapies or approaches could be suitable...”*

**GEMA RAMÍREZ**  
**Pediatric Oncologist**  
**Virgen del Rocío Hospital**

*“And to detect mutations that are going to cause the tumour to become resistant to certain drugs. This way we could use different medicines, new medicines.”*

The study brings together the efforts of three areas of the Hospital: Labs, Pediatric Oncology, and Anatomical Pathology. They hope to see results in only one year. They are working to find treatments that are less harmful and more personalized to each child, the first step in a long race that has only just begun.

**ENRIQUE DE ÁLAVA**  
**Anatomical Pathologist**  
**Virgen del Rocío Hospital**

*“There are tumours in which we have not made much progress. In others, a lot. Now what we want with those on which we have made little progress is to use all of our tools to know the disease better and cure it more.”*

**HADA MARCHER**  
**Bioquímica clínica HVR**

*“If we get that, we will treat the relapses, if they occur, much earlier.”*



In Spain they diagnose one thousand cases of Pediatric cancer each year. Only 80% are cured. Seville holds this event annually to improve this statistic. The prize to the winners are trophies made by children with their own hands. Their way of saying... "Thank you".

For more information or support please call +34 647 310 157 or email [info@andalusianstories.com](mailto:info@andalusianstories.com)