

RUI ALVES

ENGINEERING MANAGER · QA LEAD

CONTACT

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BASED Braga, Portugal

EDUCATION

Integrated Master in Biomedical Engineering

Specialisation in Medical Informatics
University of Minho · 2007 — 2012

LANGUAGES

Portuguese	Native
English	Fluent
Spanish	Conversational

DOMAIN

- eHealth Systems & Interoperability
- High-availability real-money platforms

PROFILE

Engineering leader shaped by more than a decade in quality and delivery: from QA embedded in Scrum teams to Engineering Manager at Blip (Flutter Entertainment), on a high-availability, real-money platform serving millions of requests per second.

As a QA, I owned quality end to end: test strategy together with the team, test automation (Selenium, Protractor, Playwright), API contract testing, release coordination with real accountability for production readiness, and years of on-call. As an Engineering Manager, I led three different engineering teams, frontend and fullstack, accountable for what they delivered and for the growth, performance and wellbeing of the people in them, working with Product on planning and prioritisation and aligning stakeholders on priorities, risk and release readiness.

Before that, I worked on QA for regulated industries at CRITICAL Software and on national eHealth systems at the Portuguese Ministry of Health, after a Master's in Biomedical Engineering. I'm at home in hands-on quality roles, leading a quality practice, or leading engineering teams.

EXPERIENCE

Blip.pt part of Flutter Entertainment — 2016 — 2026

Engineering Manager — May 2026 – Oct 2026

Led two frontend engineering teams with ten direct reports.

- Accountable for the delivery of both teams, working with Product on planning, prioritisation and execution from roadmap to production.
- Responsible for people development, performance, career growth and team health.
- Drove alignment between Product, Development and Quality stakeholders on priorities, risk and release readiness, and evolved engineering practices and ways of working across both teams.

Associate Engineering Manager — Jun 2024 – May 2026

Led frontend and fullstack engineering teams (three over the period, two in parallel), responsible for their delivery, people development and ways of working.

Senior QA Analyst — Nov 2019 – Jun 2024

Grew the QA role well beyond testing in a high-scale, fast-paced product environment.

- Worked embedded in Scrum development teams, helping deliver dozens of new features used by thousands of customers.
- Owned end-to-end release coordination across product, engineering, and business stakeholders on a frequent release cadence: every release understood and agreed upon, all trade-offs visible, all risks explicitly accepted.
- Several years in the frontend on-call rotation for high-availability products with near-zero downtime tolerance, serving thousands of customers and millions of requests per second: tracking, debugging, and mitigating production issues, and monitoring server health metrics.

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

LEADERSHIP

- **Engineering & People Management**
  - People Development & Performance
  - Stakeholder Management
- **Delivery Management**
  - Agile & Scrum
  - Systems Thinking
  - Continuous Improvement

QUALITY & TESTING

- **Test Automation**
  - Playwright
  - Selenium
  - Protractor
  - Jasmine
  - Java
- **API & Contract Testing**
  - REST
  - SOAP
  - Postman
  - SoapUI
  - Mocks
- **Release Management**
  - Regression & Risk-Based Testing
  - SDLC Quality Gates
  - CI/CD
  - Production Support
  - Jira
  - Git

AI

Daily use of AI tools to support team management, project planning, and coordination.

PUBLICATIONS

Extending a Patient Monitoring System with Identification and Localisation
IEEE IEEM 2013 · View paper ↗

Modeling Intelligent Agents to Integrate a Patient Monitoring System
PAAMS 2013 · Springer · View paper ↗

Monitoring Intelligent System for the ICU using RFID and Multi-Agent Systems
IEEE IEEM 2012 · View paper ↗

An Intelligent Patient Monitoring System
ISMIS 2012 · Springer · View paper ↗

Blip.pt part of Flutter Entertainment · continued — 2016 — 2026

Senior QA Analyst (cont.)

- Established a model of shared release ownership in which QAs held real accountability for production readiness, not just test sign-off, which allowed engineering managers to focus on their teams.
- Built and evolved test automation, moving from Protractor to Playwright.
- Performed API contract regression testing on a frontend-owned microservice (BFF), comparing live responses against baseline payloads with Postman and mocked responses to catch breaking changes before they reached the UI.
- Worked closely with stakeholders across the delivery lifecycle, from Product Owners and Project Managers to Senior Managers and Heads of Department.

Scrum Master — May 2022 – Jun 2023

Took on the Scrum Master role while still embedded as Senior QA, making the team's ways of working clearer and more predictable and removing friction from the delivery pipeline.

QA Analyst — Jun 2016 – Nov 2019

- Built test automation with Protractor and took ownership of defining and improving the release process, ensuring quality gates were in place before every deployment.
- Joined the shared on-call rotation with release responsibilities, supporting production across the stack and CI/CD.

CRITICAL Software — 2016 — 2017

Junior Software Quality Assurance Engineer — Feb 2016 – Jan 2017

QA engineering at a company specialised in software for regulated and safety-critical industries, across web, desktop, and mobile projects, including aerospace clients. From Jun 2016, placed at client Blip.

- Test case definition, automation implementation (Java, Selenium, Protractor, Jasmine), and regression testing.
- Bug reporting and tracking; analysis of technical documentation, test specifications, and coverage matrices; internal feature demos to stakeholders.

SPMS Portuguese Ministry of Health — 2012 — 2015

Technical Support Analyst / Assistant PM — Aug 2014 – Dec 2015

Second-line support for PEM (Electronic Medical Prescription), the national ePrescription system used by healthcare professionals across Portugal, followed by work on European eHealth interoperability projects.

- Manual testing of PEM for about a year, alongside support duties.
- Tested SOAP web service endpoints with SoapUI, including manual contract checks against expected responses.
- Liaison between end-users (healthcare professionals and hospital IT teams) and development teams; training sessions for internal staff on new developments.

OpenNCP · EU cross-border patient data exchange

e-SENS · cross-border interoperability pilot

EXPAND & JAseHN · workgroup coordination

Application Support – National eHealth Systems — Nov 2012 – Jul 2014

Supported national ePrescription systems and Central Repositories infrastructure for healthcare professionals and hospital IT teams across Portugal.

- Service desk support; identification and reporting of application, database, and web service issues.
- Creation of internal technical documentation.