CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: SAVVAKI, MARIA, PhD
Birthday: 25th December 1982
Citizenship: Greek
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EDUCATION

2007-2011: PhD thesis, Laboratory of Neuroscience, Department of Basic Science, Medical School, University of Crete, Greece. Project title: "Study of the role of the cell adhesion molecule TAG-1 in adult CNS organization in rodents"

2004-2006: Graduate programme in "The Molecular Basis of Human Disease", University of Crete, Greece. MSc project title: "Study of protein-protein interactions of the cell adhesion molecule TAG-1 in the developing and adult nervous system of rodents"

2000-2004: Faculty of "Biochemistry and Biotechnology", University of Thessaly, Greece

RESEARCH/ EMPLOYMENT

Current Position:

Postdoctoral Researcher-Principal Investigator in the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB-FORTH)

Previous Positions:

November 2015-December 2017. Postdoctoral researcher in the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB-FORTH), ARSEP FOUNDATION AGREEMENT-2015

January 2015-September 2015: Postdoctoral researcher in the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB-FORTH), European Commission FP7 programme ARISTEIA I (Project 593 MyelinTag)

March 2012-December 2014: Postdoctoral researcher in the Univercity of Crete, European Commission FP7 programme 'Translational Potential' (TransPOT; EC contract number 285948)

September 2011-February 2012: Postdoctoral researcher in the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB-FORTH)

Funding:

2018-2021 Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.) grant, "The role of Autophagy in the development and maintenance of Myelin"

2019-2020 Pilot Research Grant from National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Training/ Courses

- Training in primary RGC (retinal ganglion cells) cultures, Laser Capture Microdissection (LCM) and assessment of visual ability using Pupillary Light Reflex (PLR) and optical coherence tomograpgy (OCT) in the laboratory of Dr Shannath Louise Merbs in the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore (April-June 2015)

- Training in optic nerve crush as a neurodegeneration model by Dr V. Pernet at the laboratory of Prof. M. Schwab at the Brain Research Institute, University and ETH Zurich (March 2014)
- Training in fluorescent In Situ Hybridization methods by Dr M. Katidou at the laboratory of Dr P. Moamberts at the Max Planck Institute of Biophysics, Frankfurt (May 2014)
- Laboratory Animal Science Course, Athens 2007. FELASA category C
- Modern light microscopy techniques in biomedical research, Heraklion, Crete 2005

AWARDS/ SCHOLARSHIPS

2015: Recipient of Polak Postdoctoral Travel Award in AChems 37th Annual Meeting, April 22-25, Bonita Springs, Florida, USA

2015: EMBO Short Term Fellowship, 2-months visit to the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore. Project Title: Studying the role of Contactin-2 in retinal pathology in mice

2014-2016: Postdoc Fellowship of Excellence – Siemens (IKY)

2010: Award for poster presentation on "Neuroscience days" meeting

2008-2009 and 2009-2010: recipient of the Manasaki scholarship of Excellence, given to graduate students, University of Crete, Greece

2007: Award for poster presentation on 22nd Annual Conference of Hellenic Society for Neurosciences

PUBLICATIONS

1. ***UniProt-Related Documents (UniReD): assisting wet lab biologists in their quest on finding novel counterparts in a protein network.*** Theodosiou T, Papanikolaou N, Savvaki M, Bonetto G, Maxouri S, Fakoureli E, Eliopoulos AG, Tavernarakis N, Amoutzias GD, Pavlopoulos GA, Aivaliotis M, Nikoletopoulou V, Tzamarias D, Karagogeos D, Iliopoulos I. NAR Genomics and Bioinformatics, 2020 1–13. doi: 10.1093/nargab/lqaa005
2. ***Ablation of CNTN2+ Pyramidal Neurons During Development Results in Defects in Neocortical Size and Axonal Tract Formation.*** Kastriti ME, Stratigi A, Mariatos D, Theodosiou M, Savvaki M, Kavkova M, Theodorakis K, Vidaki M, Zikmund T, Kaiser J, Adameyko I, Karagogeos D. Front Cell Neurosci. 2019 Nov 1;13:454. doi: 10.3389/fncel.2019.00454.
3. ***Models and treatments for traumatic optic neuropathy and demyelinating optic neuritis.*** Bastakis GG, Ktena N, Karagogeos D, Savvaki M. Dev Neurobiol. 2019 Aug;79(8):819-836. doi: 10.1002/dneu.22710.
4. ***The function of contactin-2/TAG-1 in oligodendrocytes in health and demyelinating pathology.*** Zoupi L, Savvaki M, Kalemaki K, Kalafatakis I, Sidiropoulou K, Karagogeos D. Glia. 2017 Nov 22
5. ***The Kv1-associated molecules TAG-1 and Caspr2 are selectively targeted to axon initial segment in hippocampal neurons.*** Delphine Pinatel, Bruno Hivert, Margaux Saint-Martin, Nelly Noraz, Maria Savvaki, Domna Karagogeos, and Catherine Faivre-Sarrailh. J Cell Sci. 2017 Jul 1;130(13):2209-2220
6. ***Olfactory Bulb (OB) Transplants***. M. Savvaki* and Domna Karagogeos. *corresponding author. bio-protocol . Vol 6, Iss 17, Sep 5, 2016
7. ***Impaired mitral cell migration due to TAG-1/CNTN2 deficiency leads to olfactory dysfunction.*** G. G. Bastakis*, M. Savvaki*,[1], A. Stamatakis, M. Vidaki, D. Karagogeos[1].

Development. 2015 Dec 15;142(24):4318-28. *: equal first authors, [1]: equal corresponding authors.

8. ***Axons and myelinating glia: An intimate contact. (Critical review).*** Zoupi L, Savvaki M, Karagogeos D. IUBMB Life doi: 10.1002/iub.513 (2011).
9. ***The expression of TAG-1 in glial cells is sufficient for the formation of the juxtaparanodal complex and the phenotypic rescue of Tag-1 homozygous mutants.*** Savvaki M, Theodorakis K, Zoupi L, Stamatakis A, *Tivodar S*, Kyriacou K, Stylianopoulou F, Karagogeos D J Neurosci. 20;30(42):13943-54 (2010).
10. ***Expression of cell adhesion molecule L1 in the long head of biceps tendon.*** Alpantaki K., Savvaki M., Karagogeos D. Cell Mol Biol. Jun 1;56 (2010).
11. ***Activation of somatostatin receptor (sst(5)) protects the rat retina from AMPA-induced neurotoxicity.*** Kiagiadaki F, Savvaki M, Thermos K. Neuropharmacology 58(1):297-303 (2010).
12. ***Impairment of learning and memory in Tag-1 deficient mice associated with shorter CNS internodes and disrupted juxtaparanodes.*** Savvaki M*, Panagiotaropoulos F*, Stamatakis A, Sargiannidou I, Karatzioula P, Watanabe, K, Stylianopoulou F, Karagogeos D, Kleopa KA. Mol. Cell. Neurosci. 39(3):478-90 (2008, *: equal first authors).
13. ***Structural requirement for TAG-1 in axons and glial cells of the retino-geniculate tract.*** Chatzopoulou, E*., Miguez, A*., Savvaki, M., Levasseur, G., Muzerelle, A., Muriel, M-P., Goureau, O. Watanabe K., Fisher G., Goutebroze L., Gaspar, P., Zalc, B., Karagogeos, D. and Thomas, J-L. The Journal of Neuroscience 28(30):7624-7636 (2008, *: equal first authors).