



## Erasmia Taoufik

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### About

I am a researcher at the [Laboratory of Cellular-Molecular Neurobiology and Stem Cells](#) working in the Neuroimmunology and Stem Cell fields. At the beginning of my scientific career I focused on the interactions between the immune system and the central nervous system trying to understand how they co-operate at the molecular and cellular level to help maintain brain homeostasis under physiological as well as pathological conditions such as Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and Brain Ischemic Injury. For the last three years I have been shifting my interests to another neurological disease, Parkinson's, studying disease mechanisms by using Pluripotent Stem Cells (iPS) derived from patients with an inherited and familial form of the disease, both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, applying cutting edge technologies such as RNA-Sequencing, artificial synapse formation assays and cell transplantation protocols. I have also initiated a new collaborative project where I use iPS technology to investigate the cellular component, the neuron-glia interactions and the molecular mechanisms of another devastating neurological disease, Primary Progressive MS.

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### Projects

- Development of an iPSC-based model for studying Parkinson's disease pathogenesis: a platform for identification and testing of candidate disease-modifying compounds ([read more](#))
- High Content screening analysis for the identification of kinase inhibitors that enhance differentiation to dopaminergic neurons in an iPSC-based model of Parkinson's disease ([read more](#))
- *In vivo* modeling of pA53T-pathology ([read more](#))
- Modeling Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis with Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Biological Systems ([read more](#))
- A human stem cell-based model of neurodevelopment for the identification of novel miRNAs controlling neurogenesis ([read more](#))

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### PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2000-2007	Research Assistant/PhD Student, Hellenic Pasteur Institute and Medical University of Athens, Greece
2007-2009	Post-doctoral Research Associate, Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Greece
2009-2016	Researcher, Lecturer Level, Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Greece

2016-present      Researcher, Assistant Professor Level, Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Greece

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## EDUCATION

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	MM/YY	FIELD OF STUDY
Royal Holloway University, U.K.	B.Sc. (Hons)	06/1999	Molecular Biology
University College London, U.K.	MSc	06/2000	Molecular Medicine
Medical University of Athens, Greece	PhD	03/2007	Neuroimmunology

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## HONOURS AND AWARDS

<b>2001</b>	Travel grant Scholarship for EMBO Course in “Conditional Gene Targeting”, Braunschweig, Germany
<b>2003</b>	Travel Grant for training in cerebral ischemia experimental protocols, University of Caen, France
<b>2003</b>	Traveling fellowship for attending the 10 <sup>th</sup> TNF Superfamily Meeting, San Diego, USA
<b>2005</b>	Traveling fellowship for attending the Cellular Senescence and Cell Death Meeting, Keystone, USA
<b>2011</b>	REGPOT Scholarship for training in ischemia-reperfusion experimental protocols, Dublin Medical School, Ireland
<b>2016</b>	Fulbright Foundation Scholarship for 3-month training in hIPS-related technologies, SBP Medical Discovery Institute, San Diego and NYSCF, New York, USA

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## PUBLICATIONS

[Updated list of publications in PubMed](#)