



## Florentia Papastefanaki

---

### About

I am a neurobiologist, working as a Research Staff Scientist in the [Laboratory of Cellular-Molecular Neurobiology and Stem Cells](#) and since my PhD thesis, the main focus of my research has been the study of neurodegeneration and the development of efficient interventions towards regeneration of the central nervous system, implementing *in vitro* and *in vivo* models. In 2012, I worked as a visiting scientist at the Center for Molecular and Cellular Neurosciences in Hamburg, funded by an EMBO Shorth Term Fellowship and by FP7 RegPot Neurosign to run a project in collaboration with Melitta Schachner and Igor Jakovcevski for the use of gold nanoparticles as a therapeutic vehicle for spinal cord injury. My expertise involves cell culture techniques, biochemistry, production of lentiviral vectors, confocal microscopy and digital image analysis, spinal cord microsurgery and cell transplantation, animal handling and behavioral analysis of mouse motor function. As a Research Staff Scientist, I have also been responsible for the training and technical consultancy of new coming collaborating scientists (undergraduate and postgraduate students and post-docs) in cell culture practice, tissue processing, confocal microscopy, image processing and animal handling. Further, my responsibilities include managing operational issues like laboratory safety, administration of procurements etc.

---

### Projects

- Novel combinatorial gene/cell therapy approaches and drug delivery systems in mouse models of brain and spinal cord neuropathology ([read more](#))
- Mitochondrial Neurological Diseases (Collaboration with [E.Douni BSRC Al.Fleming](#); Agricultural University of Athens). ([read more](#))
- 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](#))
- Neurodevelopment: Signaling Pathways Controlling Cell Cycle Progression/Exit and Differentiation Of Neural Stem Cells ([read more](#))
- Modeling Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis with Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Biological Systems ([read more](#))

---

### Publications

[Updated list of publications in PubMed](#)