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Targeting chikungunya virus replication : insights into chikungunya virus replication and the antiviral activity of suramin in vitro

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Curriculum Vitae

Irina Cristina Albulescu (née Florea), was born on December 25th 1985, in Petroșani, Hunedoara county, Romania. She attended the National College “Mihai Viteazul” in Ploiesti, Prahova County, between 2000-2004, and graduated with a chemistry-biology profile. She continued with her Bachelor studies in Biochemistry (2004-2008) at the University of Bucharest, followed by a Master program in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (2008-2010) at the same university. From December 2007, Irina began working at the Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology (ICBP), under the supervision of Dr. Dorin Alexandru, and later of Dr. Anca Gafencu and Dr. Adrian Manea, where she also performed her Bachelor’s and Master’s thesis projects. During the four years spent at the ICBP, she was promoted from research assistant to scientific researcher.

In 2012, she moved to the Netherlands and volunteered as a scientist in the lab of Dr. Frank van Kuppeveld at Nijmegen Center for Molecular Life Sciences (NCMLS). Soon after, she obtained a PhD studentship in the lab of Dr. Eric Snijder at the Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC), under the direct supervision of Dr. Martijn van Hemert. In addition, she was also an early stage researcher (2012-2015) in the European Initial Training Network EUVIRNA. Her research was focused on host factors involved in the replication of alphaviruses and identification of compounds with antiviral activity. As part of her PhD research project, Irina performed an industrial training stage at Janssen Infectious Diseases in Beerse (Belgium), under the supervision of Dr. Florence Herschke. Between October 2016 and June 2018, she was involved in the EU-funded ZIKAlliance project, still under the supervision of Dr. Martijn van Hemert, working on the characterization of a ZIKV clinical isolate and the identification of antiviral compounds targeting ZIKV. From July 2018 until January 2019 she continued to work at the LUMC under the direct supervision of Dr. Marjolein Kikkert on the EU-funded Zoonoses Anticipation and Preparedness Initiative (ZAPI) project, which concerned the development of a yellow fever virus 17D-based vaccine platform.

In May 2019, Irina has re-joined the group of Dr. Frank van Kuppeveld at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Utrecht and is now involved in the development of vaccination strategies that provide broad protection against antigenically variable pathogens.

List of Publications

Pietilä MK, **Albulescu IC**, Hemert MJV, Ahola T. Polyprotein Processing as a Determinant for *in vitro* Activity of Semliki Forest Virus Replicase. *Viruses*. 2017 Oct; 9(10).

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ERRATA SHEET

This errata sheet lists oversights for the doctoral thesis of Irina Cristina Albulescu, titled “Targeting alphavirus replication – Insights into the chikungunya virus replication and the antiviral activity of suramin *in vitro*”, Leiden University Medical Center, 2019, ISBN 97894-93184-16-9 (printed and pdf).

Location	Oversight
Page 11, Figure 1	Missing the citation of “the creative commons license, as CC-BY-SA 4.0 https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/ ”
Page 14. Figure 3	Missing the text “Copyright Massachusetts Medical Society”, after “adapted from [2]”.
Page 18, Figure 4	Missing the citation of “the creative commons license, as CC-BY-SA 4.0 https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/ ”
Page 122, Figure 1	Missing the citation of “Adapted from Adapted from https://talk.ictvonline.org/ictv-reports/ictv_online_report/positive-sense-rna-viruses/w/ <i>Togaviridae</i> , under the creative commons license, as CC-BY-SA 4.0 https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/ ”