

Dr. Martina BERGANT MARUŠIČ
Postdoctoral Associate

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EDUCATION

Education and Professional Qualifications

- 2006** PhD in Biotechnology, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty
Dendritic cells transfected with total tumour RNA – effective activators of specific anti-tumour immune responses *in vitro*. *Institution: Blood Transfusion Centre of Slovenia, Tissue Typing Center, Ljubljana, Slovenia*
- 2001** University Degree in Biology (B.Sc.), University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Biology

Fellowships

- Young Researchers Training Fellowship, Slovenian Research Agency (2002-2005)
ICGEB Short-term fellowship, ICGEB, Trieste (2008)

Advanced Training

- 2004** 3rd International Postgraduate School of Immunogenetics in Transfusion Medicine, Clinical Immunogenetics and Cell Therapy, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2003** Course in Organ Transplantation, Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia

EMPLOYMENT

- Since 2006** Postdoctoral Associate, University of Nova Gorica, Laboratory for Environmental Research, Nova Gorica, Slovenia
- 2002-2006** Young Researcher, Tissue Typing Center, Blood Transfusion Centre of Slovenia, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Teaching

- University of Nova Gorica, Faculty of Environmental Sciences
2007-2009
Teaching assistant for General Microbiology and Modern Trends in Environmental Sciences.

Visiting

- Post-doctoral Research Fellow
International Centre for genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Trieste, Italy, February - May 2008

MEMBERSHIPS

- Slovenian Biochemical Society
Speleological Society of Ljubljana

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- *Research on human papillomaviruses (HPVs) (interaction between HPV proteins and host PML proteins, HPV and host defense mechanisms, sumoylation of HPV proteins)*
- *Cell-mediated immune response to infected and malignant cells*
- *Research on dendritic cells (biology of dendritic cells, activation of anti-tumour immune responses by modulated dendritic cells)*
- *Immunotherapy of cancer*

CURRENT PROJECTS

- The role of the PML protein in the antiviral immune response
- Systems Biology Tools Development for Cell Therapy and Drug Development (SYSTHER)