

ANTONIA STEFANOV

Personal data:

Born in: Budapest, Hungary, 11/10/1990

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PRESENT POSITION:

EARLY STAGE RESEARCHER – ITALIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, CNR, Institute of Neuroscience, Pisa, PI, Italy

- Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Innovative Training Network – SwitchBoard Project: “In the eye of the observer: Visual processing at the heart of the retina”
- Project title: Bipolar cells in Retinitis Pigmentosa: Influence of the age of phenotype manifestation on the nature and severity of remodelling
- Principal Investigator: Dr. Enrica Strettoi, CNR Senior Investigator

EDUCATION:

2015 Dec – **UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE – FLORENCE, ITALY**

- **PhD in Neurosciences**, Regional Doctorate School in Neuroscience, Joint PhD Program in Neuroscience, Universities of Florence, Pisa and Siena. Enrolled

2015 Sept – **UNIVERSITY OF PECS – FACULTY OF SCIENCES – BIOLOGY DOCTORATE SCHOOL – PECS, HUNGARY**

- **PhD in Neurobiology**, Enrolled in the program and discontinued in January 2016

2013-2015 – **UNIVERSITY OF PECS – FACULTY OF SCIENCES – PECS, HUNGARY**

- **M.S. in Biology** with ‘Excellent’ grade – Molecular, immuno- and microbiology, June 2015
- *Thesis: Expressional Regulation of PAC1 Receptor Isoforms (Hip, Hop1) During Postnatal Development of the Rat Retina*
- Advisor: Dr. Viktoria Denes (Habil.), Senior Lecturer, Department of Experimental Zoology and Neurobiology
- 3.71/4.00 GPA Cumulative

2010-2013 – **SZENT ISTVAN UNIVERSITY – FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES – BUDAPEST, HUNGARY**

- **B.S. in Biology** with 'Excellent' grade, June 2013
- **Thesis: *Synaptic Ribbons of the Retina – Ribbon Synapses in the Background of Pathological Processes*** (review)
- Advisor: Dr. Veronika Jancsik (Habil.), Senior Research Fellow, Department of Anatomy and Histology
- 3.26/4.00 GPA Cumulative

COURSES/EXPERTISE:

- **Category C certificate in Laboratory Animal Sciences** (2015)
- **Physiology lecturer** for undergraduate students at University of Pecs
- Practice in the dissection and preparation of (rat) retina, tissue lysis and homogenization, **RNA and miRNA isolation**, nano-drop spectrophotometry (determination of RNA/miRNA concentration), preparation of **reverse transcription (RT)** and **real-time PCR** reactions
- Proficient in statistical analysis (**IBM SPSS**) of PCR data, expression fold determination (**deltaC_T method**)
- Practice in **intravitreal injection** methods in early postnatal rats
- Fundamentals of **cryo techniques**: sectioning with cryo-ultramicrotome (retina)
- Basic skills in **transmission electron microscopy (TEM)**: sample preparation for TEM, supporting film on TEM grids, sectioning with ultramicrotome, staining and labelling of ultrathin sections, handling of TEM, analysis of TEM pictures (mainly retina)
- Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- Speaks **Hungarian** at **native** level, **English** at **advanced** level and **German** at **intermediate** level

WORK EXPERIENCE:

2014-2015 – **VETERINARY ASSISTANT AND LABORATORY ATTENDANT** – AssiVet Ltd. – Pecs, Hungary

- Assisted during ambulatory consulting hours and operations
- Carried out blood and other tissue sample analyses
- Performed blood counts (hematology, biochemical analysis of ions, enzymes and ABGs)

2014 summer – **RESEARCH ASSISTANT** – University of Pecs – Department of Experimental Zoology and Neurobiology – Pecs, Hungary

- Anesthetized animals pre-experimentally
- Performed dissection and preparation of the retina
- Carried out tissue lysis and homogenization
- Prepared reverse transcription and PCR reactions
- Determined expression folds
- Analyzed PCR data

2012 summer – **VOLUNTARY VETERINARY ASSISTANT** – Szent Istvan University – Faculty of Veterinary Science – Large Animal Clinic, Ulló, Hungary

- Monitored physical condition of horses (pulse, respiration, temperature, etc.)
- Performed medical treatment of the animals (PO, IM, IV, SC medication and injections)
- Assisted at operations
- Took night shifts

HONORS/AWARDS:

2015 – **National Scientific Students' Associations Conference** – Biology section, Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology division – **2nd place** on the topic: *Expressional Regulation of PAC1 Receptor Isoforms (Hip, Hop1) During Postnatal Development of Rat Retina*

2014 – **Local Scientific Students' Associations Conference** – Biology section – **3rd place** on the topic: *Expressional Regulation of PAC1 Receptor Isoforms (Hip, Hop1) During Postnatal Development of Rat Retina*

2009 – Pannon University – **Georgikon Biology Competition, National Finals** – **1st place** – the competition was based on tests and essays on various topics of biology

INTERESTS/HOBBY:

- Retinoblastoma research, pathologic conditions of the retina
- Horseback riding and hiking
- Teaching tricks for my pet rats
- Gastronomy