





# **Stephan Angeloff Institute of Microbiology**

# 76 years after foundation, 19 years – member of Pasteur Network

# **Stephan Angeloff Institute of Microbiology**

- □ History: Founded in 1947, in 2004 it was affiliated with the Network, at that time known as the "Institute Pasteur International Network"
- □ 163 staff, 78 scientists, 65 doctors, 7 doctors of science
- **9** full professors, 20 associate professors
- □ 45 assistant professors
- □ Two academicians, one corr. member of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- Seven of our scientists are awarded the most prestigious "Pythagoras" scientific award, and two of them are in the ranking of Stanford University for the top 2% of the most significant scientists in their field.
- Our mission is to make the microbiology popular in Bulgaria and to carry out scientific research in areas important to society.
- Our priority is to support the career development of all researchers with high potential.



# The Institute's priorities

Part of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Research division Biomedicine and Quality of Life

Strategy: aligned with the policy of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in:

- Human resources
- Infrastructure
- Balance in scientific research fundamental and applied
- According to the Regional strategy for research development

Our activities are aligned also with the *National Strategy for Scientific Research Development in Bulgaria* in 2017-2030, as the National Priorities are:

- large-scale development of the research infrastructure
- innovation and technologies
- improving the research ranking of Bulgarian scientists
- increasing public trust in research and innovation
- providing opportunities for young people to develop research careers.





### **GENERAL MICROBIOLOGY**





#### CELLULAR MICROBIOLOGY

Head: Assoc. Prof. Tsvetelina Paunova-Krasteva,

- Scanning and electron microscopy
- Biofilms formation



EXTREMOPHLLIC MICROORGANISMS

Head: Prof. Margarita Kambourova

 Isolation of extremophilic microorganisms, enzymes, EPS, Plastics degradation





 De novo sequencing of bacterial genomes and metagenomes
Probiotic properties of lactic acid bacteria



#### MICROBIAL BIOCHEMISTRY

Head: Assist. Prof. Rumyana Eneva

- Enzymes and pathogenicity
- Vibrio cholerae, Aeromonas, Micrococcus enzymes

### BIOTECHNOLOGY



## **INFECTIOUS MICROBIOLOGY**



## VIROLOGY



### • Head: Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Nikolova

- Search for new inhibitors of viral replication
- Mechanism of antiviral action of active compounds

### • Head: Assist. Prof. Lora Simeonova

- Antivirus resistance
- Antiviral agents modifiers



#### •EXPERIMENTAL CHEMOTHERAPY OF ENTEROVIRAL INFECTIONS



EXPERIMENTAL CHEMOTHERAPY OF INFLUENZA



• Head: Assist. Prof. Neli Vilhelmova

> Human oncolytic viruses for therapy of oncological diseases

• Head: Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva

• Modifiers of the biological response by antioxidants, immunomodulators, interferons, plant extracts.

DNA VIRUSES AND ONCOLYTIC VIRUSES



BIOLOGICAL RESPONSE MODIFIERS AND PATHOGENESIS OF VIRAL INFECTIONS



### **IMMUNOLOGY**









### **MYCOLOGY**



• Head: Assoc. Prof. Radoslav Abrashev









### FUNDING IN NUMBERS: 2022

### NATIONAL FUNDING: 67 Grants

BULGARIAN NATIONAL SCIENCE FUND: **42** PROJECTS, **5** FUNDED IN 2022

Funding

87%

13%

OTHER FUNDING AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL: 27

**INTERNATIONAL FUNDING: 10 GRANTS PROJECTS** > 150 000 **BGN**: 18 PROJECTS< 150 000 BGN: 53



## Stephan Angeloff Institute in the Pasteur Network: ≈13 PROJECTS

	2004	Molecular epidemiology of tuberculosis in Bulgaria	Assoc. Prof. Nadya Markova
	2005	ACIP Macrophage-dependent immunoprotective action of Candida albicans DNA	Prof. Nina Ivanovska
	2006	ACIP Persistence of influenza viruses in reservoirs and environmental systems	
	2007	ACIP Hepatitis viruses and primary liver cancer in Eastern European countries	Acad. Angel Galabov
	2008	ACIP Papilloma virus infection and cervical cancer in countries of the Institut Pasteur international network	
	2009	ACIP Role of Migratory Birds and Transmitted Ticks on the Spread of Some Medically Important Zoonoses along the Eastern European Route	Prof. Hristo Najdenski
	2010	ACIP A-05 -2-11 The role of neutrophils and NK in the development of collagenase-induced osteoarthritis	Assoc. Prof. Petya Dimitrova
~	2011	ACIP Therapeutic potential of modified IgM and IgG preparations in experimental SIRS and sepsis	Prof. Tchavdar Vassilev
	2012	ACIP Viral antigen targeting by genetically engineered chimeric molecules	Prof. Andrey Tchorbanov
	2017	PTR 43 -16 The role of ExoY nucleotidiyl cyclase toxin in Pseudomonas aeruginosa infections	Assoc. Prof. St. Stoitsova
	2019	ABR: VacciNanoCor	Prof. Andrey Tchorbanov
	2020	Generation of Humanized NSG transfer mouse model for coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 vaccine testing	Assist. Prof. M. Lesseva
	2022	PTR: RIIPBIOTA	Prof. Svetla Danova

### **OUR main PARTNERS in the Pasteur Network**





New submission

<u>Strand 2b Capacity Building in Less Developed Regions</u> (Bulgaria, Greece, French Guiana)

Interregional Innovation Investments Instrument

European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA)

### **PLATFORMS**

- Prokaryotes and eukaryotes in health and diseases
- Development of new functional foods based on probiotic/prebiotic interactions
- MICROBIAL BIODIVERSITY

### 1. PUBLIC HEALTH TOOLS



- Murine models of Human diseases
- use and refinement for evaluation of immune response and drug efficacy

2. WHOLE ORGANISM DISEASE MODELS

- Natural and synthetic products for drugs development
- Screening for drug effects on immune cell functions
- Determinination of the antibody repertoire in its complete diversity

3. SCREENING FOR MOLECULES WITH NEW BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY



- Antiviral activity
- Antimicrobial activity
- Antifungal activity
- Antineoplastic activity
- Antioxidant activity

4. SCREENING FOR NEW ACTIVITIES OF MICROBIAL STRAINS



• Morphology of microorganisms and electron microscopy

• Biofilms formation and prevention

5. IMAGING

TECHNIQUES

- Antimicrobial resistance
- Blood microbiome and inflammatory diseases
- Molecular epidemiology
- Zoonotic diseases, Tuberculosis
- Evolutionary genetics

### 6. ONE HEALTH Concept



# Once again, happy anniversary!

