

Curriculum Vitae

Ioanna Sevastou BSc, MSc, PhD

Personal Details

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Date of birth: September 7th 1980

Nationality: Greek

Current Post

2010 - present **Postdoctoral researcher**, Institute of Immunology, Biomedical Sciences Research Center "Alexander Fleming" Vari, Athens, Greece

Research interests: Investigating the role of the autocrine motility factor autotaxin and its enzymatic product lysophosphatidic acid in central nervous system physiology and neuroinflammatory conditions.

Education

2006-2010 **PhD in Neuroscience**, University College London, Institute of Neurology, Department of Neuroinflammation, Cell Signalling Laboratory, London, UK

Thesis title: "Ramifications of microglial activation on oligodendrocytes in *in vitro* models of multiple sclerosis" Supervised by Dr Jennifer Pocock

2005- 2006 **MSc in Clinical Neuroscience with distinction**, Haymon Gorlov Prize for best MSc student, University College London, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, UK

Research Project: "Riboflavin Status and Mitochondrial Disease", Neurometabolic Unit, The National Hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London, UK, supervised by Professor Simon Heales

Library Project: "The Influence of Common Genetic Variation On Brain Structure", Supervised by Dr Sanjay Sisodiya

1999-2004 **BSc in Biology, Grade: 7.14/10 'Very Good'**, University of Patras, Department of Biology, School of Sciences, Patras, Greece

Research project: "Interactions between the dopaminergic system and other neurotransmitting systems in cAMP synthesis levels in the striatum"
Laboratory of Human & Animal Physiology of the Biology Department, School of Sciences, University of Patras, supervised by Associate Professor Nikolaos Matsokis, Grade 10/10

Studentships & Awards

- AIMS2CURE PhD research studentship 2006-2009
- Haymon Gorlov prize for best MSc student in Clinical Neuroscience 2006, UCL Institute of Neurology
- UCL Graduate School Student Conference Fund for 'Neuroscience 2007', Society for Neuroscience (SfN) annual meeting, 3-7 November 2007, San Diego, California, USA

Teaching Experience

Workshops on Basic Laboratory Techniques for the MSc in Clinical Neuroscience, UCL Institute of Neurology:

- Workshop on accurate pipetting and determination of protein content in biological samples by Bradford assay (November 2006)
- Workshop on the principles of Western blotting (November 2007)

Affiliations

- Member of the Society for Neurosciences
- Member of the Federation of European Neuroscience societies
- Member of the Hellenic Society for Neurosciences

Publications

- **Sevastou IG**, Heales SJ, Pocock JM. The effect of blood-borne proteins on oligodendrocyte lineage cell survival and differentiation; implications for a protective role for activated microglia. (In preparation)
- Davenport CM, **Sevastou IG**, Hooper C, Pocock JM. Inhibiting p53 pathways in microglia attenuates microglial-evoked neurotoxicity following exposure to Alzheimer peptides. *J Neurochem.* 2010 Jan;112(2):552-63.
- Hooper C, Fry VA, **Sevastou IG**, Pocock JM. Scavenger receptor control of chromogranin A-induced microglial stress and neurotoxic cascades. *FEBS Lett.* 2009 Nov 3;583(21):3461-6.
- Hooper C, Pinteaux-Jones F, Fry VA, **Sevastou IG**, Baker D, Heales SJ, Pocock JM. Differential effects of albumin on microglia and macrophages; implications for neurodegeneration following blood-brain barrier damage. *J Neurochem.* 2009 May;109(3):694-705.
- Pinteaux-Jones F, **Sevastou IG**, Fry VA, Heales S, Baker D, Pocock JM. Myelin-induced microglial neurotoxicity can be controlled by microglial metabotropic glutamate receptors. *J Neurochem.* 2008 Jul;106(1):442-54.

Conference & Meeting Posters

- Sevastou IG, Heales SJ, Pocock JM, "Modulation of microglial induced oligodendrocyte toxicity in multiple sclerosis", 9th European Meeting on Glial Cells in Health and Disease, 8-12 September 2009, Paris, France

- Sevastou IG, Pinteaux-Jones F, Hooper C, East E, Fry VA, Pocock JM, “Microglial ROCK and Rho in multiple sclerosis” Neuroscience 2007, Society for Neuroscience (SfN) annual meeting, 3-7 November 2007, San Diego, California, USA
- Sevastou IG, Heales SJ, Pocock JM, “Can manipulation of microglial mGlu receptors affect oligodendrocyte survival in multiple sclerosis?” 8th Annual Queen Square Symposium 2007, Queen Square, London, UK
- Sevastou IG, Oppenheim M, Land JM, Heales SJ, “Riboflavin Status and Mitochondrial Disease” 7th Annual Queen Square Symposium 2006, Queen Square, London, UK

Languages

Greek Native language

English Fluent, Cambridge Proficiency (C), O level (B), TOEFL (297/300)

Italian Basic (Elementary degree)

Personal Interests

Music - Studied classical piano (National Music School of Greece) and modern piano (G. Fakanas Art Music School).

Handicrafts, European cinema, Modern literature