# CURRICULUM VITAE



Name: Bojan

Family name: Polić

Date of birth: 01. August 1964.

Place of birth: Rijeka, Croatia

Nationality: Croatian

State: Croatia

Address: B. Branchetta 20, 51 000 Rijeka

Phone: 051 651 171

E-mail: bojan.polic@medri.uniri.hr

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3930-9630>

Researcher ID (WoS): [B-8622-2014](https://publons.com/researcher/B-8622-2014/)

Scopus Author ID: <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=6603053459>

**Education**

1997 – 2001 Postdocotral training at the Department of Immunology (Prof. Klaus Rajewsky), Institute of Genetics, University of Cologne, Germany

1996 Ph.D. in Immunology (Prof. Stipan Jonjić) at the Deptartment of Physiology & Immunology, Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, Croatia

1992 Master of Science degree at the Department of Physiology & Immunology, Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, Croatia

1990 Internship at the Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka

1989 – 1991 Postgraduate scinetific study at the Faculty of Medicine Univesity of Rijeka, Croatia

1984 – 1989 M.D., Study of Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, Croatia

**Occupation**

Since 2008 Professor at the Department of Histology & Embryology, Faculty of Medicine, Univesity of Rijeka, Croatia

Since 2003 Guest Professor at the Depatment of Medical Biology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Mostar, Bosnia & Herzegovina (Head of the Depatment 2007 – 2013)

2003 – 2008 Associate Professor at the Depatment of Histology & Embryology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Croatia

2000 – 2003 Assistant Professor at the Depatment of Histology & Embryology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Croatia

1996 – 2000 Assistant at the Department of Histology & Emrbyology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Croatia

1994 – 1996 Assistant at the Department of Physiology and Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Croatia

1991 – 1994 Research assistant at the Department of Physiology and Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, Universtiy of Rijeka

**Services at the instiuttional and state level**

2012 – 2015 Memebr of the National Committee for the Croatian State Awards in Science for Biomedicine and Health

2013 – 2015 Member of the Scientific Bord of the Coratian Scientific Foundation (HRZZ) for Biomedicine and Health

2008 – 2014 Vice-Dean for Research, Faculty of Medicine, Univeristy of Rijeka, Croatia

2010 – 2014 Member of the Scientific Advisory Bord at the University of Rijeka

2010 – 2014 President of the Croatian Immunological Society (Vice-President 2004 – 2010)

Since 2010 Member of the National Scientific Councile for Biomedicine and Health

Since 2003 Head of the Center for breeding and engineering of laboratory mice Rijeka (LAMRI) at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Croatia

2000 – 2002 Head of the Postgraduate scientifc study at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Croatia

**Research**

**Major Scientific Contributions:**

* **Immune responses involved in development of insulin resistnace and T2DM in obesity / viral infection**

In the last 5 years my group is intensively working on immune sensing mechanisms and early immune responses in obesity/infection responsible for the development of inflammation and insulin resistance. We discovered major role of NK cells in immune sensing and initiation of inflammaotry immune response in obese visceral adipose tissue that leads to development of systemic insulin resistnace (**Wenswen at al. 2015 Nat. Immunol**.; reviewed in **Wensveen et al 2015 Eur. J. Immunol**. and **Wensveen et al 2015 Semmin. Immunol**). Furthermre we also investigated the role of viral infection in the progression of T2DM. We discovered new feedback mechanism between the immune and endocrine systems where virus induced IFN, mainly produced by NK cells, specifically induce insulin resistance in sceletal muscle which results in hyperinsulinemia to keep normal blood glucose levels in lean subjects and to potentiate spcific CD8-mediated anti-virus response. However, in obese subjects, exposed to the metabolc priming and insulin resistance in liver, viral infection causes rapid progression to T2DM (**Šestan et al. 2018. Immunity** commented in the same issue of Immunity and in Nat. Revew. Immunol, also reviewed in **Wensveen at al. 2019 Eur. J. Immunol.**)

* **Biological roles of the NKG2D receptor**

My group introduced gene targeting methodologty in Croatia (2003) and generated our own mouse models for NKG2D immunodeficiency, *Klrk*1-/- and *Klrk1*fl/fl mce (**Zafirova et al. 2009 Immunity**, **Zafirova et al 2011 Cell Mol. Life Sci.**), to study biological roles of this important activating receptor expressed on NK and subpopulations of T cells (NKT, and activated  T cells). We discovered that lack of NKG2D impairs development of NK cells and causes enhanced anti-tumor and anti-viral funcions activity of these cells (**Zafirova et al. 2009 Immunity**). Furthermore, we found a nover mechanism of education of NK cells where NKG2D sets activation tresholds for other two activating recpetors, NCR1(NKp46) and CD16, early in the development of NK cells (**Jelenčić et al. 2018 Nat. Immunol.**). We also found that NKG2D plays important role in generation of CD8 memory T cells (**Wenseven et al. 2013 J. Immunol**), cytokine secretion of activated CD8 T cells (**Kavazović et al. 2017 Eur. J. Immunol.**) as well as in generation of B1a cells (**Lenartic M. 2015 J. Immunol**). In collaboration with other groups we contributed to the findings of other biological roles of NKG2D such as in skin cellular stress sensing by  T cells (**Strid et al. 2011 Science**) memory  CD8 T cell generation nad maintenance (**Zloza et al. 2012 Nat. Med.**) development of T1DM (**Markiewicz et al. 2013 Immunity**, **Tembath AT et al 2018 ImmunoHorizons**), immunosensensing of senescent cells (**Sagiv et al. 2016, Aging-US**) and cancer immunosurveillance (**Schneider et al. 2018 Clinical Cancer Research**, **Raju et al 2016 J. Immunol**., **Belting L. 2015. Eur. J. Immunol.** ).

* **The role of  TCR in maintenance of T cells**

During my postdoctoral training in prof. K. Rjawsky group I generated mouse mutant strain for conditional ablation of the TCR  chain (TCR Cfl/fl ). Using this mouse strain we found that naive CD4 and CD8 T cells are entirely dependinet on the TCR singalling, while memory CD4 adn CD8 T cells are mostly independent on TCR signalling (**Polić et al. 2001 PNAS USA**). In collaboratoin with prof. Marc Schmidt Supprian we found that TCR is largely dispensable for maintenance of NKT cells (**Vahl et al. 2013 Plos Biology**), but it is essential for mainenancey of fully functional Treg cells (**Vahl et al. 2014 Immunity**).

* **Immunosurveillance of cytomegalovirus infection**

During my PhD training in prof. S. Jonjić group I investigated mechanisms of immunosurveillance of latent cytomegalovirus infeciton using B-cell deficient mice (C57BL/6 MT/MT). I found that CMV latency is controled by NK, CD4 and CD8 T cells in a hierarchical and redundant order where CD8 and NK cells play major role (**Polic et al 1998 J. Exp. Med.**) Antibodies were not essential for the control of acute infection or latency, but they played important role in preventing spread of recurrent infection (**Polic et al. 1998 J. Exp. Med**., **Jonjić et al 1994 J. Exp. Med**.). This was the first *in vivio* evidence on the specific role of immune cell subsets in the control of latent CMV infection. I also paricipated in discovery of several CMV immunoevasins (**Krmpotić et al. 1999 J. Exp. Med**. and **Krmpotić et al. 2005 J. Exp. Med**.)

**Selected 10 publications**

1. Jelenčić V., Šestan M., Kavazović I., Lenartić M., MarinovićS., Holmes T.D., Prchal-Murphy M., Lisnić B., Sexl V., Bryceson Y.T., Wensveen F.M., **Polić B.** (**2018**) NK cell receptor NKG2D sets activation threshold for the NCR1receptor early in NK cell development. **Nat. Immunol.** 19:1083–1092
2. Šestan M, Marinović S, Kavazović I, Cekinović Đ, Wueest S, Turk Wensveen T, Brizić I, Jonjić S, Konrad D, Wensveen FM, **Polić B.** (**2018**) Virus-Induced Interferon-γ Causes Insulin Resistance in Skeletal Muscle and Derails Glycemic Control in Obesity. **Immunity** 49:164-177
3. Wensveen FM, Jelenčić V, Valentić S, Šestan M, Wensveen TT, Theurich S, Glasner A, Mendrila D, Štimac D, Wunderlich FT, Brüning JC, Mandelboim O, **Polić B.** (**2015**) NK cells link obesity-induced adipose stress to inflammation and insulin resistance. **Nat. Immunol.** 16:376-385.

1. Wensveen FM, Lenartić M, Jelenčić V, Lemmermann NAW, ten Brinke A, Jonjić S, and **Polić B** (**2013**) NKG2D Induces Mcl-1 Expression and Mediates Survival of CD8 Memory T Cell Precursors via Phosphatidylinositol 3-Kinase**. J Immunol.** 191:1307-15.
2. Vahl JC, Heger K, Knies N, Hein MY, Boon L, Yagita H, **Polic B**, Schmidt-Supprian M (**2013**) NKT Cell-TCR Expression Activates Conventional T Cells in Vivo, but is Largely Dispensable for Mature NKT Cell Biology. **PLOS Biology**, June, Volume 11, Issue 6, e1001589
3. Markiewicz MA, Wise EL, Buchwald ZS, Pinto AK, ZafirovaB, **Polić B** and Shaw AS (**2012**) Antigen-independent recruitment of CTL to pancreatic islets expressing an NKG2D ligand. **Immunity**, 36:132-141
4. Strid J., Sobolev O, Zafirova B, **Polić B**, Hayday A (**2011**) The intraepithelial T cell response to NKG2D-ligands links lymphoid stress-surveillance to atopy. **Science** 334:1293-1297
5. Zafirova B, Mandarić S, Antulov R, Krmpotić A, Jonsson H, Yokoyama WM, Jonjić S, **Polić B**. (**2009**) [Altered NK cell development and enhanced NK cell-mediated resistance to mouse cytomegalovirus in NKG2D-deficient mice.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19631564?ordinalpos=1&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_DefaultReportPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum) **Immunity** 31:270 – 282
6. **Polic B**., Kunkel D., Scheffold A., and Rajewsky K. (**2001**) How alpha beta T cells deal with induced TCRalpha  ablation. **Proc. Natl. Aacad. Sci. USA** 98:8744-8749.
7. **Polic B.**, Hengel H., Krmpotic A., Trgovchich J., Pavic I., Lucin P., Jonjic S. and Koszinowski U.H.. (**1998**). Hierarchical and Redundant Lymphocyte Subset Control Precludes Cytomegalovirus Replication during Latent Infection. **J. Exp. Med.** 188:1047-1054.

**All publications**

1. Babic M, Dimitropoulos C, Hammer Q, Stehle C, Heinrich F, Sarsenbayeva A, Eisele A, Durek P, Mashreghi MF, Lisnic B, Van Snick J, Löhning M, Fillatreau S, Withers DR, Gagliani N, Huber S, Flavell RA, **Polic B**, Romagnani C (**2020**) NK Cell Receptor NKG2D Enforces Proinflammatory Features and Pathogenicity of Th1 and Th17 Cells. **J Exp Med** Aug 3;217(8):e20190133. doi: 10.1084/jem.20190133.
2. Kavazović I, Han H, Balzaretti G, Slinger E, Lemmermann NAW, Ten Brinke A, Merkler D, Koster J, Bryceson YT, de Vries N, Jonjić S, Klarenbeek PL, **Polić B**, Eldering E, Wensveen FM. (**2020**) Eomes Broadens the Scope of CD8 T-cell Memory by Inhibiting Apoptosis in Cells of Low Affinity. **Plos Biology** 18 (3), e3000648
3. Prinz D, Klein K, List J, Knab VM, Menzl I, Leidenfrost N, Heller G, **Polić B**, Putz EM, Witalisz-Siepracka A, Sexl V, Gotthardt D. (**2020**) Loss of NKG2D in Murine NK Cells Leads to Increased Perforin Production Upon Long-Term Stimulation With IL-2. **Eur. J. Immunol.**  (E-pub ahead of print) DOI: 10.1002/eji.201948222
4. Turk Wensveen T, Fučkar Čupić D, Jurišić Eržen D, **Polić B**, Wensveen FM. (**2020**) Severe Lipoatrophy in a Patient With Type 2 Diabetes in Response to Human Insulin Analogs Glargine and Degludec: Possible Involvement of CD4 T Cell-Mediated Tissue Remodeling. **Diabetes Care** 43:494 - 496.
5. Wensveen FM, Šestan M, Turk Wensveen T, **Polić B.** (**2019**) 'Beauty and the beast' in infection: How immune-endocrine interactions regulate systemic metabolism in the context of infection. **Eur J Immunol.** 49:982-995.
6. Kavazović I, **Polić B**, Wensveen FM. (**2018**) Cheating the Hunger Games; Mechanisms Controlling Clonal Diversity of CD8 Effector and Memory Populations. **Frontiers in Immunology**, 9:2831
7. Jelenčić V., Šestan M., Kavazović I., Lenartić M., MarinovićS., Holmes T.D., Prchal-Murphy M., Lisnić B., Sexl V., Bryceson Y.T., Wensveen F.M., **Polić B.** (**2018**) NK cell receptor NKG2D sets activation threshold for the NCR1receptor early in NK cell development. **Nat. Immunol.** 19:1083–1092
8. Šestan M, Marinović S, Kavazović I, Cekinović Đ, Wueest S, Turk Wensveen T, Brizić I, Jonjić S, Konrad D, Wensveen FM, **Polić B.** (**2018**) Virus-Induced Interferon-γ Causes Insulin Resistance in Skeletal Muscle and Derails Glycemic Control in Obesity. **Immunity** 49:164-177
9. Wensveen FM, Jelenčić V., **Polić B** (**2018**) NKG2D: A Master Regulator of Immune Cell Responsiveness. **Frontiers in Immunology** 9:441
10. H Schneider , M Silginer , A Steinle , MN Pruschy , **B Polic** , Michael Weller , Patrick Roth (**2018**) **NKG2D-dependent anti-tumor effects of chemotherapy and radiotherapy against glioblastoma. Clinical Cancer Research, 24:882-895**
11. AP Trembath, N Sharma, S Raju, **B Polić**, MA Markiewicz (**2017**) A Protective Role for NKG2D–H60a Interaction via Homotypic T Cell Contact in Nonobese Diabetic Autoimmune Diabetes Pathogenesis. **ImmunoHorizons** 1(9):198-212
12. Gröschel, C., Hübscher, D., Nolte, J., Monecke, S., Sasse, A., Elsner, L., Paulus, W., Trenkwalder, C., **Polic, B.**, Mansouri, A., Guan, K., Dressel, R. (**2017**) Efficient Killing of Murine Pluripotent stem cells by natural killer (NK) cells requires activation by cytokines and partly depends on the activating NK receptor NKG2D. **Frontiers in Immunology** 8:870 , **DOI:** 10.3389/fimmu.2017.00870
13. Jelenčić V, Lenartić M, Wensveen FM, **Polić B** (**2017**) NKG2D: A versatile player in the immune system. **Immunol. Lett.** 189:48-53
14. Kavazović I., Lenartić M., Jelenčić V., Jurković S., Lemmwermann N., Jonjić S., **Polić B.**, Wensveen FM. (**2017**) NKG2D has a non-redundant role in promoting cytokine production in anti-viral CD8 effector T cell responses. **Eur J Immunol** 47:1123-1135
15. Maja Lenartić, Vedrana Jelenčić, Biljana Zafirova, Mateja Ožanič, Valentina Marečić, Slaven Jurković, Veronika Sexl, Marina Šantić, Felix M. Wensveen and **Bojan Polić** (**2017**) NKG2D Promotes B1a Cell Development and Protection against Bacterial Infection. **J. Immunol.**, 198:1531-1542
16. Saravanan Raju, Lena Z Kretzmer, Olivia I Koues, Jacqueline E Payton, Eugene M Oltz, Amanda Cashen, **Bojan Polic**, Robert D Schreiber, Andrey S Shaw, Mary A Markiewicz (**2016**) NKG2D–NKG2D Ligand Interaction Inhibits the Outgrowth of Naturally Arising Low-Grade B Cell Lymphoma In Vivo. **J. Immunol.,** 196:4805-4813.
17. Sagiv A, Burton DGA, Moshayev Z, Wensveen F, Ben-Dor S, Golani O, **Polic B**, Krizhanovsky V (**2016**) NKG2D ligands mediate immunosurveillance of senescent cells. **Aging-US** 8:328-344.
18. Marko Šestan, Felix M. Wensveen and **Bojan Polić**. (**2015**) Excision of Visceral Adipose Tissue from Live Mice (VATectomy). (ISSN: 2331-8325), **Bio-protocol 5**(23): e1668, <http://www.bio-protocol.org/e1668>
19. Sonja Valentić, Felix M. Wensveen and **Bojan Polić**. (**2015**) Isolation of lymphocytes from murine Visceral Adipose Tissue. **BioProtocols** (ISSN: 2331-8325), Bio-protocol 5(23): e1669, <http://www.bio-protocol.org/e1669>
20. Wensveen FM, Valentić S, Šestan M, Turk Wensveen T, **Polic B** (**2015**) Interactions between adipose tissue and the immune system in health and malnutrition. **Semin. Immunol.** 27:322-333.
21. Wensveen FM, Valentić S, Šestan M, Turk Wensveen T, **Polić B.** (**2015**) The "Big Bang" in obese fat: Events initiating obesity-induced adipose tissue inflammation. **Eur. J. Immunol.** 45:2446-56
22. Belting L, Hömberg N, Przewoznik M, Brenner C, Riedel T, Flatley A, **Polić B**, Busch DH, Röcken M, Mocikat R. (**2015**) Critical role of the NKG2D receptor for NK cell-mediated control and immune escape of B-cell lymphoma. **Eur. J Immunol** 45:2593-601
23. Wensveen FM, Jelenčić V, Valentić S, Šestan M, Wensveen TT, Theurich S, Glasner A, Mendrila D, Štimac D, Wunderlich FT, Brüning JC, Mandelboim O, **Polić B.** (**2015**) NK cells link obesity-induced adipose stress to inflammation and insulin resistance. **Nat. Immunol.** 16:376-385.
24. J. Christoph Vahl, Christoph Drees, Klaus Heger, Sylvia Heink, Julius C. Fischer, Jelena Nedjic, Naganari Ohkura, Hiromasa Morikawa, Hendrik Poeck, Sonja Schallenberg, David Rieß, Marco Y. Hein, Thorsten Buch, **Bojan Polic**, Anne Schoenle, Robert Zeiser, Annette Schmitt-Graeff,Karsten Kretschmer, Ludger Klein, Thomas Korn, Shimon Sakaguchi, and Marc Schmidt-Supprian (**2014**) Continuous T Cell Receptor Signals Maintain a Functional Regulatory T Cell Pool. **Immunity** 41:722-736
25. Chung JJ, Markiewicz MA, **Polić B,** Shaw AS (**2014**) Role of NKG2D in Obesity-Induced Adipose Tissue Inflammation and Insulin Resistance. **PLoS One.** 2014 Oct 15; 9 (10):e110108. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0110108. eCollection 2014.
26. Klingel K, Fabritius C, Sauter M, Göldner K, Stauch D, Kandolf R, Ettischer N, Gahlen S, Schönberger T, Ebner S, Makrigiannis AP, Bélanger S, Diefenbach A, **Polić B**, Pratschke J, Kotsch K. (**2014**) The Activating Receptor NKG2D of Natural Killer Cells Promotes Resistance against Enterovirus-Mediated Inflammatory Cardiomyopathy. **J. Pathol.** 234:164-177
27. Trsan T, Busche A, Abram M, Wensveen FM, Lemmermann NA, Arapovic M, Babic M, Tomic A, Golemac M, Brinkmann MM, Jäger W, Oxenius A, **Polic B**, Krmpotic A, Messerle M, Jonjic S. (**2013**) Superior induction and maintenance of protective CD8 T cells in mice infected with mouse cytomegalovirus vector expressing RAE-1γ. **Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.** 110:16550-5.
28. Wensveen FM, Lenartić M, Jelenčić V, Lemmermann NAW, ten Brinke A, Jonjić S, and **Polić B** (**2013**) NKG2D Induces Mcl-1 Expression and Mediates Survival of CD8 Memory T Cell Precursors via Phosphatidylinositol 3-Kinase**. J Immunol.** 191:1307-15.
29. Vahl JC, Heger K, Knies N, Hein MY, Boon L, Yagita H, **Polic B**, Schmidt-Supprian M (**2013**) NKT Cell-TCR Expression Activates Conventional T Cells in Vivo, but is Largely Dispensable for Mature NKT Cell Biology. **PLOS Biology**, June, Volume 11, Issue 6, e1001589
30. Mishra R, **Polic B**, Welsh RM, Szomolanyi-Tsuda E. (**2013**) Inflammatory Cytokine-Mediated Evasion of Virus-Induced Tumors from NK Cell Control. **J. Immunol.** 191:961-70.
31. Cheney EE, Wise EL, Bui JD, Schreiber RD, Carayannopoulos LN, Spitzer D, Zafirova B, **Polic B**, Shaw AS, Markiewicz MA. (**2012**) A dual function of NKG2D ligands in NK-cell activation. **Eur. J. Immunol.** 42:2452-2458
32. Zloza A, Kohlhapp FJ, Lyons GE, Schenkel JM, Moore TV, Lacek AT, O'Sullivan JA, Varanasi V, Williams JW, Jagoda MC, Bellavance EC, Marzo AL, Thomas PG, Zafirova B, **Polić B**, Al-Harthi L, Sperling AI and Guevara-Patiño JA. (**2012**) NKG2D signaling on CD8(+) T cells represses T-bet and rescues CD4-unhelped CD8(+) T cell memory recall but not effector responses. **Nature Medicine**, 18:422-428
33. Markiewicz MA, Wise EL, Buchwald ZS, Pinto AK, ZafirovaB, **Polić B** and Shaw AS (**2012**) Antigen-independent recruitment of CTL to pancreatic islets expressing an NKG2D ligand. **Immunity**, 36:132-141
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35. Zafirova B, Wensveen FM, Gulin M, **Polić B.** (**2011**) Regulation of immune cell function and differentiation by the NKG2D receptor. **Cell Mol Life Sci** 68:3519-29
36. Soderquest K, Walzer T, Zafirova B, Klavinskis LS, **Polic B**, Vivier E, Lord GM, Martín-Fontecha A. (**2011**) Cutting Edge: CD8+ T Cell Priming in the Absence of NK Cells Leads to Enhanced Memory Responses. **J Immunol**. 186:3304-8
37. Bourbeillon J, Orchard S, Benhar I, Borrebaeck C, de Daruvar A, Dübel S, Frank R, Gibson F, Gloriam D, Haslam N, Hiltker T, Humphrey-Smith I, Hust M, Juncker D, Koegl M, Konthur Z, Korn B, Krobitsch S, Muyldermans S, Nygren PA, Palcy S, **Polic B**, Rodriguez H, Sawyer A, Schlapshy M, Snyder M, Stoevesandt O, Taussig MJ, Templin M, Uhlen M, van der Maarel S, Wingren C, Hermjakob H, Sherman D. (**2010**) Minimum information about a protein affinity reagent (MIAPAR). **Nature Biotechnology** 28:650-653
38. Zafirova B, Mandarić S, Antulov R, Krmpotić A, Jonsson H, Yokoyama WM, Jonjić S, **Polić B**. (**2009**) [Altered NK cell development and enhanced NK cell-mediated resistance to mouse cytomegalovirus in NKG2D-deficient mice.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19631564?ordinalpos=1&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_DefaultReportPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum) **Immunity** 31:270 – 282
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40. Jonjić S, **Polić B**, Krmpotić A. (**2008**) Viral inhibitors of NKG2D ligands: friends or foes of immune surveillance? **Eur. J. Immunol.** 38:2952-2956
41. [Jonjić S](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?Db=pubmed&Cmd=Search&Term=%22Jonji%C4%87%20S%22%5BAuthor%5D&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_DiscoveryPanel.Pubmed_RVAbstractPlus), [Babić M](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?Db=pubmed&Cmd=Search&Term=%22Babi%C4%87%20M%22%5BAuthor%5D&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_DiscoveryPanel.Pubmed_RVAbstractPlus), [**Polić B**](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?Db=pubmed&Cmd=Search&Term=%22Poli%C4%87%20B%22%5BAuthor%5D&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_DiscoveryPanel.Pubmed_RVAbstractPlus), [Krmpotić A](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?Db=pubmed&Cmd=Search&Term=%22Krmpoti%C4%87%20A%22%5BAuthor%5D&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_DiscoveryPanel.Pubmed_RVAbstractPlus). (**2008**) Immune evasion of natural killer cells by viruses. **Current Opinion in Immunology** 20:30-38
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**Grants**

**PI – National grants**

**Since 2017.** - „Immune mechanisms in development of inflammation and metabolic syndrome in obesity“, Croatian Scientific Foundation (HRZZ), Grant: IP-06-2016, Acronym: INFLAMETAB, Value: 133.333 €

## Since 2013.- Support of the University of Rijeka for research, Value: 10.933 € / year

**2007. – 2013.** „The role NKG2D in the development, homeostasis and effector functions of the immune system“ Grant No: 062-0621261-1271, Croatian Ministry of Science, Value: 133.333 €

**2006. – 2009.** „Development of system for production of biotynilated monoclonal antibodies“ Croatian Scientific Foudation, Grant No: 02-04 NZZ, Value: 166.666 €

**2002 - 2006.** „Production and characterization of mouse mutants of genes encoding NKG2D and NKG2A“, Croatian Ministry of Science, Grant No: 0062005, Value: 120.000 €

**2001 - 2005.**  „Manipualtion with the mouse genom in vivo“, Croatian Ministry of Science, Grant No. TP0062/01, Value: 180.000 €

**1997. – 2002.** Initial project for young reseachers “qPCR in detection of cytomegalovirus latency” , Croatian Ministry of Science, Grant No. 006238, Value: 10.000 €

**PI – International grants**

**Since 2021. -** “Mechanisms of hepatic immuno-sensing and their role in development of non-alcoholic steatohepatitis”, Swiss – Croatian collaborative grant (SNSF – HRZZ), grant No. **IPCH-2020-10-8440, PIs Bojan Polić (Croatia) – Burkhard Becher (Switzerland), Value: 600.000 CHF**

**Since 2017.** - WP2 whithin the project „Strengthening capacity of Center of excellence for viral immunology and vaccines (CerVirVac) for research in viral immunology and vaccinology“, European Fund for Regional Development (EFRD), Grant No. KK.01.1.1.01.0006, project coordinator: Stipan Jonjić, Value: 5.028.809,62 €

**2015.** -**2016**. „Mechanisms of innate immunity in development of inflammation of visceral adipose tissue and insulin resistnace in obesity “, European Social Fund (ESF), Grant No: HR.3.2.01-0263, Value: 216.415 €

**2014. -2016.** Infrastructural project „Center for tranlational medical research – TransMedRi“ European Fund for Regional Development (EFRD), Grant No.RC.2.2.07 – 0004, Preparation of documentation for building of the Center, Value: 852.211 €

**2013. – 2015.**  „The role of pathogen-driven inflammation of visceral adipose tissue in the development of Diabetes Mellitus type II“, Unity through Knowledge Fund (UKF), Value: 195.600 €

**2013. – 2015.** „Fat Killers: The role of Natural Killer cells in the development of Diabetes Mellitus type 2“, European Foundation for Study of Diabetes (EFSD), Value: 100.000 €

**2011. – 2013.** „NKG2D in T-cells - Memory Control; The role of NKG2D and the T-cell receptor in memory T cell biology“ Coordinator of the project EU FP7 People-2010-IEF (Acronym: NKG2D and T cells, postdoctoral fellowship for Dr. Felix M. Wensveen), Grant No: 274995, Value: 178.000 €

**2010. – 2013.** „Upgrading the capacities for research in translational medicine at the Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka“, Coordinator of the EU FP7 Regpot-2010-5 project (Acronym: TransMedRi), Contract No.:256686, Value: 1.850.000 €

**2009.** **– 2010.** „Impact of NKG2D-deficiency on the Immunosurveillance of Cytomegalovirus and West Nile Virus Infections” , Bilateral Croatian-Israeli project, Value: 100.000 €

**2005. – 2010.** „A European Infrastructure of Ligand Binding Molecules Against the Human Proteome”, Parnter at the EU FP-6 CA project (Akronym: ProteomeBinders), Contract No.:026008, koordinator: Prof.dr. Mike Taussig, Babraham Institute, Cambridge, UK, Value of MEDRI part: 50.000 €

**Invited lectures**

1. “Decrease in Blood Glucose Levels Due to Viral Infection Promotes Innate-Immune Anti-Viral Response“, **Conference „Immunology at the confuence of multidisciplinary approaches“**, **Belgrade, Serbia,** 6. – 8. December 2019
2. “Innate lymphois cells in the adipose tissue”, **Science & Skiing Retreit, Parpan/Lenzerheide, Switzerland**, 14. – 16. January 2019, Organizer: Bruchard Ludewig
3. „A new role of an old player: Interferon gamma-mediated crosstalk between the immune and endocrine systems in viral infections”, **Institute for Molecular Medicine, University Medical Center, Mainz, Germany**, 13. December 2018., Host: Prof. Ari Waisman
4. „NASH: The role of  T cells in development of steatohepatitis in obesity”, **1st European Conference of Young Gastroenterologists**: **Challenges in Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology**, Zagreb, Croatia, 6. – 9. December 2018.
5. „A new role of an old player: Interferon gamma-mediated crosstalk between the immune and endocrine systems in viral infections”, **2nd International Biomedical Student Congress** (**BRIK**), Rijeka, Croatia, 8. – 10. November 2018.
6. „A new role of an old player: Interferon gamma-mediated crosstalk between the immune and endocrine systems in viral infections” **2018 Annual Meeting of the Croatian Immunological Society**, Zadar, Croatia, 19. – 20. October 2018.
7. „Virrally-induced IFNgamma causes insulin resistance in skeletal muscle and derails glycemic control in obesity“, **12th Annual Symposium of the Croatian Physiological Society** with international participation, Rijeka, Croatia, 28. – 30. September 2018
8. „Virrally-induced IFNgamma causes insulin resistance in skeletal muscle and derails glycemic control in obesity“, **Klinikum rechts der Isaar Technishe Universitat Munchen (TUM), Germany,** host: prof. Marc Schmidt – Supprian, March 22nd 2018
9. „Virrally-induced IFNgamma causes insulin resistance in skeletal muscle and derails glycemic control in obesity“, Queen's Medical Research **Institute (QMRI), MRC for Inflammatory Disease**, **University of Edinburgh, UK**, host: Dr. Chengcen Yao, March 9th 2018
10. I „Immune sensing and inflamation of adipose tissue in obesity“ and II „Crosstalk between the immune and endocrine systems in infected obese subjects“ **19th FEBS Summer School on Immunology „Immune System: Genes, Receptors and Regulation“, hotel Sirena, Hvar, Croatia,** 23. – 30. September 2017.
11. „The role of pro-inflammatory cytokines in progression of Diabetes mellitus type 2 caused by viral infections in obesity“ **19th Symposium „Hormones and cytokines in inflammation and pregnancy“ of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (HAZU), Rijeka, Croatia,** 12th September 2017.
12. „The role of NKG2D in development and education of NK cells“ **2016 Annual Meeting of Croatian Immunological Society, Ogulin – Hotel Frankopan, Croatia,** 14. – 15. October 2016.
13. „Transgenic animal models for fundamental and translational research“, **16. symposium „Research on animal models – Present state and perspectives in Coratia and University of Rijeka“ of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (HAZU), , Rijeka, Hrvatska,** 6. September 2016.
14. „The role of NKG2D in education and effector functions of NK cells“ **16th Annual Meeting of the Society for Natural Immunity (NK 2016), Taormina, Italy,** 2. – 5. September 2016
15. „Inflammation of visceral adipose tissue and development of type 2 diabetes“, **14th Symposium „Translation of basic immunology and neuroscience tools to therapies“**, **The Department of Clinical and Transplantational Immunology and Molecular Medicine in Rijeka, The Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Rijeka, Croatia,** 4. July 2016.
16. „The role of NKG2D in education and effector functions of NK cells“, **9th Frontiers in Immunology Research International Conference, , Ljubljana, Slovenia,** 2. July 2016.
17. „Immune sensing of fat tissue: The role of NK cells in initiation of the visceral adipose tissue inflammation“ on the **Conference „Inflammation - Bonfire from Within“, Weizmann Institute of Science (WIS), , Rehovot, Israel,** 23. – 24. November 2015
18. „ Immune sensing of the adipose tissue: The role of NK cells in the development of visceral adipose tissue inflammation and T2DM in obesity“, **Festival znanosti i obrazovanja, , Sinj, Hrvatska,** 25. – 30. October 2015.
19. „Immune sensing of fat tissue“ – **18th FEBS Summer School „Immune System: Genes, Receptors and Regulation“, Rabac, Croatia,** 12. – 19. September 2015
20. Plenary lecture „Immune sensing of fat tissue“ „**4th European Congress of Immunology – ECI 2015“, Vienna, Austria,** 6. – 9. Septemebr 2015.
21. „NK cells link obesity-induced adipose stress to inflammation and insulin resistance“**3rd Belgrade EFIS Symposium on Immunoregulation „Immunity, Infection, Autoimmunity and Aging“, , Arandjelovac Spa / Belgrade, Serbia,** 24. – 27. May 2015
22. „Obesity – an inflammatory disease“, **EAGEN Course „Obesity – a metabolic and nutritional problem in Western and South Eastern Europe“ Opatija,** 24. – 26. Ocotber 2014
23. „NK cells link obesity-induced adipose stress to inflammation and insulin resistance“, **Annual Meeting of the Croatian Immunological Society (HID), Hotel „Koralj“, Krk, Croatia,** 17. – 18. October 2014.
24. „Generation and use of genetically modified mice in experimental medicine“, **2. Symposium of the Croatian Society for Science on Laboratory Animals (CRO-LASA) „Experimental animals in research“, Veterinary Faculty, Zagreb, Croatia,** 10. October 2014.
25. „NK cells link obesity-induced adipose stress to inflammation and insulin resistance“, **Annual meeting of the Croatian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology** **(2014 HDBMB), Hotel Kolovare, Zadar, Croatia,** 24. – 27. September 2014.
26. „NK cells link obesity-induced adipose stress to inflammation and insulin resistance“, **Institut Ruđer Bošković, Zagreb, Croatia,** 16. July 2014.,
27. „NK cells link obesity-induced adipose stress to inflammation and insulin resistance“, **Institut Pasteur, Paris,** 16. May 2014., Host: Dr. James P. DiSanto
28. „Biology of the adipose tissue and the immune system“ – **6. Croatian Congress on Obesity** with international participation**, Solaris / Šibenik, Croatia,** 9. – 11. May 2014.
29. „Immune mechanisms involved in the inflammation of visceral adipose tissue in obesity“ – **Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (HAZU) – 2. Symposyum of the Dept. for clinical and transplantational immunology and molecular medicine „Obesity: Public helth probelm and medical challange“ Rijeka, Croatia,** 8. May 2014.
30. „The biological roles of NKG2D in innate and adaptive immunity“, **4. EFIS-EJI South Eastern European Immunology School (SEEIS 2012), Igman, Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina,** 21. – 24. September 2012.
31. „The biological role of NKG2D in T cells“ na **Veterinary University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria,** September 2011, Hosts: prof. Veronika Sexl/prof. Matthias Mueller
32. „The biological role of NKG2D in innate immunity“, **16th FEBS Summer School on Immunology „Immune system: genes, receptors and regulation“, Hvar, Croatia,** 3. – 11. September 2011.
33. „NK cells in viral infections and tumors“ i „NKG2D receptor: Two sides of the same player“, **Advanced Course for PhD students „Molecular Immunology“**, **Department of Immunology, Erasmus MC University of Rotterdam, The Netherlands**, March 2011
34. Lecturer and insturctor at the **EMBO course** **“Anatomy and Embryology of the Mouse”**, Faculty of Medicine University of Split, September 2010.
35. „NKG2D in NK cell physiology: Two sides oft he same player“, **Institute of microbiology, immunology and hygiene, Technical University of Munich (TUM), Munich, Germany,** July 2010, Host: Prof. dr. Dirk Busch
36. „NKG2D in NK cell physiology: Two sides of the same player“, **Department of Pathology, University of Cambridge, UK,** May 2010, domaćin: Dr. Francesco Colucci
37. „Dual role of NKG2D of NKG2D in NK cell physiology“, Natural Killer Cell Symposium – **NK2009, Freiburg, Germany,** 4th – 6th November 2009
38. „NKG2D: master regulator of NK cell development and homeostasis?, **HHMI International Practical Course: Viral Subversion of the Immune System**, **Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, Croatia,** 8th – 17th June 2009.
39. „The role of NKG2D in homeostasis and effector functions of NK cells“, **1st International Symposium of the Research** Unit 729, Anti-infectious effector programs, **Kardinal Schulte Haus, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany,** 11th -13th June 2009., host: Prof. Klaus Pfeffer
40. „Altered NK cell development and enhanced NK cell mediated immunosurveillance of MCMV in NKG2D k.o. mice“, **School of Biological Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore,** October 2008, host: Prof. Klaus Karjalainen
41. „NKG2D: A master regulator of NK cell development?“, **Annual Meeting of the Croatian Immunological Society (HID)**, Solaris / Šibenik, Croatia, September 2008
42. svibanj 2008.- Predavanje „The development and functional changes of NK cells in NKG2D k.o. mice“ **University of Tuebengen, Germany,** May 2008, host: Prof. Alexander Steinle
43. „Impaired NK cell develompment and enhanced NK cell mediated immunosurveillance of MCMV in NKG2D k.o. mice“, **University of Freiburg, Germany,** April 2008, host: Prof. dr. Michael Reth
44. Lecturer and insturctor on the **EMBO Course** **“Anatomy and Embryology of the Mouse”**, Faculty of Medicine, University of Zagreb, October 2006
45. „Evasion of NK cell control by murine cytomegalovirus“, **University of Mainz, Germany, host: Prof. dr. Ari Waisman,** June 2006
46. Lecturer and instructior on the **EMBO Course** **“Anatomy and Embryology of the Mouse”**, Facutly of Medicine University of Zagreb, Croatia, September 2004
47. “Immunosurveillance of latent cytomegalovirus infection”, **3rd Congress of Croatian Infectologists** with International participation**, Dubrovnik, Croatia,** Novemebr 2002
48. Lecturer and insturctor on the **EMBO Course “Anatomy and Embryology of the Mouse”**, Faculty of Medicine University of Zagreb, September 2002

 **Memebrship in Scientific Societies**

1. Croatian Immunological Society - HID (Vice-President 2002 – 2010, President 2010 – 2014)
2. Croatian Society for Physiology - HDF
3. Croatian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology - HDBMB
4. Croatian Society for Morphology
5. Croatian Society for Research on Laboratory Animals - CroLasa
6. Croatian Humboldt Club
7. Society for Natural Immunity (SNI)
8. European Association for Study of Diabetes (EASD)
9. American Association of Immunologists (AAI)

**Organization of Scientific Meetings**

1. Co-organizer of the **20th FEBS Summer School on Immunology** (FEBS Advanced Course on Immunology) **“Immune system: genes, receptors and regulation”**, Hvar, Croatia, 21.- 28. September 2019.
2. Co-organizer of the **19th FEBS Summer School on Immunology** (FEBS Advanced Course on Immunology) **“Immune system: genes, receptors and regulation”**, Hvar, Croatia, 23.- 30. September 2017.
3. Co-organizer of the **18th FEBS Summer School on Immunology** (FEBS Advanced Course on Immunology) **“Immune system: genes, receptors and regulation”**, Rabac, Croatia, 12. – 19. September 2015.
4. Co-organizer of the **17th FEBS Summer School on Immunology** (FEBS Advanced Course on Immunology) **“Immune system: genes, receptors and regulation”**, Rabac, Croatia 14. – 21. September 2013.
5. President of the Organizing Committee of the **2nd Meeting of Middle-European Societies for Immunology and Allergology**, Opatija, Croatia, 10. – 13. October 2013.
6. Member of the Scientific Committee of the **“3rd European Congress of Immunology” ECI 2012**, 5. – 8. September 2012., Glasgow, UK
7. Co-organizer of the **16th FEBS Summer School on Immunology** (FEBS Advanced Course on Immunology) **“Immune system: genes, receptors and regulation”**, Hvar, Croatia, 3. – 11. September 2011.
8. Member of the Organizing Committee of the **12th Meeting of the Society for Natural Immunity (NK2010)**, rujan 2010, Dubrovnik
9. Co-organizer of the **15th FEBS Summer School on Immunology** (FEBS Advanced Course on Immunology) **“Immune system: genes, receptors and regulation”**, Hvar, Croatia, 5. – 12. September 2009.
10. Co-organizer of the **14th FEBS Summer School on Immunology** (FEBS Advanced Course on Immunology) **“Immune system: genes, receptors and regulation”**, Hvar, Croatia, 10. – 17. September 2007.
11. President of the Organizing Committees of **Annual Meetings of the Croatian Immunological Society (HID)** in 2011, 2012 i 2014
12. Member of the Organizing Committees of **Annual Meetings of the Croatian Immunological Society (HID)** in 2002., 2003., 2004., 2005., 2007., 2008. i 2010.
13. Member of the Local Organizing Committee of **“Alps-Adria Immunology and Allergology Meetings”** in 1990. and 1994., Opatija, Croatia

**Awards / Fellowships**

2019 Award of City of Rijeka for scientific achievements and contribution to the

international recognition of the University of Rijeka in 2018.

2016 Award of the Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences (AMZH)

„Ante Šercer“ for best scientific publication in 2015.

2012 Award oft he Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (HAZU) for scientific achievements in Biomedicine in 2011.

2005. Aknowledgement of the Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka for contribution to the developmnt of science and teaching at the Faculty

2005 Award of the Commune Čavle for scientific achievements

2002. Croatian State Award for Science for scientific achievements in 2001.

1998. – 1999. Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship, Germany

**Reviews**

* Ad-hoc reviewer in scientific journals: Nature Microbiology, Cell Metabolism, Immunity, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA, Int. J. Canc. Res., Cell. Mol. Immunol., Cro. Med. J., Frontiers in Immunology, Cell Reports, Cellular and Molecular Biology, etc.
* Ad-hoc grant reviewer for: Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ), Welcome Trust (UK), Israel Science Foundation (ISF), Science Foundation of Ireland (SFI), Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR – France), European Research Council (ERC)
* Memeber of the grant reviewing pannel for Biomedicine and Health of the Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ), 2013. – 2015.
* Reference letter for the promotion of Dr. sc. I-Shin Su to the Associate Professor with tenure at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore, March 2016.
* Reference letter for the promotion of Dr. sc. Mary A. Markiewicz to the Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Kansas School of Medicine, USA, September 2019.
* Member of the grant reviewing pannel for Biomedicine and Health at the Croatian Ministry of Science in 2006.
* Member of international evaluation committee for the Unit for pruoduction of monoclonal antibodies at the Cancer Research UK, London, UK in September 2006.

**Scientific Journals (Editorial / Scientific boards)**

* Memebr of the Board of the Croatian Medical Journal-a, since 2010.
* Member of the Editorial Board (Associate editor) of the Journal of Molecular Medicine - since 2018.
* Member of the Editorial Board (Associate editor) of the Frontiers in Immunology, since 2021.

**Teaching**

**Undergraduate sudents**

1. Lecturer on the course “Histology & Embryology” for medical and dentistry students, Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka
2. Head of the course “Molecular biology” for the study “Laboratory diagnostics in medicine” Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka
3. Lecturer on the course “Medical biology” for medical students at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Mostar, Bosnia & Herzegovina (Head of the Course - 2008. – 2013.)
4. Head of the elective course “Animal models for human diseases” for medical students at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka
5. Head of the elective course “Stem cells and stem cell therapy” for medical students at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka
6. Head of the course “Cell therapy” for students of the study “Biotechnology in medicine” of the Department of Biotechnology, University of Rijeka

**Postgraduate students**

1. Head of the course “Mechanisms of the development and homeostasis of lymphocytes” on the Ph.D. program “Biomedicine” at the Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka

**Mentoring /Supervision**

**Mentoring of undergraduate students**

1995 Nives Štanfelj

2005 Ivan Dašek

2005 Jasmine Prodan

2007 Anita Kosić

2008 Marko Lapat

2014 Dora Karmelić

2014 Tamare Maurović

2015 Jurica Recek

2016 Natalija Justić

2016 Anamarija Đukić

2018 Lovro Bebić

**Metnoring of PhD students and postdoctoral fellows**

2006 Ph. D. of Alen Braut dr. med. dent.., Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, currently on the position of Associate Professor at the Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka

2010 Ph. D. of Biljana Zafirova, dipl. eng. biotech., Faculy of Medicine University of Rijeka, postdoctoral fellow at the Institute Pasteur, Paris, France, awarded with Marie Curie IEF (EU-FP7-People), EMBO, Luis Pasteur and FEBS fellowships

2010 - 2013 Postdoctoral training of dr. sc. Felix-a M. Wensveen-a, awarded with MSC-IEF (EU-FP7-People) fellowship, currently on the position of Associate Professor at the Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, awarded with the Award of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (HAZU) in 2020.

2016. Ph. D. of Vedrana Jelenčić, mag. eng. biotech., Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, currently postdocotral fellow at the Faculty, awarded with the Croatian State Award for young scientists for 2018.

2017 Ph. D. of Maja Lenartić, dipl. eng. biol., Facutly of Medicine University of Rijeka,

 currently postdoctoral fellow at the Faculty

2018 Ph. D. of Marko Šestan, dr. med. vet., Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, currently on the postdoctoral training in the laboratory of Henrique Veiga- Fernandes, Centro Clinico Chanmpalimaud, Lisabon, Portugal, awarded with the EMBO fellowship 2020., Croatian State Award for Science for 2018. and EFIS Acteria Award for young scientists

2018 Ph. D. of Sonja Marinović (b. Valetnić), mag. biol. mol., Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Zagreb, currently postdoctoral fellow at the Institute Ruđer Bošković, Zagreb, Croatia

2018 Ph. D. of Hrvoje Šimić, dr. med., Faculty of Medicine University of Rijeka, employed at Clinical Hospital Centra Rijeka as specialist of neurosurgery.

Since 2018 Ante Benić, mag. biol. mol., third year of Ph. D.

Sicne 2020 Karlo Mladenić, mag. biotech. in med., first year of Ph. D.

Since 2020 Sanja Mikašinović, mag. bioteh. in med., first year of Ph.D.