

Ourania Kostopoulou
Sveavägen 164K, 11346 Stockholm,
+46 762120329, ourania.kostopoulou@ki.se

Department of Medicine,
Center for Molecular Medicine (CMM),
Karolinska University Hospital,
17176, Stockholm, Sweden

February 27, 2018

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am writing to accept to serve on the journal **Editorial Board**.

In my MSc Thesis and PhD Thesis I was dealing with ribosome and especially with its function. Briefly, in my PhD a series of chloramphenicol-polyamine conjugates were synthesized and evaluated as antibacterial and anticancer agents. Some of them exhibited higher activity than chloramphenicol in inhibiting the puromycin reaction in vitro, improved antibacterial activity, and superior antiproliferative activity against human cancer cells. Additionally, a series of chloramphenicol dimers were synthesized. Beyond their promising value as antibacterials, their mode of action allowed the identification of a new binding pocket for chloramphenicol at the entrance to the ribosomal exit-tunnel.

During my postdoc studies I tried to enrich my knowledge in the ribosome but now not only from the protein synthesis part but the ribosomal biogenesis part and especially after viral infection. During my project, I have discovered that Human cytomegalovirus and Herpes Simplex type I virus can engage RNA polymerase I for transcription of immediate early genes (paper published in Oncotarget). A lot of studies demonstrate the frequent presence of HCMV in cancers of different origin, and that anti-CMV treatment may show promise as a new therapy option for CMV positive cancer patients. It is crucial to understand the different ways that the virus behaves in normal and cancer cells in order to design new antiviral drugs with potential anticancer activity. Apart of this project, another important discovery that I have done during these three years and is very important for glioblastoma patients is that glucocorticoids promote a glioma stem cell-like phenotype and resistance to chemotherapy in human glioblastoma primary cells: biological and prognostic significance (published in International Journal of Cancer).

I have enclosed my curriculum vitae and I would be happy to send you any further information that may be requested.

Yours sincerely,

Ourania Kostopoulou