



Zafiroula (Iro) Georgoussi , PhD

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Research Molecular mechanisms of G protein coupled Receptors in drug discovery (Opioid Receptor Signaling)

Keywords Opioid receptors, G proteins, signal transduction, interactors, spatiotemporal regulation, neurite outgrowth, autophagy, synaptic alterations, stress

Links PubMed: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=georgoussi+z&sort=date>
Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/scholar?start=10&q=georgoussi+z&hl=el&>

Biography

Dr Georgoussi is an Emeritus Research Director of IBA. She graduated from the Biology Department, University of Patras (Greece), obtained a Diploma from Queen Elizabeth College, UK, undertook doctoral studies at the National Hellenic Research Foundation and the University of Ruhr, Germany [PhD awarded by the Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece); and post-doctoral research studies at Vanderbilt University USA, the NCSR "D and the University of Glasgow, UK. She established in 1997 and directed the Laboratory of "Cellular Signaling and Molecular Pharmacology" of IBA.. Her interests focus on the mechanisms governing G protein-coupled receptor (GPCR) signaling, with emphasis on opioid receptors in neurotransmission, neuronal plasticity and emotional behaviors. Her team identified proteins interacting with these receptors downstream targets causing alterations in neuronal differentiation; and novel pathways implicated in neurite outgrowth, autophagy and consequent synaptic protein alterations under stress conditions. Her team has developed cell-based screening assays for discovery of new therapeutic compounds and food supplements to alleviate pain and mood disorders. Dr. Georgoussi has published in high impact scientific journals and is patent holder. Her research activities have been supported by national research agencies, pharmaceutical companies, and the European Union. For her research on novel pain alleviating compounds , she received several awards and has trained a large number of undergraduate, MSc and PhD students. She is a member of the Inter-Institutional "Athens International Master's Program in Neurosciences" coordinating the course "Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience" and also teaches in other postgraduate programs. Notably, she has been a member of the Ethics Committee of the NCSR, National Representative of three COST actions CM1207-GLISTEND, CA-18133-ERNEST, ADHER'N Rise and member of the Scientific Council of IBA, NCSR "Demokritos" among others .