Maria Xilouri, PhD

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Research	Protein misfolding and aggregation in neurodegenerative diseases
Keywords	Alpha- synucleionopathies ; proteolytic pathways; extracellular vesicles
Links	PubMed: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?dispmax=20&pmfilter_PDatLimit=No%2BLimit&cmd_current=Limits%22(ig_db%3DPubMed&cmd=Search&term=(XILOURI+M%5BAll+Fields%5D)&doptcmdl=DocSum Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Sm7W5WgAAAAJ&hl=e Webpage: https://www.bioacademy.gr/faculty-details/HMqF/maria-3yloyrh

Biography

Maria Xilouri received her Biology degree in 1999 (University of Athens) and her PhD in Biology in 2007 (University of Athens). In December 2006, she began her postdoctoral research in the field of neurodegenerative diseases (BRFAA) and in April 2015, she was appointed as a Researcher D' at the Center for Clinical, Experimental Surgery and Translational Research of BRFAA. In June 2020, she was promoted to Researcher C'. Her lab's research interests are mainly related to the pathogenesis of neurodegenerative diseases with an emphasis on alpha- synucleinopathies , such as Parkinson's disease (PD) and multiple system atrophy (MSA). In particular, the lab is focusing on the mechanisms underlying the seeding of alpha-synuclein pathology in neurons and oligodendroglia, the cells that are mostly affected in PD and MSA, respectively. The research employs a variety of cellular and animal models, whereas the results obtained from such models are being validated in human biological material, derived from peripheral and brain tissues. Collectively, her work seeks to pinpoint the mechanisms controlling the propagation of aggregated-prone proteins in the nervous system, which may represent potential targets for neuroprotective therapies. Dr Xilouri's work has been supported with fellowships and awards from prestigious organizations, such as the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, the Michael J Fox Foundation, the MSA Coalition, the MSA Trust, the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (HFRI), the Wellcome Trust and the State Scholarship Foundation (IKY).