



Zoonoses & Translational Research

Institute of Parasitology

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Research interests: parasite vaccine development, camelid heavy chain single domain antibodies

Education

- 01/2004 – 02/2008 PhD study, Vetsuisse Faculty and Graduate School for Cellular and Biomedical Sciences, Universities of Zurich and Bern, Switzerland (promoted on July 8th 2008).
- 06/2002 – 11/2003 DVM Dissertation, Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Zurich, Switzerland (promoted on August 20th 2004).
- 09/1991 – 02/2002 Studies of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Faculty, University of Zagreb, Croatia (promoted on Feb 15th 2002)

Professional experience

- 09/2010 – present Postdoctoral Research Associate, Parasitic Zoonoses group at the Institute of Parasitology, Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Zurich, Switzerland.
- 05/2008 – 04/2010 Postdoctoral fellow at the Sandler Center for Basic Research in Parasitic Diseases, University of California, San Francisco, USA.
- 07/2007 – 02/2008 Research Associate at the Institute of Parasitology, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Fellowships, grants and awards

- 2012 Sciex-NMS research fellowship to MSc. Lenka Urlychova, “Proteolytic enzymes and inhibitors of trematode parasite *Schistosoma mansoni*”, 07/2012 – 07/2013
- 2011 University of Zurich research grant: “Forschungskredit”, “Applying combinatorial technology in search for vaccine and drug targets in *Fasciola hepatica*”, 07/2011 – 07/2012
- 2008 Swiss National Science Foundation: “Prospective Researcher Fellowship” Functional analysis of cathepsine proteases in the gut of *Schistosoma mansoni*”, 06/2008 – 06/2009
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Publications in peer-reviewed journals

“Inhibition of *Haemonchus contortus* larval development by fungal lectins”. Heim C, Hertzberg H, Butschli A, Bleuler-Martinez S, Aebi M, Deplazes P, Künzler M, Štefanić S. Parasit Vectors. 2015 Aug 19;8(1):425. doi: 10.1186/s13071-015-1032-x.

“Prolyl Oligopeptidase from the Blood Fluke *Schistosoma mansoni*: From Functional Analysis to Anti-schistosomal Inhibitors.” Fajtová P, Štefanić S, Hradilek M, Dvořák J, Vondrášek J, Jílková A, Ulrychová L, McKerrow JH, Caffrey CR, Mareš M, Horn M. PLoS Negl Trop Dis. 2015 Jun 3;9(6):e0003827. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0003827. eCollection 2015 Jun

“RNA interference in *Schistosoma mansoni* schistosomula: selectivity, sensitivity and operation for larger-scale screening”. Štefanić S, Dvorak J, Horn M, Braschi S, Sojka D, Ruelas DS, Suzuki B, Lim KC, Hopkins SD, McKerrow JH, Caffrey CR. PLoS Negl Trop Dis. 2010 Oct 19;4(10):e850.

“Glucosylceramide synthesis inhibition affects cell cycle progression, membrane trafficking and stage differentiation in *Giardia lamblia*”. Štefanić S, Spycher C, Morf L, Fabrias G, Casas J, Schraner E, Wild P, Hehl AB and Sonda S. J Lipid Res. 2010 Sep;51(9):2527-45. Epub 2010 Mar 24.

“A contiguous compartment functions as endoplasmic reticulum and endosome/lysosome in *Giardia lamblia*”. Abodeely M, DuBois KN, Hehl AB, Štefanić S, Sajid M, DeSouza W, Attias M, Engel JC, Hsieh I, Fetter RD, McKerrow JH. Eukaryot Cell. 2009 Nov;8(11):1665-76. Epub 2009 Sep 11.

“Neogenesis and maturation of transient Golgi-like cisternae in a simple eukaryote”. Štefanić S, Morf L, Kulangara C, Regos A, Sonda S, Schraner E, Spycher C, Wild P, Hehl AB. J Cell Sci. 2009 Aug 15;122(Pt 16):2846-56. Epub 2009 Jul 21.

“Host cell P-glycoprotein is essential for cholesterol uptake and replication of *Toxoplasma gondii*”. Bottova I, Hehl AB, Štefanić S, Fabrias G, Casas J, Schraner E, Pieters J, Sonda S, J Biol Chem. 2009 Jun 26;284(26):17438-48. Epub 2009 Apr 22.

“A sphingolipid inhibitor induces a cytokinesis arrest and blocks stage differentiation in *Giardia lamblia*”. Sonda S, Štefanić S, Hehl AB. Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy. Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 2008 Feb;52(2):563-9. Epub 2007 Dec 17.

“Organelle proteomics reveals cargo maturation mechanisms associated with Golgi-like encystation vesicles in the early-diverged protozoan *Giardia lamblia*”. **Stefanic S**, Palm D, Svard SG, Hehl AB. J Biol Chem. 2006 Mar 17;281(11):7595-604. Epub 2006 Jan 3.

“Polymerase chain reaction for detection of patent infections of *Echinococcus granulosus* (“sheep strain”) in naturally infected dogs”. **Stefanic S**, Shaikenov BS, Deplazes P, Dinkel A, Torgerson PR, Mathis A. Parasitol Res. 2004 Mar;92(4):347-51. Epub 2004 Jan 16.
