



## Research Associate

position available at the

**Laboratory for Neurodegenerative  
Disease Research  
Ruđer Bošković Institute - Zagreb**

Laboratory for Neurodegenerative Disease Research (LAND) at the Ruđer Bošković Institute (RBI), Zagreb (Croatia) is seeking a highly motivated Research Associate candidate to work on molecular biology of neurodegeneration and neuroinflammation.

We have been intrigued by the fact that the two different neurodegenerative disorders, a rare childhood lipid and lysosomal storage disease Niemann-Pick type C (NPC) and the most common and complex Alzheimer's disease (AD), share several key features including neurodegeneration and neuroinflammation, accumulation of the Alzheimer's amyloid-beta peptides, increased levels of hyperphosphorylated tau, dysfunction of the endolysosomal pathway and apolipoprotein E  $\epsilon$ 4 effect on increased progression of the disease. However, these two disorders also show clear neuropathological distinctions. In contrast to AD where neurodegeneration primarily occurs in the brain regions of hippocampus and cortex, while cerebellum seems to be protected, in NPC disease Purkinje neurons in the cerebellum are most affected, while hippocampus seems to be spared. Using different mouse models, organotypic slice cultures, primary neurons and glia cells as well as cell lines our goal is to elucidate molecular details of similarities and different brain region vulnerabilities between these two neurodegenerative disorders. These studies will increase our understanding of the molecular pathogenesis of these conditions and of the interconnection between neurodegeneration and neuroinflammation as well as our chances of finding disease-modifying therapies.

Further details on our work please find at the <http://www.irb.hr>.

Interested candidates please contact:

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