Short Curriculum Vitae: Maria Koffa

Current Position:	Associate Professor of Cell Biology
Undergraduate Education:	1988-1992: Dep. of Biology, University of Athens, Greece. B.Sc. in Biology. 1991-1992: Diploma work at the NHR Foundation, Athens,Greece.
Post-graduate Education:	1992-1997: PhD at the Institute of Biological Research and Biotechnology, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens, and Medical School, University of Crete, Greece. Thesis title: Co-operation between *ras* oncogenes, human papillomavirus (HPV) and herpes simplex virus (HSV) in the formation of genital neoplasms. 1996 - 1997: Researcher in the laboratory of Prof. L.S. Young, CRC Institute for Cancer Studies, Medical School, University of Birmingham, U.K. 1997 - 2001: Postdoctoral research fellow in the laboratory of Prof. J.B. Clements at the Institute of Virology, University of Glasgow, Scotland, U.K. 2001 - 2004: Postdoctoral research fellow in the laboratory of Dr. I.W. Mattaj at the Gene Expression Programme, EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany.
Areas of Interest	• My research team is interested in the regulation of cell division, aneuploidy and cancer, as well as mitotic cell response to different compounds, including inhibitors and drug-nanocarriers. We are also interested in the coordination of chromatin dynamics with proper cell division and we combine molecular biology techniques with optical approaches and imaging analysis.
Distinctions	• Marie Curie re-integration grant (2005-2006) €40.000: Keeping the spindle in shape: Identification and characterization of new components involved for spindle formation. • Marie Curie individual long-term fellowship (2002-2004). • European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) long-term fellowship, (2001-2002).
Funding	• 2005: €70.000, Ministry of Education (Infrastructure and equipment upgrading for improving quality of education), PI • 2005-2007: €11.740, General Secretariat for Research and Technology, 3rd COMMUNITY SUPPORT FRAMEWORK, Bilateral S&T Cooperation between the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Turkey. The role of β-catenin and HURP in hepatocellular carcinoma, PI • 2006-2008: €300.000, The Operational Programme Interreg III A / PHARE CBC Greece Bulgaria 2000-2006. Development of infrastructure for the identifications of carriers of inherited diseases. • 2009-2012: €1.000.000, FP7, Programme Capacities (Strengthening Regional Bioresearch Potential in Greece: Advanced scientific performance at the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics in Thrace (*Biostrength*).

- 2010-2013: €1.000.000, General Secretariat for Research and Technology, NSRF2007-2013, "Cooperation 2009" Development of ixabepilone nanocarriers and their effect on breast cancer therapy.
- 2011-2013: €715.350, European Territorial Cooperation Programme Greece-Bulgaria. Cross border epidemiology of sexually transmitted viral infections in the female populations: molecular diagnostic approaches. PI
- 2011-2014: €15.000, IKY, Programme For The Promotion Of The Exchange And Scientific Cooperation Between Greece And Germany, IKYDA 2011, PI
- 2012-2014: €350.000, FP7, Programme ERA.Net RUS, Linking Russia to the ERA, Pilot Joint Call in Innovation. Fluorescent proteins, stable cell lines and lentiviral systems for biomedical studies, PI
- 2014-2017: €597.000, Fonds National de la Recherche Luxembourg, Core 2013, Investigation of the regulatory pathways that govern fidelity of cell division and tumorigenesis through aneuploidy, FidelCheck, PI till 31.12.2015
- 2015-2017: €249.530, Internal Research Project, University of Luxembourg: A journey of chromatin remodeling factors from chromatin to spindle and back: regulation and function, ReLoad, PI till 31.12.2015
- 2017-2020: €330.000, General Secretariat for Research and Technology, Programme for Infrastructure: BioImaging-GR, PI
- 2018-2021: €533.868, Fondation Cancer, Luxembourg, 2MAP cancer, co-PI

Representative publications

1. Al-Khafaji AS, Davies MP, Risk JM, Marcus MW, **Koffa M**, Gosney JR, Shaw RJ, Field JK, Liloglou, T. Aurora B expression modulates paclitaxel response in non-small cell lung cancer. Br J Cancer. 116:592-599, 2017.

2. Skendros P, Chrysanthopoulou A, Rousset F, Kambas K, Arampatzioglou A, Mitsios A, Bocly V, Konstantinidis T, Pellet P, Angelidou I, Apostolidou E, Ritis D, Tsironidou V, Galtsidis S, Papagoras C, Stakos D, Kouklakis G, Dalla V, **Koffa M** , Mitroulis I, Theodorou I, Ritis K. Regulated in development and DNA damage responses 1 (REDD1) links stress with IL-1β -mediated familial Mediterranean fever attack through autophagy-driven neutrophil extracellular traps. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 140:1378-1387, 2017.

3. Siafaka P, Betsiou M, Tsolou A, Angelou E, Agianian B, **Koffa M**, Chaitidou S, Karavas E, Avgoustakis K, Bikiaris D. Synthesis of folate- pegylated polyester nanoparticles encapsulating ixabepilone for targeting folate receptor overexpressing breast cancer cells. Journal of Material in Sciences: Materials in Medicine 26:275, 2015.

4. Yokoyama H*, Nakos K, Santarella-Mellwig R, Rybina S, Krijgsveld J, & **Koffa MD*** and Mattaj IW. CHD4 is a RanGTP-dependent MAP that stabilizes microtubules and regulates bipolar spindle formation. Current Biology 23:2443-2451, 2013 * Corresponding authors

5. Kesisova IA, Nakos KC, Tsolou A, Angelis D, Lewis J, Chatzaki E, Agianian B, Giannis A, **Koffa MD***. Tripolin A, a Novel Small-Molecule Inhibitor of Aurora A Kinase, Reveals New Regulation of HURP's Distribution on Microtubules. Plos One, 8(3):e58485, 2013.

6. **Koffa M.D,** Santarella R. A., Tittmann P., Gross H., and Hoenger A. HURP wraps microtubule-ends with an additional tubulin sheet showing a novel tubulin conformation. *J. Molecular Biology*, 365: 1587-1595, 2007.

7. **Koffa M.D.,** Casanova C.M., Santarella R., Kocher T., Wilm M. and Mattaj I.W. HURP (Hepatocarcinoma-Upregulated) is part of a Ran-dependent complex involved in spindle formation. *Current Biology* 16:1-12, 2006.