KINGA BUJAKOWSKA
PhD Molecular Genetics

Address: Insitut de la Vision
17, Rue Moreau
75012 Paris, France

e-mail: kinga.bujakowska@inserm.fr
Nationality: Polish

Education

1-9/2009	Université Pierre et Marie Curie	Diploma in Technology Transfer in Molecular Biology
2004-2008	University College London, UK	PhD in Molecular Genetics
2003-2004	University of Lyon, France	DEA (Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondis) in Cognitive Science
2002-2003	University of Bordeaux, France	DEA (Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondis) in Cellular Biology
1999-2003	Jagiellonian University Krakow, Poland	MSc in Biotechnology
1998-1999	Montana State University Western Montana College, USA	First year of general Biology studies
1995-1997	South Cheshire College Crewe, United Kingdom	A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Professional Experience

2/2008 - present Institute de la Vision, Paris, France
Post-doctoral associate in the Department of Genetics

2004 - 1/2008 Institute of Ophthalmology, University College London, United Kingdom
PhD in Genetics on the topic: "Investigations of the disease mechanism of Retinitis Pigmentosa 11 (RP11)." under supervision of Prof. Shomi Bhattacharya

2003-2004 Institute of Cognitive Science, CNRS UMR 5015, France
10 months of DEA project: EEG study of conditional reasoning,
under supervision of Dr Jean-Baptiste Van der Henst and Dr Ira Noveck

2002-2003 Laboratory of Molecular Mechanisms of Angiogenesis, INSERM EPI 113, France
10 months of DEA project: "Interaction of integrin $\alpha v\beta 3$ with anti-angiogenic factors – Platelet Factor 4 and peptide p47-70" under supervision of Prof. Andreas Bikfalvi

2002 Laboratory of molecular mechanisms of angiogenesis, University of Bordeaux I, France
5 months of laboratory experience within Socrates Scholarship (protein purification).
under supervision of Andreas Bikfalvi

1999 Center of Biofilm Engineering, Bozeman, Montana, USA
6 month project: Biodegradation of MTBE (methyle-tert-butyl ether)
under supervision of Dr Elinor Pulcini

1999 Plant sciences and Plant Pathology Laboratory, MSU, Bozeman, USA
2 month work experience: basic molecular biology techniques
under supervision of Prof. Michael Giroux

Scholarships and Awards:

2006, June Attending the 56th Meeting of Nobel Laureates in Chemistry, Lindau, Germany

2004-2007 Marie Curie Research Training Network Scholarship for PhD study
2002 5 months scholarship from the European Socrates University Exchange programme

Languages: Polish - mother tongue; English - proficient; French - fluent; German - Basic

PhD topic:

Pre-mRNA processing factor 31 (PRPF31) is a ubiquitous protein, needed for the assembly of the pre-mRNA splicing machinery. It has been shown that mutations in this gene cause autosomal dominant retinitis pigmentosa, known as RP11. The disease is characterised by loss of vision due to rod-cell degeneration. Interestingly, mutations in this ubiquitously expressed gene do not lead to phenotypes other than retinal malfunction. The main focus of the PhD was characterisation of a *PRPF31* knock-in mouse model. In this model, mutant animals carried a point mutation (A216P), which has been previously identified in RP11 patients. Evidence of disease phenotype of the KI mouse retina was monitored by electroretinography (ERG), histology of the retina and apoptotic assays on the retinal sections. Results from this study suggest that there might be a late onset retinal degeneration starting at 12 months. Additionally, it has been proven that the A216P mutation in mouse Prpf31 protein affects its function severely, since this mutation in homozygous state was found to be lethal. Furthermore, this PhD includes generation and characterisation of an N-terminal PRPF31 antibody, which was subsequently used for the detection of truncated mutant proteins in RP11 patients' cell lines.

Conferences and Publications:

Chakarova CF, Papaioannou MG, Khanna H, Lopez I, Waseem N, Shah A, Theis T, Friedman J, Maubaret C, **Bujakowska K**, Veraitch B, El-Aziz MM, Prescott de Q, Parapuram SK, Bickmore WA, Munro PM, Gal A, Hamel CP, Marigo V, Ponting CP, Wissinger B, Zrenner E, Matter K, Swaroop A, Koenekoop RK, Bhattacharya SS. "Mutations in TOPORS Cause Autosomal Dominant Retinitis Pigmentosa with Perivascular Retinal Pigment Epithelium Atrophy." Am J Hum Genet. 2007 Nov;81(5):1098-103. Epub 2007 Sep 26

K.Bujakowska, C.Chakarova, C.Maubaret, F.Fiocco, F.Paquet-Durant, N.Tanimoto, S.C.Beck, E.Fahl, E.Clerin, T.Cronin, D.Trifunovic, W.Raffelsberger, M.Humphries, C.Woods, V.Marigo, S.Banfi, T.Leveillard, O.Poch, P.Humphries, P.Ekstrom, T.Van Veen, M.W.Seeliger and S.S.Bhattacharya "*Prpf 31* Knock-In Mouse as a Model of Retinitis Pigmentosa 11". ProRetina Meeting, Berlin 2007.

K.Bujakowska, C.Maubaret, F.Fiocco, E.Fahl, N.Tanimoto, S.C.Beck, M.W.Seelinger, S.Millet, K.Thiam, E.Vithana and S.S.Bhattacharya "*Prpf31* Knock-In Mouse as a Model of Retinitis Pigmentosa 11" Gordon Conference on Post-transcriptional Gene regulation, Oxford 2006

V. Marigo, A. Comitat, C.F. Chakarova, D. Sanges, **K. Bujakowska**, M. Karali, S.S. Bhattacharya. "Mutant Prpf3 Pre-mRNA Splicing Factor Aggregates Inside the Nucleus of Neuronal Cells" ARVO 2006

Jean-Baptiste Van Der Henst, **Kinga Bujakowska**, Carine Ciceron, Ira A. Noveck. "How to make a participant logical: The role of premise presentation in a conditional reasoning task." Institute of Cognitive Science online publication, Lyon 2006

Noveck, Van der Henst, **Bujakowska**, Posada and Hoen. "Bringing pragmatic analysis to conditional reasoning: An ERP study." International Conference on Thinking, University of Leuven, Belgium 2004