

CURRICULUM VITAE

Melinda Katalin Pirity



Work address:

*Institute of Genetics
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Hungary*

POSITION: *Senior Scientist, Group Leader*

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Nationality

Hungarian

Education, Positions and Research Experience

20011 –present

Principal Investigator
Laboratory of Embryonic and Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells
Developmental Genetics Unit
Institute of Genetics
HUN-REN Biological Research Centre
H-6726 Szeged, Temesvari krt. 62.
Hungary

Research Field: (a) Integrated approach to elucidate the role of PcG protein Rybp in promoting neural and cardiac lineage commitment of mouse ES cells
(b) Generation and utilization of induced pluripotent stem cells and organoids in human for disease modelling.

2011

Ph.D., Genetics (F162198, awarded 2011 June)
Thesis title: Gaining insights into the *in vivo* function of RYBP/DEDAF, a recently discovered polycomb protein: utilization of the mouse-as a genetically tractable mammalian model organism.

University of Szeged, Szeged, **Hungary**

2008 – 2011

Stem Cell Group Leader
BioTalentum Ltd
2100 Godollo, Hungary
Aulich L.u. 26

Research Field: (a) Induced pluripotent stem cells for cardiomyocyte generation in mouse (b) Platform of mouse and human embryonic stem cell-derived cardiomyocyte test systems for drug development (c) Systems biology approaches to understand cell pluripotency (d) Function of RYBP (Ring1 and YY1 binding protein) in cardiac lineage commitment.

2007 – 2008

Research and Teaching Specialist
Department of Pharmacology & Systems Therapeutics
Mount Sinai School of Medicine
New York, NY, USA

Research Field: Conditional and conventional gene targeting and transgenic approaches for analyzing the function of fibrillins during mouse embryonic development.

Advisor: Dr. Francesco Ramirez

2001 – 2007

Postdoctoral Research Associate
Department of Molecular Genetics, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, USA.

Research Field: Role of the Mxi1 associated polycomb group protein RYBP in mouse embryonic development and neoplastic growth, (a) gene inactivation of the mouse Rybp locus, (b) phenotypic analyses of the homozygous peri-implantation lethal and exencephalic heterozygous Rybp mice, (c) conditional ectopic overexpression of Rybp in transgenic mouse.

Advisor: Dr. Nicole Schreiber-Agus

1999 – 2000

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Amgen Research Institute, Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto, Canada.

Research Field: Function of lipid phosphatases in mouse embryonic development and neoplastic growth, (a) differential expression screening approaches for identifying genes downstream of the PTEN tumor suppressor, (b) conditional and conventional gene targeting approaches for analyzing the function of the Sac1 protein in the mouse.

Advisor: Dr. Tak W. Mak

1995 - 1999

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute, Mt Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Canada.

Research Field: (a) development of novel gene targeting strategies for *in vivo* mutagenesis using ES cell technology, (b) analyzing the function of the N-myc oncoprotein in mouse embryonic development and glioblastomas: applying novel gene targeting strategies to analyze the phenotype of a variety of different N-myc domain deletion mouse mutants. Via ES cell mediated gene targeting, making mouse mutants lacking either the transactivation domain or

the casein kinase phosphorylation site in the N-myc gene and studying *in vivo* consequences of these deletions.

Advisor: Dr. Andras Nagy

1989 - 1994

Graduate Student

Dr Univ., Cell Biology (awarded Jun 1995; equivalent to Ph.D)

Jozsef Attila University, Szeged, **Hungary**

Thesis work: Institute of Genetics, Biological Research Center, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Szeged, Hungary.

Thesis title: Studying the function of heat-shock proteins in stress and multidrug tolerance on mouse Reubert hepatoma and human transformed cell lines.

Advisor: Dr. Aniko Venetianer

1985 – 1989

Undergraduate Student

MSc, Genetics

Jozsef Attila University, Szeged, **Hungary**.

Advisor: Dr. Gyorgy Borbely

Thesis title: Characterisation of heat and cadmium stress response in Cyanobacteria.

Grants

2025-2029	ADVANCED OTKA: Human stem cell-based blood-brain barrier models for translational biomedical investigations Participating Scientist
2024-2027	ERA-NETNEURON (B3phrenia): Dysfunction of the blood brain barrier in schizophrenia: molecular underpinnings of vulnerability and resilience Participating Scientist
2022-2026	OTKA K22 (143666): Barrier maturation in stem cell models of cerebrovascular endothelium, HUNGARIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND (NKFIH) Participating Scientist (Work Package Leader)
2016-2021	GINOP- 2.3.2-15-2016-00001: Investigating the effect of a polycomb protein in neural development by using mouse embryonic stem cell models, HUNGARIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND (NKFIH) Participating Scientist, Work Package leader
2016-2021	GINOP-2.3.2-15-2016-00039: Investigating the pathogenesis of rare human cardiac diseases, HUNGARIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND (NKFIH) Participating Scientist, Work Package leader
2008-2012	ES2HEART: Platform of mouse and human embryonic stem cell-derived cardiomyocyte test systems for drug development, NKTH – JEDLIK, NKFP_07_1-ES2HEART-HU Participating Scientist

2008-20012	PartNERS: Comparative embryonic stem cell research in mammals, EU FP7 Marie Curie Actions Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways (IAPP), PIAP-GA-2008-218205 Participating Scientist
2008-2012	Plurisys: Systems biology approaches to understand cell pluripotency, EU FP7 Medium Scale Collaborative project, HEALTH-F4-2009-223485 Participating Scientist
2009-2012	FP7-PEROPE-IRG; Marie Curie Actions (MC), International Reintegration Award (PIRG04-GA-234390) Principal Investigator Title: “Induced pluripotent stem cells for cardiomyocyte generation in mouse “
2009-2012	InduHeart; Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells For Cardiomyocyte Generation In Mouse, EU FP7 Marie Curie People, FP7-PEOPLE-2009-RG Principal Investigator
2009-2013	InduStem: Comparative stem cell research in mouse and humans, EU FP7 Marie Curie Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways, PIAP-GA-2008-230675 Participating Scientist
2010-2013	MOBILITY - Marie Curie Actions (MC), Hungarian/European Reintegration Award (MB08-C 80205) Title “Generation of induced pluripotent stem cells in rabbit” Principal Investigator
2014-2016	TAMOP 4.2.6. – coordinator at the Institute of Genetics, HUN-REN BRC
2016-2020	National Research, Development and Innovation Office GINOP-2.3.2-15-2016-0001 Title: “Investigating of neural lineage commitment in mice: a developmental story of a negative regulator acting at the chromatin level” Principal Investigator
2016-2020	National Research, Development and Innovation Office GINOP-2.3.2-15-2016-00039 Title: “Investigating the effect of a polycomb protein in neural development by using mouse embryonic stem cell models”, NKFIH Principal Investigator

Bibliography

1. **Pirity, M.**, Nguyen, V.T., Dubois, M.F., Bensaude, O., Hever-Szabo, A., Venetianer, A. (1991) Decreased stress inducibility of the hsp68 protein in a rat hepatoma variant clone. *Eur. J. Biochem.* 210: 793-800
2. Venetianer, A., **Pirity, M.**, Hever-Szabo, A. (1994) The function of heat-shock proteins in stress tolerance. *Cell Biol. Int.* 18: 605-615
3. **Pirity, M.**, Hever-Szabo, A., Venetianer, A. (1996) Overexpression of P-glycoprotein in heat- and/or drug-resistant hepatoma variants. *Cytotechnology* 19: 207-214
4. Hever-Szabo, A., **Pirity, M.**, Szathmari, M., Venetianer, A. (1998) P-glycoprotein is overexpressed and functional in severely heat-shocked hepatoma cells. *Anticancer Res.* 18: 3045-3048
5. Nagy, A., Moens, C., Ivanyi, E., Pawling, J., Gertsenstein, M., Hadjantonakis, A-K., **Pirity, M.**, Rossant, J. (1998) Multipurpose gene alterations from a single targeting vector: dissecting the role of *N-myc* in development. *Current Biol.* 8: 661-664
6. **Pirity, M.**, Hadjantonakis, A-K., Nagy, A. (1998) Embryonic stem cells: creating transgenic animals. *Animal Cell Culture Methods. Methods in Cell Biology.* J.P. Mather and D. Barnes Eds. 57: 279-293
7. Hadjantonakis, A-K., **Pirity, M.**, Nagy, A. (1999) Cre recombinase mediated changes of the mouse genome using ES cells. *Molecular Embryology: Methods and Protocols. Methods in Molecular Biology* P.T. Sharpe and I. Mason Eds. 97: 101-138
8. Cole, M.J., **Pirity, M.**, Hadjantonakis, A-K. (2003) Shedding light on Bioscience. *EMBO Rep.* 4:838-843 (IF:6.97)
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10. **Pirity, M.**, Locker, J., Schreiber-Agus, N. (2005) Rybp/DEDAF is required for early post-implantation and for central nervous system development. *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 16:7193-7202
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18. **Pirity, M.K.**, Dinnyes, A. (2010) Tbx3: another important piece fitted into the pluripotent stem cell puzzle. *Stem Cell Research & Therapy* 1:12
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Donor SNAP Against Ischemia/Reoxygenation Injury in Mouse Embryonic Stem Cell-Derived Cardiomyocytes. *Mol Biotechnol.* Mar;56(3):258-64. (I.F: 2.275)

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* Joint first co-authorship