



Report on the visit of Małgorzata Bobrowicz in the Institute of Tumor Immunology, Cancer Research Center of Marseille, University of Mediterranean, Marseille, France within 7PR21/BASTION/WP1 (Twinning)



Institute of Tumor Immunology, Cancer Research Center of Marseille (CRCM) main building

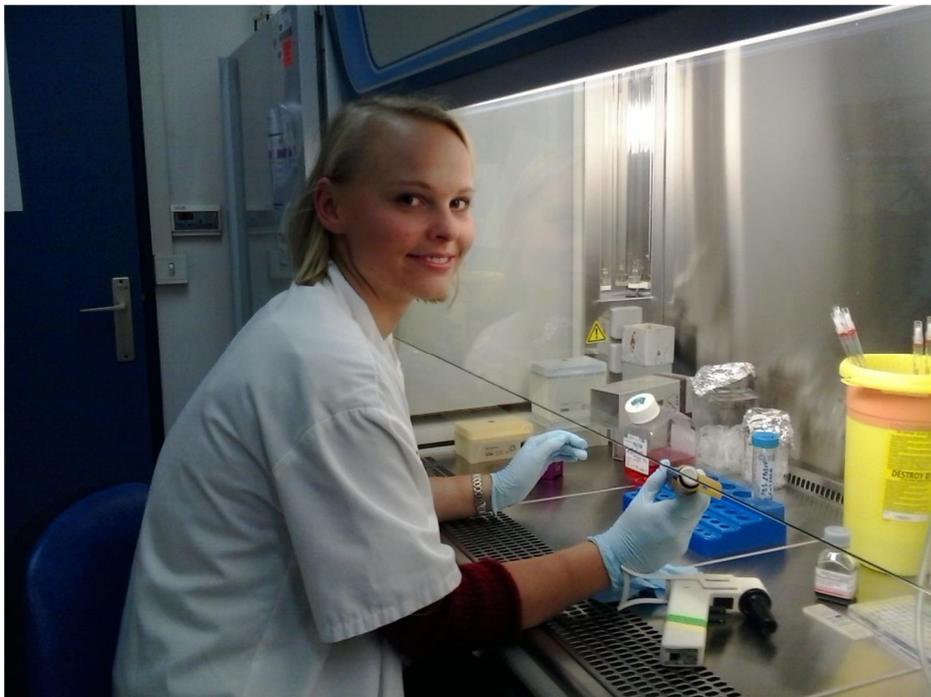
From October 14th till November 22nd, 2013 I visited the Institute of Tumor Immunology in the Cancer Research Center (CRCM) of Marseille, France. My visit was coordinated under the twinning agreement between the Medical University of Warsaw and the University of Mediterranean in Marseille within WP1 (Task 1.2).

My stay in Marseille was strictly connected to the visit of my team leader Dr Magdalena Winiarska whose visit in the Institute of Tumor Immunology preceded mine. During my stay, I studied the influence of several drugs used in hematooncology on the function of natural killer (NK) cells. I performed experiments commenced by Dr Winiarska concerning the influence of

kinase inhibitors on NK cells and worked on my own project focusing on histone deacetylase inhibitors. During this stay I was working within the research team of Prof Daniel Olive.

Prof Daniel Olive is an expert in tumor immunology and his team has developed many effective protocols enabling functional studies of immune cells including NK cells. His research group is proficient in using advanced cytometry methods to assess functional and phenotypic changes occurring in NK cells.

During my stay I had a unique possibility to learn methods of isolation of NK cells, I adopted assays measuring NK cells activation by assessing their degranulation, cytokine release and multichannel analysis of surface antigens on NK cells. What is more, I learned how to culture established NK cell lines and thanks to this collaboration I was able to acquire those cell lines for my future research. In the future they will certainly be a valuable tool enabling us to screen the influence of various drugs without the need to isolate NK cells from donors.



Małgorzata Bobrowicz in Cell Culture room in the Institute of Tumor Immunology while isolating NK cells

It was also an opportunity to improve my knowledge on NK cells biology thanks to several talks with Prof Daniel Olive and Dr Cyril Fauriat. I participated in several meetings and conferences where I had a chance to meet world leading scientists e.g. Prof Guido Kroemer and learn about research projects of other groups working in CRCM. All in all, it was a great opportunity to exchange ideas and to tighten cooperation between our teams.