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**BASTION – FROM BASIC TO
TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH
IN ONCOLOGY**

Report on the stay of Dr Magdalena Banach-Orłowska at Institute of Microbiology and Hygiene, Department of Virology, University Hospital of Saarland University, Homburg/Saar, Germany within the 7PR21/BASTION/WP1 (Twinning, T1.5)

Between 21st October and 1st November 2014 I have visited Laboratory of prof. Friedrich Grasser (the twinning partner of our research team), working at the Department of Virology, University Hospital of Saarland University, Homburg/Saar, Germany. Prof. Grasser is an expert in the field of miRNA analysis. His work is currently focused on the problems of the cellular response to the infection with Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) particularly in terms of miRNA composition, as well as on the searching for the molecular mechanisms of viral - host interactions.

Prof. Grasser has also an important contribution to the miRNA profiling in prostate cancer. The team of prof Grasser participates in numerous collaborations with groups well recognized in the field of miRNA biology.

The main goals of my two-week stay in Homburg were: (i) to discuss with prof. Grasser the common interests and possibilities of close collaboration, (ii) to discuss the main topics of grant proposal on miRNome characterization in endometriosis being prepared by myself, and (iii) to get familiar with laboratory techniques employed by prof. Grasser team.



Dr. Banach - Orłowska with Prof. Grasser at the entrance to Department of Virology, University Hospital of Saarland University

During my stay in prof. Grasser's laboratory I had an opportunity to assist and perform various laboratory techniques such as: co-immunoprecipitation of complexes formed by Ago2 protein (proteins and miRNAs) from distinct cell lines, luciferase assays, Northern blot analysis, etc.

Importantly, during discussions on our research interests we focused on a common topic concerning the functional aspects of miRNA in pathogenesis.

If we obtain promising results in the project concerning the searches for new miRNA/isomiRNAs in endometriosis, we would broaden our collaboration.

In conclusion, we have found my visit in prof Grasser laboratory as an undeniable opportunity to tighten the cooperation between our groups.



Hiresh Ayoubian, Magda Banach – Orłowska, Jenny Menegatti and Sarah Knitter in the laboratory of the Department of Virology, University Hospital of Saarland University