

## Curriculum vitae (CV)

<b>Personal information</b>	First name, last name	LIGA SAULITE
	Birth data	24.04.1991.
<b>Education</b>		
	Since October 2016	University of Latvia PhD
	June 2015	University of Latvia MSc in Biology ISCED 740
	June 2013	University of Latvia BSc in Biology ISCED 640
<b>Current employment</b>		
	Since 01.01.2016	Research Assistant at University of Latvia Faculty of Medicine
	23.09.2015 – 31.12.2016	Project Coordinator at University of Latvia Faculty of Medicine
<b>Previous employment</b>		
	01.09.2014 - 31.12.2015	– Acting Research Assistant at University of Latvia Faculty of Medicine
<b>Research experience</b>		
	<b>Participation in research projects:</b>	
	1. Project No. 1.1.1.1/16/A/047 “Genus Vaccinium berry processing using "green" technologies and innovative, pharmacologically characterized biopharmaceutical products”, supported by the European Regional Development Fund, Research assistant, 2017-2020	
	2. EEA project administered by Latvia's Ministry of science and education „Cancer-derived extracellular vesicles: function and clinical applications in prostate cancer”, Research assistant, 2015-2017	
	3. Latvian Council of Sciences, Collaboration project No.625 “Cancer-derived exosomes – a source of novel biomarkers and therapeutic targets for gastrointestinal	

cancers”, Research assistant, 2014-2017

4. Taiwan-Lithuania-Latvia mutual research collaboration fund grant „Mesenchymal and cancer-like cell interaction with nanoparticles”, Research assistant, 2014 - 2016
5. University of Latvia Students Council Scientific Project Contest project “Quantitative characterization of neuroglial marker expression in skin mesenchymal stem cells”, Investigator, 2013
6. University of Latvia Students Council Scientific Project Contest project “Impact of microenvironment factors on the neuroglial marker expression in skin mesenchymal stem cells”, Investigator, 2012

### **Publications:**

- D. Dapkute, S. Steponkiene, D. Bulotiene, **L. Saulite**, U. Riekstina, R. Rotomskis. Quantum dot-loaded mesenchymal stem cells for tumour-tropic therapy. Manuscript in preparation.
- Popena I., Abols A., **Saulite L.**, Pleiko K., Zandberga E., Line A., Riekstina U. Cancer cell secreted extracellular vesicle effect on macrophage polarization. Manuscript submitted.
- **L. Saulite**, K. Pleiko, I. Popena, D. Dapkute, R. Rotomskis, U. Riekstina. Nanoparticle delivery to metastatic breast cancer cells by nano-engineered mesenchymal stem cells. Manuscript submitted.
- **L. Saulite**, D. Dapkute, K. Pleiko, I. Popena, S. Steponkiene, R. Rotomskis, U. Riekstina. Nano-engineered skin mesenchymal stem cells: potential vehicles for tumour targeted quantum dot delivery. Beilstein Journal of Nanotechnology, 2017 (in press).
- **L. Saulite**, E. Vavers, L. Zvejniece, M. Dambrova, U. Riekstina. The Differentiation of Skin Mesenchymal Stem Cells Towards a Schwann Cell Phenotype: Impact of Sigma-1 Receptor Activation. Molecular Neurobiology, 2017, doi:10.1007/s12035-017-0511-9
- Popena, K. Jekabsons, A. Abols, **L. Saulite**, U. Conka, I. Kozlovska, E. Zandberga, J. Stefanovics, V. Ose-Klinklava, R. Muceniece, A. Line, U. Riekstina. Uptake and functional effects of cancer cell line-produced exosomes in mesenchymal stem cells. Scientific papers University of Latvia, Medicine 2016, Volume 812, 85-89.
- **L. Saulite**, V. Parfejevs, M. Boroduskis, U. Riekstina. The impact of neurotrophic factors on the expression of neuroectodermal markers in skin mesenchymal stem cells. Scientific papers University of Latvia, Medicine; Vol. 806. Riga, University of Latvia, 2015 7.-17.lpp.

- I. Popena, **L. Saulite**, V. Parfejevs, U. Beitnere, U. Riekstina. Prolonged culture of skin-derived mesenchymal stem cells changes their cell cycle and proliferation marker expression. *Biopolym Cell*. 2014;30 (5 suppl):29

#### Scientific conferences:

1. K. Pleiko, **L. Saulite**, U. Riekstina. Selection of renal cell carcinoma specific aptamers using cell – SELEX. Nanomedicine Viterbo 2016, September 21-23, Tuscia, Italy
2. Dominyka Dapkute, Simona Steponkiene, Vytautas Kaseta, Juras Kisonas, Danute Bulotiene, Una Riekstina, **Līga Saulite**, Ricardas Rotomskis. Nanoparticle-Loaded Mesenchymal Stem Cells for Elimination of Cancer Stem-Like Cells. CLINAM 9 Conference “**Clinical Nanomedicine and Targeted Medicine**”, **June 26-29, 2016, Basel, Switzerland**
3. Una Riekstiņa, Dominyka Dapkute, **Līga Saulīte**, Kaspars Jēkabsons, Ineta Popēna, Kārlis Pleiko, Simona Steponkiene, Ričardas Rotomskis. Characterization of Qdot655 carboxyl uptake and functional effects on human mesenchymal stem cells 2nd International Conference “Current Trends of Cancer Theranostics (CTCT2016), June 19-22, Druskininkai, Lithuania.
4. **Līga Saulite**, Edijs Vavers, Līga Zvejniece, Maija Dambrova, Una Riekstina. Sigma-1 receptor ligands improve the differentiation of skin mesenchymal stem cells towards Schwann cell phenotype. The 2015 Tissue Engineering Congress, September 8-10, 2015, London, United Kingdom, Abstract book pp.27.
5. Una Riekstina, **Līga Saulite**, Vadims Parfejevs, Līga Zvejniece, Ruta Muceniece. Skin-derived mesenchymal stem cell neurodifferentiation as *in vitro* model for drug testing. Drug discovery conference 2015, Riga, Latvia, August 25-27, 2015. Abstract book pp. 49.
6. **L. Saulite**, E. Vavers, L. Zvejniece, M. Dambrova, U. Riekstina. Sigma-1 receptor ligands impact the neurodifferentiation of skin mesenchymal stem cells. Drug discovery conference 2015, Riga, Latvia, August 25-27, 2015. Abstract book pp.137.
7. Kaspars Jekabsons, **Līga Saulite**, Ilva Nakurte, Arturs Abols, Aija Line, Ruta Muceniece, Una Riekstiņa. Hypoxic colorectal cancer-derived exosome influence on mesenchymal stem cell functionality. Drug Discovery Conference, August, 27-29, 2015, Riga, Latvia: Abstract Book Riga: Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis, 2015. P.108 : PP26. , URL: <http://innovabalt.eu/pictures/zinas/225.pdf>
8. Kaspars Jekabsons, Ilva Nakurte, Arturs Abols, **Līga Saulite**, Jana Namniece, Ruta

Muceniece, Aija Line, Una Riekstina. Uptake of hypoxic colorectal cancer-derived exosomes by mesenchymal stem cells and monocytes. *Frontiers in Stem cells&cancer*, Heidelberg, Germany, March 29-31, 2015

9. Ilva Nakurte, Kaspars Jekabsons, Una Riekstina, Arturs Abols, **Līga Saulīte**, Matīss Otersbergs, Aija Line, Ruta Muceniece. Protein analysis of exomes. Open Readings 2015: 58th scientific conference for students of physics and natural sciences, 24-27 March, 2015, Vilnius: programme and abstracts Vilnius: Vilnius University, 2015. P.102., URL: [http://www.openreadings.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/OR\\_2015\\_abstracts.pdf](http://www.openreadings.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/OR_2015_abstracts.pdf) ISSN 2029-4425.
10. Ineta Popena, Karlis Svirksts, Kaspars Jekabsons, **Līga Saulīte**, Mara Grube, Shan-hui Hsu, Una Riekstina. Skin-derived mesenchymal stem cells form spheroids on chitosan and increase the SSEA-1 expression. EMBO Conference Stem Cells in Cancer and Regenerative Medicine, 9-12 October, 2014: abstracts of papers presented. [European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), 2014]. P.168.

#### **Awards and scholarships**

2015 – MSc degree in Biology obtained with excellency

2015 – 2nd place in the new scientist contest „ResearchSlam” organised by Riga Technical University

2013 - 2014 – Excellence Scholarship of Kristaps Morbergs

#### **Thesis work led**

*n/a*

#### **Pedagogical work**

Supervisor of 4 bachelor thesis in Pharmacy study program, University of Latvia, Faculty of Medicine

#### **Participation in scientific bodies**

Member of FEBS (*The Federation of European Biochemical Societies*)  
Member of Latvian Society of Pharmacology

#### **Institutional positions**

*n/a*