# GERGŐ PORKOLÁB



National Scientists Academy, 1st Ph.D. year University of Szeged, Doctoral School of Biology, 1st year

#### YEAR OF BIRTH:

1996

## FORMER SZENT-GYÖRGYI PUPIL:

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# SZENT-GYÖRGYI MENTOR:

Mária Deli

#### **RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

cell biology, blood-brain barrier

### **UNIVERSITY DEGREE:**

MSc in Biology

# AS A SZENT-GYÖRGYI STUDENT:

Former Szent-Györgyi mentor: Mária Deli Former Szent-Györgyi junior mentor: Szilvia Veszelka

#### **SECONDARY SCHOOL:**

Tömörkény István Secondary School

## NAME OF TEACHER:

Ildikó Vadászné Horváth

#### **LANGUAGES:**

English/advanced

# BACKGROUND, AIMS AND POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF RESEARCH

The main goal of our research is to develop a novel drug delivery system that is capable of transporting therapeutics across the blood-brain barrier (BBB). We load the drugs into nanoparticles, which are targeted to the BBB by special molecules on their surfaces. These targeting molecules are recognised by the BBB and the drug-loaded nanoparticles – like "molecular Trojan horses – are able to enter the brain. We are also interested in developing novel, human cell-based models that enable us to investigate the interactions of nanoparticles with the BBB, as well as the healthy and diseased brain.

## **AMBITIONS AND CAREER GOALS**

As a researcher, I would like to focus on and find solutions to relevant basic scientific problems that can potentially improve people's lives in the future.

#### **HONORS AND PRIZES**

- 2020 New National Excellence Program scholarship for the academic year of 2020/21
- 2020 Excellent Student of the Faculty Prize, Faculty of Science and Informatics, University of Szeged
- 2020 SZTE József Sófi Foundation Scholarship, "Whole University" category grand prize
- 2019 Student of the Year Prize, National Scientists Academy
- 2019 New National Excellence Program scholarship for the academic year of 2019/20
- 2019 Stephen W. Kuffler Research Fellowship
- 2019 SZTE József Sófi Foundation Scholarship, Biology MSc category 1st prize

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Topal, G.R, Mészáros, M., **Porkoláb, G.**, Szecskó, A., Polgár, T.F, Siklós, L., Deli, M.A, Veszelka, S., Bozkir, A. (2020) ApoE-Targeting Increases the Transfer of Solid Lipid Nanoparticles with Donepezil Cargo across a Culture Model of the Blood-Brain Barrier. **Pharmaceutics 13:** 38.

**Porkoláb, G.**, Mészáros, M., Tóth, A., Szecskó, A., Harazin, A., Szegletes, Z., Ferenc, G., Blastyák, A., Mátés, L., Rákhely, G., Deli, M.A., Veszelka, S. (2020) Combination of Alanine and Glutathione as Targeting Ligands of Nanoparticles Enhances Cargo Delivery into the Cells of the Neurovascular Unit. **Pharmaceutics 12:** 635.

Mészáros, M., **Porkoláb, G.**, Kiss, L., Pilbat, A.M., Kóta, Z., Kupihár, Z., Kéri, A., Galbács, G., Siklós, L., Tóth, A., Fülöp, L., Csete, M., Sipos, Á., Hülper, P., Sipos, P., Páli, T., Rákhely, G., Szabó-Révész, P., Deli, MA., Veszelka, S. (2018) Niosomes decorated with dual ligands targeting brain endothelial transporters increase cargo penetration across the blood-brain barrier. **Eur J Pharm Sci 123:** 228-240.