

CURRICULUM VITAE



Name: *Arash Arashkia*

Date of Birth: 1973

Marital Status: Married

Nationality: Iranian

Native Language: Persian

Second Language: Good level of English

E-mail: arash.arashkia@hotmail.com

Educational Qualifications:

- 2003-2009, PhD in Medical Biotechnology, Pasteur Institute of Iran, Tehran, Iran.
Thesis: “Evaluation of immunostimulatory potential of HCV subdominant epitopes in polyepitope constructs”.
- 2000-2003, MSc in Medical Biotechnology, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran.
Thesis: “Cloning and studying the possibility of HBeAg expression with His-tag in *E.coli*”.
- 1997-1999, BSc in Medical Laboratory Science, Shahid Beheshty University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.
- 1994-1996, Associated Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science, Gilan University of Medical Sciences, Rasht, Iran.

Professional Experience:

- 2012-onwards, Assistant Professor, Medical Virology Laboratory, Virology Department, Pasteur Institute, Tehran, Iran.
- 2009-2011, Postdoctoral Fellow, Virology Department, Pasteur Institute, Tehran, Iran.
- 2003-2009, PhD Student, Pasteur Institute, Tehran, Iran.

Achievements and Awards:

- Second rank in PhD entrance exam, Pasteur Institute of Iran, 2003
- Full scholarship for PhD studies, Pasteur Institute of Iran, 2003-2008
- Third rank in MSc entrance exam, Tarbiat Modares University, 2000
- First rank as BSc graduate, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, 1997-1999

Technical Skills:

Immunoinformatics and bioinformatics analyses; techniques of gene amplification, detection, and manipulation (DNA/RNA extraction methods, PCR, real-time PCR, DNA cloning, blotting techniques); various immunological, biochemical and microbiological techniques (vaccine studies, handling small laboratory animals, ELISA, ELISPOT, CTL assay, flow cytometry, electrophoresis, chromatography, recombinant protein expression and purification, gene transfer to bacterial, yeast and mammalian cells).

Academic Society Memberships:

Iranian Society of Biotechnology

Workshops:

- 1- Assistant scientific instructor in "Optimization and Purification of Recombinant Protein Workshop", Iranian Molecular Medicine Network, Pasteur Institute of Iran, Tehran, Iran, 28 Feb- 2 Mar 2011.
- 2- Scientific instructor in "Quantitative Real-Time PCR Workshop", Iranian Molecular Medicine Network, Pasteur Institute of Iran, Tehran, Iran, 12-13 February 2011.
- 3- Assistant in "Workshop of Theoretical and Practical PCR", Pasteur Institute of Iran, Tehran, Iran, 12 May 2009.
- 4- Practical assistant in "International Workshop on Molecular Techniques in Diagnosis & Typing of Infectious Diseases", Pasteur Institute of Iran, Tehran, Iran, 21-29 November 2006.
- 5- Participant in "2nd International Training Course on Bioinformatics", University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran, 4-9 September 2004.

Journal Articles:

1. **Arashkia A**, Roohvand F, Memarnejadian A, Aghasadeghi MR, Rafati S. (2010) Construction of HCV-polytope vaccine candidates harbouring immune-enhancer sequences and primary evaluation of their immunogenicity in BALB/c mice. *Virus Genes*, 40: 44-52.
2. **Arashkia A**, Roohvand F, Memarnejadian A, Aghasadeghi MR, Sadat SM, Alizadeh S, Motavali F. (2010) Immunoinformatics modeling and construction of plasmids with incorporated hepatitis C virus epitopes and their preliminary immunological study in the presence of immune-enhancer elements. *Iranian Journal of Medical Microbiology*, 4: 34-44.
3. Memarnejadian A, Roohvand F, **Arashkia A**, Rafati S, Shokrgozar MA. (2009) Polytope DNA vaccine development against hepatitis C virus: a streamlined approach from in silico design to in vitro and primary in vivo analyses in BALB/c mice. *Protein and Peptide Letters*, 16: 842-850.
4. Memarnejadian A, Roohvand F, **Arashkia A**, Berjisian F, Aghasadeghi MR. (2009) Designing, constructing and immunologic evaluation of polytope DNA constructs by the application of hepatitis C virus immunodominant epitopes in BALB/c mice. *Yakhteh Medical Journal*, 11: 122-133.
5. Azadmanesh K, Roohvand F, Amini S, **Arashkia A**, Kazanjy M. (2005) Evaluation of stimulatory effects of HTLV-1 Tax protein on CREB and NF- κ B related signaling pathways using two B- Galactosidase based reporter plasmids. *Yakhteh Medical Journal*, 6, 218-225.
6. **Arashkia A**, Roohvand F, Sadat SM, Forouzandeh M, Amini S, Andalibi S. (2004) Purification and characterization of a His-tagged recombinant HBeAg with physiologically natural structure cloned and expressed in *E.coli*. *Physiology and Pharmacology*, 8: 125-135.

Congress Abstracts:

1. Sadat SM, Javadi F, Vahabpour R, Zabiholahi R, Siadat SD, Azadmanesh K, Parivar K, **Arashkia A**, Amini S, Talebzade A, Julai M, Agasadeqi MR. Cloning, expression optimization and purification of hepatitis C virus NS3 protein in *E. coli*. *11th National Congress of Microbiology and 1st Eastern Mediterranean Congress of Microbiology*, August 2010, Rasht, Iran.
2. **Arashkia A**, Roohvand F, Memarnejadian A, Combadiere B. Evaluation of two HCV subdominant epitope immunogenicity in transgenic mice and the

effect of helper factors. *5th Virology and 1st Vaccine Congress of Iran*, May 2009, Karaj, Iran.

3. Roohvand F, Memarnejadian A, **Arashkia A**, Aghasadeghi MR, Sadat M, Budkowska A, Combadière B. French-Iranian collaborative studies on HCV vaccines (CD8-polytopic DNA constructs and protein based immunogens as therapeutic and prophylactic vaccine candidates). *Research on Infectious Diseases: A Global Challenge*, June 2008, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France.
4. Roohvand F, Memarnejadian A, **Arashkia A**. Construction and evaluation of CD8-polytope DNA constructs based on immunodominant and sub-dominant HCV epitopes. *1st Vaccine Congress*, Dec. 2007, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
5. **Arashkia A**, Memarnejadian A, Rafati S, Roohvand F. A study on the effect of ER signals sequence and a Pan-DR epitope (PADRE) on the immunogenicity of a CTL-based HCV epitope. *5th National Biotechnology Congress of Iran*, Nov. 2007, Tehran, Iran.
6. Memarnejadian A, **Arashkia A**, Rafati S, Shokrgozar MA, Roohvand F. Engineering, construction and primary evaluation of multi-epitope DNA construct based on immunodominant HCV epitopes. *5th National Biotechnology Congress of Iran*, Nov. 2007, Tehran, Iran.
7. **Arashkia A**, Memarnejadian A, Roohvand F. Construction and Evaluation of CD8-polytope DNA constructs based on immunodominant and sub-dominant HCV epitopes. *14th International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses*, Sept. 2007, Glasgow, Scotland.
8. Azadmanesh K, Roohvand F, Amini S, **Arashkia A**. R222 K mutation in HTLV-1 Tax protein abrogates stimulatory effect on NF- κ B pathway. *3rd Iranian Congress of Virology*, Jan 2006, Tehran, Iran.
9. **Arashkia A**, Forouzandeh M, Amini S, and Roohvand F. Cloning and evaluation of diagnostic value of HBeAg produced with extra 6xHis-tag epitopes in an optimized expression condition in *E.coli*. *1st National Congress of Molecular Cell Biology*, Feb 2003, Ahwaz, Iran.
10. Roohvand F, Memarnejadian A, **Arashkia A**, Aghasadeghi M, Amini S, Andalibi Mahmoudabadi S, Budkowska A. Exploiting the His-tag based, one-step purification systems for expression of interested genes, A comparative study on productivity / yield for genes of HCV-core, HBeAg

and streptokinase (SK). 8th *Iranian Genetics Congress*, May 2003, Tehran, Iran.

11. **Arashkia A**, Foruzandeh M, Amini S, Roohvand F. Cloning, optimization of expression condition, purification and characterization of HBeAg produced in *E.coli* with extra His-tag epitopes. *Proceedings of the 3rd National congress of Biotechnology*, pp 127-130, September 2003, Mashad, Iran.