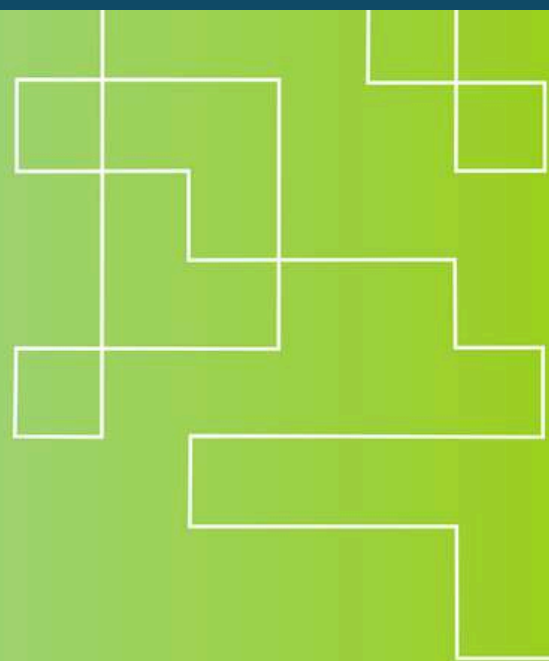


# Horizon Europe



Lithuanian researcher's profile in lifesciences

# Pitch&Brokerage event: Horizon Europe - Lithuanian Researchers Profile in Lifesciences

25th September 2024

## 14.00 – 14.30 Registration

## 14:30 – 14:45 Welcome speech

**Arnoldas Pranckevičius**, HE Lithuania Republic Ambassador to France;

**Prof. dr. Gintaras Valinčius**, Chairman of Research Council of Lithuania;

**Virginie Sivan**, Deputy Head of the Department for Supporting Higher Education and Research Stakeholders and Coordinator of the National Contact Point Network for Horizon Europe, Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (MESR).

## 14:45 – 15:30 Pannel discussion “Franco - Lithuanian Cooperation in Science”

**Prof. dr. Gintaras Valinčius**, Chairman of Research Council of Lithuania, host of the pannel;

**Dr. Emmanuel Brouillet**, Research Director at the CNRS;

**Juan Eduardo Lopez Sanchez**, Montpellier university, coordinator of the APOLLO2028 project;

**Prof. dr. Osvaldas Rukšėnas**, Vilnius University, partner of the APOLLO2028 project;

**Assoc. prof. dr. Neringa Gerulaitienė**, Kaunas Technology University partner of the APOLLO2028 project.

## 15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break

## 15:45 – 16:30 Pannel&Pitch: Cancer&Radiology

- Improving the understanding and management of late-effects in adolescents and young adults (AYA) with cancer;

- Information portal for the European Cancer Patient Digital Centre;

- Microbiome for early cancer prediction;

- Innovative surgery, multi-modal therapeutic interventions.

## 16:30 – 17:15 Pannel&Pitch: Neuro&Public Health

- The impact of pollution on the development of brain diseases;

- Advancing knowledge on the impacts of micro- and nanoplastics on human health;

- European Partnership for Brain Health;

- Advancing cell secretome-based therapies;

- Enhancing cell therapies with synthetic biology;

- Non-communicable diseases/Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases – GACD;

- European partnership for pandemic preparedness.

## 17:15 – 18:00 Pannel&Pitch: Digital Health

- Leveraging artificial intelligence for pandemic preparedness and response;

- End user-driven application of Generative Artificial Intelligence models in healthcare;

- Leveraging multimodal data to advance Generative AI applicability in biomedical research;

- Boosting the translation of biotech research into innovative health therapies;

- Digitalisation of conformity assessment procedures of medical devices and in vitro diagnostic medical devices.

## 18:00 – 20:00 Social dinner&Networking



## **>>> DR. GINTARAS VALINČIUS**

### **Chairman of Research Council of Lithuania**

An experienced and recognized scientist in the fields of biochemistry and life sciences, with a career spanning 40+ years, Chairman of the Research Council of Lithuania. Founder and former director of the Partnership Institute for Genome Editing Technologies and the Life Sciences Center, a partner of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL). Earning widespread recognition and admiration within both national and international scientific communities, expertise has extended to high-level advisory roles: advised Lithuania's Minister of Science and Education on the development of national research infrastructures, was one of the leaders of the Smart Specialization Strategy, and currently serve as an advisor to the NATO Advisory Expert Group on emerging and disruptive technologies. Distinguished academic journey includes esteemed US institutions — National Institute of Standards and Technology, Johns Hopkins University and Carnegie Mellon University. Notably, a pioneer in introducing electrochemical and biomimetic methods for biosystem research in Lithuania. A visionary leader and presenter, driving innovation and knowledge creation in the scientific community.

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

The deepening scientific collaboration between France and Lithuania presents a valuable opportunity to advance research in areas that are crucial for the future of healthcare, which we hope will lead to positive outcomes for the benefit of all. By combining our expertise in oncology, neuroscience, biotechnology and personalised medicine, we hope to not only address some of the most pressing challenges of our time, but also explore potential avenues for innovations that could contribute to the evolution of global health.

It is my sincere hope that our collaboration in these areas will offer a new and refreshing perspective and new approaches. In the field of oncology, our goal is to enhance our understanding of and approach to cancer, with the aim of developing more effective therapies and improving early detection. In neuroscience, there is a possibility of making significant progress in understanding the brain and developing treatments for neurological and mental health disorders that could be more effective. It is my hope that biotechnology and personalized medicine, in particular, will offer exciting possibilities for creating more precise and individualized healthcare solutions.

We are committed to creating an environment where ideas can flourish and be exchanged in a productive way, with the aim of fostering innovative research and transformative projects. We believe that the combination of expertise from Lithuanian and French scientists has the potential to drive innovation and lead to discoveries that could have a significant impact beyond our own borders.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gintaras Valinčius

The Research Council of Lithuania has been established in 2009 and is the main national institution providing Research & Development (R&D) funding in the country. The Council oversees research and knowledge exchange functions in relation to universities and institutes. This includes providing block grant funding to the national research and education institutions (mainly universities and research institutes); for research and development; developing and implementing national funding streams; supporting and encouraging academic participation in EU Framework Programmes; overseeing the sustainability of the Higher Education research base in Lithuania; and promoting international collaborations.  
Website: <https://imt.lrv.lt/en/>



## AURELIJA POVILAIKĖ <<<

NCP Head and NCP Coordinator

We, NCPs, are here to help and support, every step of the way, Lithuanian applicants interested in applying and participating in Horizon Europe programme. We provide consultations, information events, dedicated training sessions, visits to the institutions and proof-reading services. Most importantly, we want to foster a community of science and innovation enthusiasts, who are interested in Horizon Europe.



National Contact Points (NCPs) are experts, who provide information, guidance and advice to the potential Horizon Europe applicants and beneficiaries in the national language, through the project lifecycle. NCPs play a crucial role in implementing EU programs, ensuring that funding opportunities are accessible to all potential applicants regardless of their sector or discipline.



## ➤➤➤ **LAURA PĖKIENĖ** NCP CANCER MISSION

Expert in SPC Working Group for the EU Mission on Cancer. With an accomplished 20-year project management and independent project evaluator at ESFA and Department of Youth Affairs experience she has been working closely with local and international researchers and stakeholders from public sector, SMEs and local businesses, municipalities and local communities in promoting R&D on national and international level. Her R&D experience includes H2020 and HE project initiation and management while collaborating with academic and business organizations from EU, UK, US, Israel, Switzerland etc. as well as PhD studies in digital health management at Kaunas University of Technology. Her academic involvement incorporates Legal basics, Intellectual property and Patient safety courses at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Member of National Cancer Council. Participates in EH projects HNN 3.0, ECHOS, NCP for missions. Email: [laura.pekiene@lmt.lt](mailto:laura.pekiene@lmt.lt)

## **SIGITA AUVERTIN** <<<< NCP HEALTH

Experience in European affairs and political communication, 20 years experience in organising high level networking events, interest representation campaigns and training. 4 years works as NCP Health. Expert in European Commission DG RTD Health from 2021. Expert in EU Science Diplomacy Working Group. EC JRC Science for policy TOT trainer. Member of National Cancer Council. Participates in EH projects HNN 3.0, ECHOS. More than a decade S.Auvertin was working as policy advisor in European Parliament (ENVI, ITRE, FEMM committees), European cervical cancer association (specialization on patients rights, health policy and health literacy). From 2019 volunteering as policy advisor in the patient group NGO EPILE (Lithuania). Email: [sigita.bagdoniene@lmt.lt](mailto:sigita.bagdoniene@lmt.lt)



## ➤➤➤ **MILDA KARČIAUSKAITĖ** NCP EIT HEALTH, DIGITAL



NCP for EIT: Climate, Culture & Creativity, Digital, Food, Health, InnoEnergy, Manufacturing, Raw Materials and Urban mobility. Experienced project manager with a background in R&D&I and EU project management. Proficient in managing technology transfer, coordinating EU-funded initiatives, and advising on funding instruments. Strong skills in project evaluation, document preparation, and procurement processes. Proven track record in organizing training and networking events, with a focus on innovation and technology development. Professional Experience in Kaunas University of Technology as Technology Transfer Project Manager, in ESFA and European Digital Innovation Centres (EDIH) project. Email: [milda.karciauskaite@lmt.lt](mailto:milda.karciauskaite@lmt.lt)

# STATISTICS





# PARTICIPATION



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NCP WIDERA.NET



chist-era



ERA4Health  
Partnership



BRIDGE2HE with NCPs



BrainHealth  
PARTNERSHIP



neuron

ERA-NET NEURON

Together for brain research

**CENTRE FOR INNOVATIVE MEDICINE IS A STATE RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN WHICH IMPORTANT LONG-TERM VISIONS OF THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC STRATEGIES ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED AND TRANSLATED FROM FUNDAMENTAL SCIENCE INTO CLINICALLY RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE. RESEARCH SCIENTISTS' TEAMS AND SUPPORT STAFF AT THE INSTITUTE DIRECT THEIR RESEARCH TOWARDS SEVERAL GOALS:**

- **TAILORING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO THE NEEDS OF THE HEALTHCARE SECTOR AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE SOCIETY'S WELL BEING.**
- **COOPERATING WITHIN THE GLOBAL NETWORK OF ACADEMIC ENTITIES, PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND GOVERNMENTAL BODIES. PROVIDING CONTRACT SERVICES AND METHODOLOGICAL SUPPORT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.**
- **DISSEMINATING OUR RESEARCH IDEAS AND RESULTS IN THE SOCIETY, PARTICIPATING IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESSES AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMICS.**

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**WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.IMCENTRAS.LT/](https://www.imcentras.lt/)**



## **>>> DR. TATJANA IVAŠKIENĖ**

Dr. Tatjana Ivaškienė is currently CEO of the State Scientific Research Institute Center for Innovative Medicine, Lithuania. In addition, she is a member National Health Board of the Republic of Lithuania and an expert in European Medicine Agency (EMA). The main fields of interest are advanced therapy medicinal products, patient safety, biolaw, preclinical and clinical trials regulation, data protection in biomedicine science. Email: [tatjana.ivaskiene@imcentras.lt](mailto:tatjana.ivaskiene@imcentras.lt)

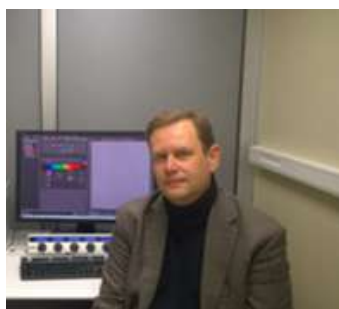
## **DR. EIVA BERNOTEINĖ <<<**

The chief researcher and Head of the Department of Regenerative Medicine at IMC, Associate Professor at VilniusTech University, and is a Lithuanian representative of Horizon EU Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), is a leader and PI of IMC in several high level European projects. Her scientific interests include degenerative and inflammatory articular diseases, joint tissue engineering, cardiovascular diseases and cardiac tissue modelling, female infertility ethiopathogenesis. E.B. research is focused on human stem cells, mechanotransduction, extracellular vesicles and biomarker investigation for the development of novel personalized therapies. Email: [eiva.bernotiene@imcentras.lt](mailto:eiva.bernotiene@imcentras.lt)



## **>>> DR. AUGUSTAS PIVORIŪNAS**

Head of the Department of Stem Cell Biology. The President of the Lithuanian Association of Stem Cell Researchers. Augustas Pivoriūnas is a co-founder and shareholder of the joint stock company Exosomica. Augustas Pivoriūnas leads an active group of scientists and PhD students and his research interests focus primarily on extracellular vesicles (EVs) derived from different types of adult stem cells and their applications in basic research and cell-based therapies. Email: [augustas.pivoriunas@imcentras.lt](mailto:augustas.pivoriunas@imcentras.lt)







LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY  
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

## >>> LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (LSMU)

LSMU is a strong international university that actively develops an openness to different cultures and traditions, with the distinctive feature of unity of studies, research and clinical practice. This is achieved through close cooperation with LSMU University Hospital Kauno Klinikos and LSMU Hospital Kauno ligoninė. High achievements in research and studies have shaped the ambitious goal of achieving greater unity between research and teaching, gradually transforming from a teaching university to a research university. An increasing number of international projects (currently about 20 EU-funded Horizon, H2020, EU4H etc. projects in the fields of biology, medicine, public health, and nursing), a close interface between research and business, the development of a research-friendly environment, and increasing the attractiveness and prestige of a researcher's career are sustainable goals of LSMU.

Website: <https://lsmu.lt/en/>

## LSMU KAUNAS CLINICS <<<

Kauno klinikos is the largest and one of the most advanced hospitals in Lithuania, known for its leadership in healthcare and commitment to innovation. Kauno klinikos integrates cutting-edge technologies and the latest treatment methods across a wide range of specialties, ensuring high-quality patient care. The hospital plays a crucial role in advancing medical progress, continually adopting new technologies and improving healthcare standards in Lithuania.

Website: <https://www.kaunoklinikos.lt/home/>



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Lietuvos sveikatos  
mokslų universiteto

Kauno  
ligoninė

## >>> LSMU KAUNAS HOSPITAL

Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kaunas Hospital is the prominent clinical validation center for research and innovations, especially in geriatrics, mental health, cardiology, infectious diseases, orthopedics and traumatology and pandemic preparedness, as it was main hospital during Covid. LSMU Kaunas Hospital has tangible potential in biomedical and clinical research, with encouraged ambition for innovations, modern treatment technologies and methodology, scientific and pedagogical activities and accelerating novelties in healthcare and possibilities for successful professional collaboration with academic and biomedical R&D partners. Website: <https://kaunoligonine.lt/en/about-lsmu-kaunas-hospital/>



## ➤➤➤ PROF. HABIL. DR. VAIVA LESAUSKAITĖ



Prof. habil. dr. Vaiva Lesauskaitė, Vice Rector for Research of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (LUHS). She is Professor in Pathology, Head of Laboratory of Molecular Cardiology at the Institute of Cardiology, LUHS. Her main research interest is translational research in cardiovascular diseases (CVD). It covers precision medicine and prediction of clinical course of CVD.  
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## PROF. DR. IDA LISECKIENĖ ◀◀◀

Dean of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Public Health faculty; professor in Family Medicine department and practicing family physician, national and international projects' coordinator, and researcher. Interests in lifestyle medicine, primary health care and public health systems, interdisciplinary collaboration, multimorbidity, mental health and professional health. Public health, work with the minorities and risk groups of population, mental health, professional health. Email: [ida.liseckiene@lsmu.lt](mailto:ida.liseckiene@lsmu.lt)



## ➤➤➤ PROF. DR. DIANA ŽALIADUONYTĖ



Director general of Kaunas Hospital of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences as well as medical doctor - cardiologist and professor at the Cardiology Department of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Prof. dr. D. Žaliaduonytė has more than 15 years clinical experience with special interest in heart failure, ischemic heart disease, cardiovascular genetics area and more than 10-year scientific experience. She is also the chair of Heart Failure Working Group of Lithuanian Cardiology Society and FESC of European Cardiology Society.

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## ➤➤➤ PROF. VILMANTĖ BORUTAITĖ



Prof. Vilmantė Borutaitė, head of the Laboratory of Biochemistry of LSMU Neuroscience Institute, chair of the Expert Committee on Natural and Technical Sciences in the Research Council of Lithuania. Her research focuses on molecular mechanisms of neurodegeneration induced by aggregating proteins. In parallel, she investigates mechanisms of ischemic injury in developing and aging brains using animal and cell culture models, including human inducible pluripotent stem cells, aiming to find efficient therapeutic compounds for ischemic stroke treatment. Email: [vilmante.borutaite@lsmu.lt](mailto:vilmante.borutaite@lsmu.lt)

## PROF. AUŠRA SAUDARGIENĖ <<<

Prof. A. Saudargienė works at the Neuroscience Institute, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, and Department of Health Psychology, Faculty of Public Health, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. She received extensive training in Theoretical/Computational and Cognitive Neuroscience and artificial intelligence in Europe, Japan, USA, Canada, and has been leading many international scientific projects on neuroscience. Prof. A. Saudargienė is a representative of the EBRAINS (Europe's Research Infrastructure for Brain Research), a member of the EBRAINS Science and Technology Committee, and a member of the Executive Committee of the European Neural Network Society. Email: [Ausra.Saudargiene@lsmu.lt](mailto:Ausra.Saudargiene@lsmu.lt)



## ➤➤➤ ANTANAS MONTVILA



Radiologist and head of the Innovations Department at the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Hospital, Kaunas Clinics, that is dedicated to assessing and implementing medical innovations in clinical practice. He works to build telemedicine services and optimize the use of clinical data to provide data-driven, personalized care at the largest hospital in the Baltic region. Antanas leads several national and international projects focused on advancing digital health. A former Vice-President of the European Junior Doctors Association, he also holds an Executive Master's in Health Economics, Policy, and Management from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE). Email: [antanas.montvila@kaunoklinikos.lt](mailto:antanas.montvila@kaunoklinikos.lt)



## >>> PROF. DR. ELONA JUOZAITYTĖ



Radiation oncologist and Head of Oncology and Haematology department at the Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kauno klinikos. She is also the Head of Oncology institute of Faculty of Medicine at the Lithuanian university of Health sciences. Her current scientific activities concern various malignant tumours, especially breast cancer. She is a member of working group at the Ministry of Health care of the Republic of Lithuania for creation and implementation of National Cancer Control Programme. Email: [Elona.Juozaityte@kaunoklinikos.lt](mailto:Elona.Juozaityte@kaunoklinikos.lt)

## PROF. DR. RASA UGENSKIENĖ <<<

Clinical geneticist, Head of the Department of Genetics and Molecular Medicine at the Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kauno klinikos. She is also working as a chief researcher at Oncology Research Laboratory, Oncology Institute of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Her research activities are as follows: the analyses of predictive and prognostic cancer biomarkers; exploration of the anticancer effect of different drugs; radiation biology. Email: [rasa.ugenskiene@lsmu.lt](mailto:rasa.ugenskiene@lsmu.lt)



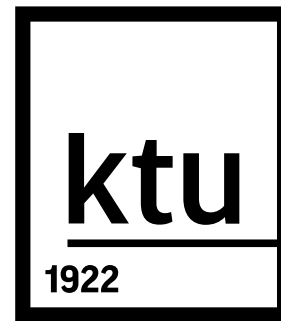
## >>> PROF. DR. JUOZAS KUPČINSKAS



Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department of Gastroenterology at the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences in Kaunas, Lithuania. He is a member of Scientific Committee of European Society of Gastroenterology (UEG); Secretary General of European Helicobacter and Microbiome Study group (EHMSG). Currently, the group led by prof. J. Kupcinskas is participating six Horizon Europe grants in the fields of microbiome, intestinal organoids, gastrointestinal cancers and fecal microbiome transplantation. His main research interests are related to microbiome and its modulation, inflammatory bowel diseases, translational biomarker research in premalignant and malignant gastrointestinal conditions. Email: [Juozas.Kupcinskas@lsmu.lt](mailto:Juozas.Kupcinskas@lsmu.lt)



**KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (KTU) IS A LEADING LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY KNOWN FOR ITS STRONG FOCUS ON RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND TECHNOLOGY. THE UNIVERSITY EXCELS IN ENGINEERING, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, NATURAL SCIENCES, MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMICS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES. KTU STRATEGIC RESEARCH FOCUS COVERS ELECTRONICS, ENERGY, HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATIONS. KTU IS PART OF ECIU CONSORTIUM KKAUNAS AND COLLABORATES WITH NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES AND INDUSTRIES AROUND THE GLOBE, FOSTERING A VIBRANT ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT AND PROVIDING STUDENTS AND FACULTY WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT. WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART RESEARCH FACILITIES, INCLUDING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH CENTRE AND MLAB - MULTIFUNCTIONAL RESEARCH FACILITIES; AND A COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP, KTU PLAYS A PIVOTAL ROLE IN ADVANCING TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN LITHUANIA AND BALTIC SEA REGION. ITS DYNAMIC CAMPUS LIFE AND STRONG EMPHASIS ON ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE MAKE KTU A HUB FOR ASPIRING PROFESSIONALS AND RESEARCHERS. [HTTPS://EN.KTU.EDU/UNIVERSITY/](https://en.ktu.edu/university/)**



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## **>>> PROF. DR. ASTA PUNDZIENĖ**



Professor, Principal Investigator of the Digital Healthcare Innovations research group and Director of the Business Digital Transformation research center at the School of Economics and Business, Kaunas University of Technology (KTU), Lithuania. She is also an affiliated scholar at the Institute of Business Innovation, Haas Business School, UC Berkeley, US since 2018 October. Her main research and innovation interests include but are not limited to multisided digital platforms including artificial intelligence and big data innovations, technology acceptance, evaluation and scaling with applications to healthcare industry. She promoted and led Horizon2020, Horizon Europe, and national research projects, resulting in the development of the remote patient monitoring platform, tested in a real-world environment. Dr. Asta Pundziene is a board member of the Lithuanian Research Council, member of the Board of Governors of IEEE TEMS and other academic and professional societies. Asta Pundziene is a Chairman of the Doctoral Committee and supervisor of numerous doctoral students. Email: [asta.pundziene@ktu.lt](mailto:asta.pundziene@ktu.lt)

## **DR. NERINGA GERULAITIENĖ <<<**

Associate professor in management at Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania) and a post-doc at the University of Montpellier (France). Her main research interests are in healthcare management, with a particular focus on the impact of organizational-level factors on the wellbeing and resilience of health and care workers. Neringa leads national and international projects, publishes articles in high-impact journals (e.g., Technovation (Q1, IF 12.5)), participates in top conferences in her field (e.g., EURAM, EGOS, SMS, AOM, IEEE), and is a member of the advisory board for a large-scale innovation alliance project. Email: [neringa.gerulaitiene@ktu.lt](mailto:neringa.gerulaitiene@ktu.lt)





## >>> DR. TADAS PRASAUSKAS

Chief Researcher at Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania) and serving as a vice-dean for research at the Faculty of Chemical Technology. His expertise lies in air quality management, focusing on advanced technologies for mitigating volatile organic compounds and other indoor air pollutants; development and prototyping of 3D nano/micro fibre printing technology. Dr. Prasauskas is also involved in technology transfer at National Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre. He is responsible for fostering collaborations between academia and industry, aiming to bring scientific innovations to practical applications, joint project activities and intellectual property management. Co-founder of biotech start-up Bious Life and Technology. Email: [tadas.prasauskas@ktu.lt](mailto:tadas.prasauskas@ktu.lt)

## DR. EDVINAS KRUGLY <<<

Chief Researcher at Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania. He holds a Doctoral degree in Chemistry. Now he is in charge of Modelling immunotherapy response and toxicity in cancer (IMMUNO-model) project. He contributes to the development of startups in Bious Life and Technology and Bious Labs Cosmetics. Bious Labs, a startup in life sciences and medicine, develops and commercializes 3D scaffolds for life science research using advanced electrospinning and additive manufacturing technologies. Email: [edvinas.krugly@ktu.lt](mailto:edvinas.krugly@ktu.lt)



## >>> BIOUS LABS



Bious Labs is a KTU startup developing, innovation and commercialization of solutions for Life Science and Medicine. Company develops and commercialize 3D scaffolds for life science research. Our core technology combines solvent-free and solvent-based electrospinning processes with additive manufacturing. Website: <https://biouslabs.com/en/>

➤➤➤ STATE RESEARCH INSTITUTE CENTER FOR PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY (CPST) IS THE LARGEST SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTION CARRYING OUT A UNIQUE FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT WORKS IN SCIENTIFIC FIELDS OF LASER TECHNOLOGIES, OPTOELECTRONICS, NUCLEAR PHYSICS, ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, BIO AND NANOTECHNOLOGIES, ELECTROCHEMICAL MATERIAL SCIENCE, FUNCTIONAL MATERIALS, ELECTRONICS, ETC. IN LITHUANIA. IN THE CENTER NOT ONLY THE INNOVATIVE SCIENCE BUT ALSO HIGH TECHNOLOGIES EXPEDIENT FOR BUSINESS AND SOCIETY NEEDS ARE DEVELOPED. CPST WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2010 BY JOINING INSTITUTES OF CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS, SEMICONDUCTOR PHYSICS IN VILNIUS AND TEXTILE INSTITUTE IN KAUNAS. OVER THE RECENT YEARS THE CENTER COMBINING DIFFERENT SCIENCE BRANCHES HAS BECOME ONE OF THE LEADING SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS IN LITHUANIA. [HTTPS://WWW.FTMC.LT/](https://www.ftmc.lt/)



## ➤➤➤ DOC. DR. IEVA PLIKUSIENĖ



Prof. dr. I. Plikusienė is a professor of Physical Chemistry and a chief researcher and leader of the scientific group at the CPST. She is recognized for her research on the development and application of methods and advanced nanomaterials, particularly in biosensing technologies, which can be used in medical diagnostics, proteins characterization, and other related fields. One of her main research interests lies in the development of optical and acoustic biosensing systems that can detect specific biological markers such as viral antigens or antibodies. Email: [ieva.plikusiene@chgf.vu.lt](mailto:ieva.plikusiene@chgf.vu.lt)



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MANY OF THE RESEARCH INNOVATIONS AT VYTAUTAS MAGVUS UNIVERSITY (VMU) ARE BORN AT THE CONFLUENCE OF DISCIPLINES. THE MAIN STRENGTH OF RESEARCH AT VMU IS OUR ABILITY TO RESPOND TO AN INCREASINGLY GLOBALISED AND COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE PROMPTING THE DYNAMIC FORMATION OF NEW RESEARCH PRIORITIES AND FACILITATING ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS IN RESEARCH PERFORMANCE BOTH AT A NATIONAL AND AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. VMU IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING ABOUT 100 PROJECTS IN THE FIELDS OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, BIOPHYSICS, TECHNOLOGY LAW, EDUCATION, SOCIOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY, COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS, LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND BILINGUALISM, CREATIVE INDUSTRIES, AND OTHERS. WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.VDU.LT/EN/ABOUT-VMU/](https://www.vdu.lt/en/about-vmu/)

## PROF. DR. SAULIUS ŠATKAUSKAS <<<

Biophysicist, professor and head of the Department of Biochemistry of the Faculty of Natural Sciences of VMU. The President of Lithuanian Biophysical Society. His Cell and Tissue biotechnology research group, at the Research Institute of Natural and Technological Sciences, VMU mainly focuses on cell biophysics, drug and gene delivery into cells and tissues for gene therapy, antitumor therapy, vaccination, inhibition of atrial fibrillation using pulsed electric fields. Email: [saulius.satkauskas@vdu.lt](mailto:saulius.satkauskas@vdu.lt)





**NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE OF LITHUANIA (NCI) IS THE ONLY SPECIALISED ONCOLOGY INSTITUTION IN LITHUANIA ACCREDITED BY THE ORGANIZATION OF EUROPEAN CANCER INSTITUTES (OECI). ESTABLISHED IN 1931, NCI COMBINES SCIENTIFIC AND CLINICAL ACTIVITIES AND IS THE LEADER IN THE FIELD OF CANCER TREATMENT AND RESEARCH IN LITHUANIA. MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM OF NCI ANNUALLY MANAGES MORE THAN 140 TH. OUTPATIENT VISITS, 10 TH. INPATIENT VISITS, PERFORMS ABOUT 6 TH. SURGICAL PROCEDURES AND ABOUT 6 TH. COURSES OF CHEMO/RADIOTHERAPY TREATMENT. MODERN METHODS OF GENOMICS, PROTEOMICS, TRANSCRIPTOMICS, NANOSCIENCE, IMMUNOLOGY, EPIDEMIOLOGY, AND EXPERIMENTAL ONCOLOGY IMPLEMENTED IN THE RESEARCH UNIT ENABLE EXTENSIVE TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION OF NCI. WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.NCI.LT/EN/](https://www.nci.lt/en/)**



## ➤➤➤ PROF. SONATA JARMALAITĖ



Professor of Genetics at the Life Sciences Center of Vilnius University and Deputy Director for Research and Development at the National Cancer Institute of Lithuania. She has M.Sc. in Biology and Medical Biology, M.Sc. in Health management and Politics, and Ph.D. in Biology (Genetics). Her current research activities are mainly focused on application of genome-wide technologies in translational cancer research. Sonata Jarmalaitė is a committee member of the National Health Council and the Future Biomedicine Foundation, a national representative in EC Cancer sub-group and an expert of Horizon Europe the EU Cancer mission working group. She is a recipient of the Lithuanian science prize and the Grand Duke Gediminas cross. Email: [sonata.jarmalaitė@nci.lt](mailto:sonata.jarmalaitė@nci.lt)

**VILNIUS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (VUH) SANTAROS KLINIKOS IS A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL WHERE THERAPEUTIC AND RESEARCH WORK GOES HAND IN HAND AND THE LATEST METHODS OF DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT IN EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE ARE FIRST AND FOREMOST IMPLEMENTED HERE. THERE MUST ALWAYS BE A MOMENT OF NOVELTY AND INNOVATION IN MEDICINE. INNOVATION IS A NEW SERVICE, METHOD, PREPARATION, MEDICAL EQUIPMENT. THE GOAL OF AN ADVANCED TREATMENT FACILITY IS TO EXAMINE AND TREAT PATIENTS WITH A VIEW TO CONTINUOUS RECOVERY. UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS DIFFER FROM OTHER HOSPITALS IN THAT THE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS WORK NOT ONLY AS PHYSICIANS BUT ALSO AS PEDAGOGUES AND RESEARCHERS WORKING IN THE FIELDS OF CLINICAL OR BASIC MEDICINE. WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.SANTA.LT/SCIENCE-AND-INNOVATION/](https://www.santa.lt/science-and-innovation/)**



## PROF. DR. JELENA RASCON <<<

Prof. dr. Jelena Rascon, Head of the Center for Pediatric Oncology and Hematology at Santaros Klinikos, is a board member of the European Reference Network in Pediatric Oncology and Pediatric Transplantation. Prof. dr. J. Rascon, former coordinator of the TREL project, leads the EU-funded project SCARLET "SCAling up early and late effects Research in Lithuanian childhood cancer survivors through Education and Twinning" aiming to strengthen research excellence at Santaros Klinikos with a special focus on childhood cancer survivor.

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## **>>> ASSOC. PROF. DR. AISTE GULLA**



Assistant Professor of Surgery, at the Department of Surgery, The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Washington DC, the president of IHPBA-E-AHPBA Baltic chapter, a fellow of Kenneth-Warren Foundation, served as a Chief, Center of Transplantation Surgery at Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Clinics, Vilnius, Lithuania; Co-Director of Center for Visceral Medicine and Translational Research Center, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University; Visiting Professor at Kansai Medical University, Osaka, Japan. Dr. Gulla received her undergraduate and medical education in Lithuania. She obtained surgical training at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and Stanford Hospital and Clinics during her general surgery residency. Dr. Gulla has done much to advance pancreatology on the international stage by disseminating her research findings and knowledge in Lithuania and worldwide. Recently, Dr. Gulla has been awarded as the best 2024 Nikki Mitchell foundation award pancreas cancer paper by a young investigator of the Pancreas Club, USA. Email: [aistegulla@gmail.com](mailto:aistegulla@gmail.com)

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THE UNIVERSITY SHOULD DISTINGUISH ITSELF BY A BROAD SPECTRUM OF FUNDAMENTAL AND APPLIED RESEARCH. IT SHOULD SEEK TO ASSUME THE LEADING POSITION AMONG OTHER LITHUANIAN INSTITUTIONS IN ALL RESEARCH AREAS THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE VERY NATURE OF A COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSITY AND SET ITSELF THE GOAL OF INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN THE INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH. THE UNIVERSITY SHOULD BE COMMITTED TO THE MISSION OF OPENING THE DOORS AND PROVIDING UNIVERSAL EDUCATION FOR THE MOST TALENTED YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ALL DISTRICTS OF LITHUANIA AND EDUCATING ACTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE SPECIALISTS, WHO DEMONSTRATE THE NEED TO EXPAND THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND IMPROVE PROFESSIONALLY AND WHO ARE ABLE TO LEARN THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFETIME. THE UNIVERSITY SHOULD SEEK THAT THE QUALITY OF ALL FORMS OF STUDIES CONFORMS TO THE MODERN CULTURE AND TECHNOLOGIES AND PERTAINS TO THE NEEDS OF THE STATE AND SOCIETY.  
WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.VU.LT/EN/ABOUT-VU](https://www.vu.lt/en/about-vu)



## ➤➤➤ PROF. HABIL. DR. OSVALDAS RUKŠĖNAS



Professor of Physiology and Neurobiology at Vilnius University, Lithuania. President of Lithuanian Neuroscience Association, Head of Department of Neurobiology and Biophysics, 2012 to date. As a result of his scientific interests in information coding in CNS, transmission and processing of information at different levels of the brain, effects of gonadal steroids on cognitive and visceral functions, and mechanisms of addiction he has published over 130 peer-reviewed papers, supervised 15 PhD students.

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## PROF. DR. URTĖ NENIŠKYTĖ ◀◀◀

PhD in Biochemistry at the University of Cambridge (UK) and post-doctoral fellowship at the Epigenetics and Neurobiology Unit of the EMBL (Italy). After returning to the Life Sciences Center of Vilnius University, U. Neniškytė established the Molecular Neurobiology research group and was selected as a group leader at the VU-EMBL Partnership Institute for Genome Editing Technologies. U. Neniškytė aims to define molecular mechanisms required for the maturation of neuronal networks during brain development. Email: [urte.neniskyte@gmc.vu.lt](mailto:urte.neniskyte@gmc.vu.lt)



## ➤➤➤ DR. LINAS MAŽUTIS



The focus of our research group is development of single-cell technologies across various biological contexts ranging from screening microbial enzymes to cancer biology. We are using droplet microfluidics technology to isolate cells, bacteria or viruses and profile their genotype, or phenotype, collectively and individually on a massive scale. We have made key contributions to single-cell RNA-seq field. We are conducting high-throughput experiments to quantify the phenotypic landscapes of biological model systems using multi-modal readouts. Dr. L. Mažutis obtained a PhD degree in 2009 from Universite de Strasbourg and spent several years working at Harvard University, and lately at MSKCC.

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## PROF. DR. ARVYDAS LAURINAVIČIUS <<<

The Head and Professor of VU MF Department of Pathology and Forensic Medicine, director and consultant pathologist of the National Center of Pathology, affiliate of Vilnius University Hospital Santaros klinikos. His recent research focuses on predictive computational pathology models for solid tumors and renal biopsy assessment taking into account spatial aspects of tissue microenvironment. Interested in data sharing, discovery, validation studies, and federated learning approaches. He served as the president of the 20th European Congress on Digital Pathology 2024.

National Digital Pathology center <https://www.vpc.lt/en/>

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## >>> PROF. DR. ALMIRA RAMANAVIČIENĖ



Prof. dr. Almira Ramanavičienė is ahead of NanoTechnas – Center of Nanotechnology and Materials Science at the Faculty of Chemistry and Geosciences and a professor at Vilnius University. A. Ramanavičienė is a leading expert with over 20 years of comprehensive experience in the development of optical, electrochemical and piezoelectric biosensors and immunosensors. Her recent research focuses on the sensitive detection of clinically valuable biomarkers. For this purpose, the advantages of nanomaterials, different surface biofunctionalization methods, and various biomarker determination strategies are used. Prof. A. Ramanaviciene is a co-author of over 250 research articles in international journals (h index is 56 according to WoS).

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## KRISTIJONAS PUTEIKIS <<<

A Research Specialist at the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University supporting the academic community through identifying opportunities for collaboration and ensuring successful implementation of cutting-edge research initiatives. He contributes to policies aimed at improving the research culture and environment as well as accelerating research and innovation (R&I) activities at the Faculty. He is also a Resident in Neurology with an active scientific participation in this clinical field. His major research interests include epileptology, cognitive dysfunction in neurological disorders and psychosocial outcomes in neurology.

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# SME



## >>> ARŪNAS ŽEBRAUSKAS

PHD Student at Inovatyvius Medicinos Centras (IMC) / State Research Institute Centre for Innovative Medicine.

R&D services company specializing in 3D engineering and 3D bioprinting for the life sciences sector. MD at the Vilnius University. Expert of innovations in the life sciences.

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GYDYMO CENTRAS



## >>> DEIVIDAS PRASPALIAUSKAS

CEO of one of the biggest private medical institutions in Lithuania, and the country's pionner and leader in private medicine. Email: [deividas.praspaliauskas@hila.lt](mailto:deividas.praspaliauskas@hila.lt)

## DR. SIMONAS ŪSELIS <<<

Abdominal and General surgeon at Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Clinics, Lithuania. Experience in clinical studies carried out in an Abdominal and General Surgery center for more than 10 years. Since June 2023, Medical Director at a private hospital in Vilnius, Lithuania. PhD in Medicine at Heidelberg University, Germany, 2014-2018. Fields of interest: innovation in surgery, early gastrointestinal cancer and non-cancer diseases diagnostics and treatment outcomes prediction. Tailored treatment, that meets patients needs and personalised medicine criteria. Email: [simonas.uselis@hila.lt](mailto:simonas.uselis@hila.lt)





## >>> LIGHTHOUSE HUB

Lighthouse Hub is recognized Digital Innovation Hub that provide both the infrastructure and support for entities that are willing to innovate. The Hub has more than 100 active members and state of are facilities that include coworking space, coliving space, RnD laboratories and space dedicated for leisure and wellbeing. At the moment Lighthouse Hub is developing its fifth building that is solely dedicated for longevity and wellness activities.

Website: <https://lighthouse.lt/en/apie-sic/>

## ŠARŪNAS BUTKUS <<<

Šarūnas Butkus is a dedicated professional with a background in international business and private equity currently focusing on creating new type of spaces designed for optimizing human performance and wellbeing. His interest is to find new ways how technology and work environment could augment the capabilities and wellbeing of humans. Lighthouse Hub is an innovation campus in Klaipeda, Lithuania. Email: [sarunas@lighthouse.lt](mailto:sarunas@lighthouse.lt)



## >>> SIMONA POCYTĖ

Simona Pocyte is an experienced Innovation Project Manager at Lighthouse Hub, where she plays a pivotal role in managing EU-funded projects. With a strong background in innovation and project management, Simona is dedicated to driving forward initiatives that foster collaboration and growth within the innovation ecosystem. Her work at Lighthouse Hub involves coordinating complex projects, ensuring they meet both strategic goals and compliance requirements. Email: [simona.pocyte@lighthouse.lt](mailto:simona.pocyte@lighthouse.lt)



## »»» APOLLO 2028

The overall objective of the APOLLO 2028 project is to provide health and care workers, organisations, and healthcare system funders and policy makers with research-backed innovative solutions to help improve mental health, wellbeing, and capacity to be more resilient to changing environments (especially daily pressures and extreme events) at the workplace.

Website: <https://www.apollo-2028.eu/>

University of Montpellier, Centre hospitalier universitaire Montpellier (CHU), CHU Nimes (FR), Kaunas University of Technology, Vilnius University GMC (LT).

## BOOTSTRAP <<<

International multidisciplinary consortium bringing together scientists from 14 countries and 22 institutions.

Collaboration aims to initiate changes in current health and social policies, and practices designed to reduce the harmful effects of digitalisation on mental health, particularly amongst young people. BootStRaP: Boosting Societal Adaptation and Mental Health in a Rapidly Digitalizing, Post-Pandemic Europe.

Webpage: <https://www.internetandme.eu/>

Centre hospitalier universitaire de Nantes, Nantes universite (FR), LSMU (LT).



## ThrombUS+ »»» THROMBUS +

ThrombUS+ envisions a revolutionary approach to deep vein thrombosis (DVT) diagnosis and prevention, harnessing the power of cutting-edge technology and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Webpage: <https://thrombus.eu/index.php/project/>

Vernon Group; L'hôpital Simone Veil (FR), KTU, LSMU, Telemed Ultrasound Medical Systems UAB (LT).



## >>> 4.UNCAN.EU

Implementation plans of two convergent European initiatives, the Horizon Europe Mission Cancer and the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, spur for a European Initiative to UNderstand CANcer (UNCAN.eu). More precisely, the UNCAN.eu initiative is one of the 13 specific objectives of the Mission on Cancer and one of the ten flagships of the Europe's Cancer Beating plan. The Coordination and Support Action (CSA) named "4.UNCAN.eu" is planned to generate a blueprint for UNCAN.eu. Website: <https://uncan.eu/>  
SER, IARC, IT, INCA (FR), VULSK (LT).

## THERMOBREAST <<<

Breast cancer remission rates approach 90% in cases of early detection. The downsides of the current mammography, ultrasound, and MRI screening methods include radiation, high false positive rates in screening results, and high costs. The proprietary technology from ThermoMind LTD can detect vascular abnormalities associated with cancer development. The technology combines screening through multiple infrared sensors with advanced AI analysis of temporal dynamic thermal patterns. The project goal is to deliver a medical class 1 device for validation in an international multicentre clinical study. Webpage: <https://thermobreast.eu/>  
Institute Goustave Roussy (FR), VULSK (LT).

# ThermoBreast



## >>> PRIME-ROSE

PRIME-ROSE (Precision Cancer Medicine Repurposing System Using Pragmatic Clinical Trials) is funded by the EU Cancer Mission and will run over five years (2023 – 2028). The consortium consists of altogether 24 partners. Precision cancer medicine is an approach that depends on access to adequate molecular diagnostics and drugs to have impact and move towards implementation in the national healthcare systems. Webpage: <https://www.matrix-fkb.no/en/prime-rose/home>  
Centre Leon Berard, Lyon (FR), National Cancer Institute NVI (LT).



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