

Kokaia Zaal – Director - Lund Stem Cell Center, Professor of Experimental Medical Research, Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Lund

Current position

- **Professor of Experimental Medical Research**, Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Lund, Sweden (from January, 2008).
- **Director - Lund Stem Cell Center** (from January, 2011).
- **Coordinator** - Strategic Research Area (“*SFO*”) in Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine “StemTherapy” (from June, 2010).
- **Head - Laboratory of Stem Cells & Restorative Neurology** (from January, 2003), at Lund Stem Cell Center, University Hospital BMC B10, Lund, Sweden.

Education & Scientific Degrees:

- 1984 - Biologist (Master of Sciences)**, *also* **Teacher of Biology and Chemistry** from Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Biology, Diploma with Honor No 258446.
- 1987 - Candidate of Biological Sciences, (PhD)** from I.Beritashvili Institute of Physiology, Tbilisi, Georgia.
- 1995 - Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**, from Faculty of Medicine, University of Lund, Sweden.
- 1997 - Doctor of Sciences (DSc)**, from I.Beritashvili Institute of Physiology, Tbilisi, Georgia.
- 1999 - Docent of Experimental Neurology**, Faculty of Medicine, University of Lund, Sweden.

Postdoctoral/scientific training:

- 1992** - Laboratory of Molecular Neurobiology, Department of Medical Chemistry, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden (supervisor - Prof. H.Persson).
- 1995** - Beckman Neuroscience Centre, Cold Spring Harbour Laboratory, NY, USA (Prof. H.Nawa).
- 1999 - 2001** - Restorative Neurology Unit, Department of Neurology, University Hospital, Lund, Sweden (supervisor - Prof. O. Lindvall).

Scientific Productivity & Bibliometric data by *Google scholar*:

- Total # peer reviewed publications: **155** (101 as lead author – first, second or last author)
- Total times cited – **22 645**
- Average citation per item - **102**
- H-index - **73**

Invited speaker:

Invited to more than **95** symposiums, conferences and congresses with keynote speech, lectures and oral presentations.

Awards & Honors:

- **Lenin’s stipend** holder as a best student at the Faculty of Biology, Tbilisi State University (1982-84).
- **Recipient of Research Award**, King Gustav V and Queen Victoria’s Foundation (2004-08).
- **Petre Sarajishvili Medal and Honor Diploma** for prominent contribution in neuro-education in Georgia (2009) awarded by Georgian Association of Neurologists and Neurosurgeons.
- **Elected member** of Lund Physiographic Society (from 2011)
- **Honorary Doctor** at David Agmashenebeli University of Georgia (2.07.2012), Tbilisi, Georgia.
- **Honorary Member** of Georgian Association of Allergology & Clinical Immunology (5.10.2012).
- **Distinguished Professor** at Free University (December 25, 2013), Tbilisi, Georgia.

- **Nino Javakhishvili Medal** – for the contribution to Natishvili Institute of Morphology, Tbilisi State University, Georgia (December 23, 2016).
- **Elected Member** - The Academy of Europe (*Academia Europaea*), London, UK (September, 2017).

Editorial advisor:

- **American Journal of Stem Cells** - Founding Editorial Board member (2013 -)
- **National Geographic** (Georgia) - Scientific Board Member (2014 -)
- **Current Stem Cell Research & Therapy** - Advisory Board member (2015 -)
- **Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience** - Editorial Board Member, Review Editor (2016 -)
- **Ad hoc reviewer** for the following journals: Brain; Cell Stem Cell; Eur. J Neurosci; Exp.Neurol; JCBFM; J. Neurosci; Lancet; Neuroscience, Neurobiol. Aging; Nature; Nature Neurosci; PNAS; Stem Cell Reports; Stem Cells; Stroke.

Research supervisor:

- **PhD students** (*main*): Elin Larsson (14.12.2002), Vladimer Darsalia, (26.05.2007); Therése Kallur, (12.06.2008); Henrik Ahlenius 13.06.2009; Carlo Cusulin (16.03.2010); Emanuela Monni (21.05.2015); Ruimin Ge (12.06.2017); Somsak Wattananit (2012-16); Giedré Miskinyté (current).
- **Postdoctoral Fellows** (*main*): Susan Allison (Australia; 2006-08). Maurizio Cavallaro (Italy; 2006-08); Emanuelle Cacci (Italy; 2003-06); Koichi Oki (Japan; 2009-11); Jemal Tatarishvili (Georgia; 2009-14); Tamar Memanishvili (Georgia; 2011-15); Naomi Hara (Japan, 2015-16); Masao Hirota (Japan; 2015-17); Ceccilia Laterza (Italy; 2015-17); Daniel Tornero (Spain; 2010-18); Sara Palma (2017-current); Sibel Aktay (2018-current).

Administrative & management duties:

- **Coordinator** - **EU consortium** StemStroke funded within FP6 (2006-2009), STREP project.
- **Coordinator** - **EU consortium** TargetBraIn funded within FP7 (2011-2016).
- **Member** - **Steering Committee**, EU FP7 consortium GlowBrain (2011-2015).
- **Member** - **Scientific Advisory Board**, EU FP7 consortium ENCITE, (2010-2014).
- **Member** - **Scientific Advisory Board**, EVER Neuro Pharma GmbH, Unterach, Austria (2014)
- **Member** - **Board of Directors** - Maas BioLab, Albuquerque, NM, USA (1999-2011).
- **Member** - **International Policy Board** – Rustaveli National Science Foundation, Tbilisi, Georgia (2015 -)
- **Consultant** - StemCells Inc., Palo Alto, CA, USA (2010-2011).
- **Chair** - Georgian University Society, Tbilisi, Georgia (2017-current).

Panel member for granting agencies:

Swedish Research Councils (2011-2017); **European Research Council (ERC)**; 2012; 2014; 2015; 2018). **Project Technical Assistant and Evaluation Panel of RDG of EC** - (2002-15). **European Science Foundation, Finish Academy of Sciences, Estonian Research Foundation, AERES** (2013).

Reviewer (*ad-hoc*) for granting agencies:

European Research Council (ERC); European Commission: FP6 and FP7; INTAS (EU); Swedish Society for Medical Research; Danish Research Council; Human Frontier Science Program (EU); German Research Foundation (DFG); Medical Research Council and Wellcome Trust (UK); St. Bartholomew's and Royal London Charitable Foundation; Neurological Foundation of New

Zeeland; Georgian Science Foundation; The Israel Science Foundation; Science Foundation of Ireland; Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR; Luxemburg); Wings for Life - Spinal Cord Research Foundation (Austria); Research Promotion Foundation (RPF; Cyprus); Foundation for Polish Science; Agency for Health Technology Assessment and Research of Spain; INSERM (France); “Alessandro Liberati” Young Investigators Award (Italy).