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Targeting malaria parasites in the mosquito vector.

Elena Levashina



La science pour la santé From science to health

Elena Levashina

Dr. Elena Levashina received her Ph.D. in Plant Genetics from the University of St. Petersburg, Russia. Her education background includes studies on Drosophila immunity at the Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology (IBMC), Strasbourg, France, and on mosquito immunity at the EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany. She was recruited to CNRS as a group leader at IBMC in 2002. Since 2011, she is leading the Vector Biology Unit at the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology in Berlin, Germany. Her work has contributed to the understanding of mosquito immune responses to malaria parasites and other pathogens. Currently, the Vector Biology Unit combines molecular, cellular, organismal, population biology and theoretical approaches to disentangle complex interactions that ultimately make a mosquito such a formidable vector of malaria.





WB 05/09 - Targeting malaria parasites in the mosquito vector.

Gene therapies are widely used to improve quality of life in humans. Can similar approaches be used to fight infectious diseases transmitted by insects? Recent discovery of potent monoclonal antibodies against the infectious sporozoite stage of the malaria parasite Plasmodium falciparum propelled in-human clinical trials where such antibodies showed a great promise in disease prevention. In this presentation, we will discuss how we can use monoclonal antibodies in the mosquitoes to learn more about Plasmodium development and prevent its transmission.