3rd Symposium for Emerging Viral Diseases

Campus Biotech, Geneva, Switzerland, 7-9 December 2022 https://www.unige.ch/emerging-virus-symposium/

Alexandra Trkola :

“Broad neutralization: linchpin for HIV vaccine development”

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Alexandra Trkola's research focuses on deciphering the humoral immune response to viral infections to define antibody activities required for protection during natural infection and for preventive vaccines and therapies. The main emphasis of her studies is on HIV-1, followed by SARS-CoV-2 and Influenza. Her current work in HIV-1 focuses on broadly neutralizing antibodies and entry inhibitors and aims to develop novel immunogens, vaccination strategies and therapeutics. In a separate research effort, she is engaged in the development of novel tools for viral diagnostics, including next-generation sequencing strategies. Alexandra Trkola acquired her PhD in 1993 at the University of Agriculture, Vienna, Austria based on her work on neutralizing antibodies to HIV-1. She continued to work on neutralizing antibodies and the then newly discovered coreceptors of HIV-1 during her Post Doc and assistant professorship at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center (ADARC), and the Rockefeller University, New York between 1994 and 2000. In 2000 she started as independent group leader at the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University Hospital Zurich, Zurich Switzerland. In 2004 she was appointed assistant professor at the University of Zurich. Since March 2008 she is full professor for Medical Virology at the University of Zurich, and since September 2008 director of the same institute heading a research department and medical diagnostics unit. (http://www.virology.uzh.ch/de/research/gtrkolad.html).