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Parazitologický ústav

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Supervisor's opinion on Martina Aistleitner thesis and her work at the Laboratory of Functional Biology of Protists

Martina has joined the lab during her second year of the Biological Chemistry Programme. Immediately she became a valuable member of the lab. She was given a small project regarding a screening promising chemical compounds which were expected to have an effect on growth of bloodstream stage of *T. brucei* cells. Since she was first student working in this project she had to establish a cytotoxicity assay to determine EC50 values for the studied compounds. This was an easy task for such a smart student and the assay was established very quickly. Martina also expressed an opinion about possibility to learn more molecular biology methods. Since we know the putative targets of the studied compounds we decided to create RNAi cell lines in which the expression of the putative targets will be silenced. Martina was supposed to prepare single RNAi knock-downs of two related enzymes, another BSc. student was working on a double-RNAi knock-downs. Martina quickly learned all the necessary methods: PCR, ligation, restriction analysis, purification of plasmid DNA. Since she was very skilful and efficient, at the end of her stay she was able to create RNAi cell lines and perform first in vivo test, a growth curve. I very much appreciated Martina attitude in the lab. She devoted a lot of time to her lab work, she worked precisely, she was not afraid to ask.

In my opinion, Martina's BSc thesis fulfils all the requirement given by Faculty of Science, University of Bohemia. Martina is very talented and smart person, I thank her for the work she did and I wish her all the best in her future.

Alena Lisková