



Research Institute of Molecular Pathology

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## IMP Scientist Ursula Schöberl receives L'ORÉAL-Award 2014

*The young molecular biologist is one of four women who have been elected into the program "For Women in Science". Her work at the Research Institute of Molecular Pathology (IMP) at the Vienna Biocenter will focus on unresolved immunological questions.*

The award, which is worth 20,000 Euros, will support a research project entitled "Characterization of the dynamic gene expression during antibody production in B lymphocytes". The aim of this effort is to reveal the molecular mechanisms in B cells that are necessary for the immune system to produce the vast variety of antibodies that help us fight infections.

Ursula Schöberl says she is fascinated by the question of how a relatively small number of antibody-genes can produce an almost infinite number of different antibodies. This complex phenomenon, which involves modifications of the DNA-molecule itself, is still poorly understood. It is, however, essential for a healthy organism.

The promising young scientist Ursula Schöberl studied molecular biology at the University of Vienna and did her PhD at the Institute of Molecular Biotechnology of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. In October 2014, she joined the lab of immunologist Rushad Pavri who leads a research group at the IMP.

Ursula Schöberl is a mother of two small children and a passionate scientist who enjoys passing on her knowledge. The L'ORÉAL-grant will enable her to continue doing what she loves most in the lab: "Keeping alive this profound curiosity and carrying out basic research at the highest professional level under excellent conditions."

### About the IMP

The Research Institute of Molecular Pathology (IMP) in Vienna is a basic biomedical research institute largely sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim. With over 200 scientists from 35 nations, the IMP is committed to scientific discovery of fundamental molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying complex biological phenomena. Research areas include cell and molecular biology, neurobiology, disease mechanisms and computational biology.

### Links

L'ORÉAL-Award (in German):

<http://www.andreasklinger.at/forwomeninscience/htm/index.html>

IMP:

<http://www.imp.ac.at>

Pavri Group:

<http://www.imp.ac.at/research/research-groups/pavri-group/>

Vienna Biocenter (VBC):

<http://www.imp.ac.at>



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