



## Europass Curriculum Vitae



### Personal information

First names /  
Surname **ANCA VIOLETA / GAFENCU**

Address 48A, Anton Pann Str., Bucharest, Romania

Mobile: 0040722347093

E-mail [anca.gafencu@icbp.ro](mailto:anca.gafencu@icbp.ro)

Nationality Romanian

Date of birth July 24, 1970

Gender female

### Occupational field

**Research: cellular and molecular biology**

### Work experience

Dates 2014-present

Occupation or  
position held Scientific researcher I

Main activities  
and  
responsibilities Research (projects conception, grant application, experimental design, work distribution in the laboratory, data analysis, performing specific experiments and tests, dissemination of the research results, collaborative work, project reports)

Name and  
address of  
employer Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu"  
Bucharest, Romania

Type of  
business or  
sector Academic

Dates 2000-2014

Occupation or  
position held Scientific researcher II

Main activities  
and  
responsibilities Research (projects conception, grant application, experimental design, work distribution in the research group, data analysis, performing specific experiments and tests, dissemination of the research results, collaborative work, project reports)

Name and  
address of  
employer Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu"  
Bucharest, Romania

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Type of business or sector           | Academic   |
| Dates                                | 2000-2003  |
| Occupation or position held          | Scientific researcher III  |
| Main activities and responsibilities | Research (performing experiments and tests, data analysis, grant application, experimental design, dissemination of the research results, project reports) |
| Name and address of employer         | Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu"<br>Bucharest, Romania  |
| Type of business or sector           | Academic   |
| Dates                                | 1998-2000 (performing experiments and tests, data analysis, dissemination of the research results, project reports)  |
| Occupation or position held          | Scientific researcher  |
| Main activities and responsibilities | research   |
| Name and address of employer         | Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu"<br>Bucharest, Romania  |
| Type of business or sector           | Academic   |
| Dates                                | 1994-1998  |
| Occupation or position held          | Research assistant   |
| Main activities and responsibilities | Research (performing experiments and tests, dissemination of the research results, project reports)  |
| Name and address of employer         | Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "N. Simionescu"<br>Bucharest, Romania  |
| Type of business or sector           | Academic   |
| <b>Education and training</b>        |  |
| Dates                                | 2004   |
| Title of qualification awarded       | <b><i>PhD in Biology</i></b>   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Principal subject  | Study of the plasmalemmal vesicles and of the cellular receptors from the vascular endothelium |
| Name and type of organisation providing education and training | Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology "Nicolae Simionescu" – Romanian Academy            |
| Level in national classification                               | Summa cum laude  |
| Dates  | 1989-1994  |
| Title of qualification awarded                                 | <b><i>Master of Science in Biochemistry</i></b>  |
| Principal subject  | Biochemistry   |
| Name and type of organisation providing education and training | Faculty of Biology, University of Bucharest  |
| Level in national classification                               | 9.53   |
| Dates  | 1985-1989  |
| Title of qualification awarded                                 | <b><i>Baccalaureate in biology- chemistry</i></b>  |
| Principal subject  | Biology- Chemistry   |
| Name and type of organisation providing education and training | High School of Natural Sciences "C.A. Rosetti", Bucharest                                      |
| Level in national classification                               | 9.16   |
| <b>Personal skills and competences</b>                         |  |
| Mother tongue  | <b>Romanian</b>  |

Other languages  
Self-assessment  
European level (\*)  
Language: English  
Language: French

| Understanding |         | Speaking           |    | Writing           |    |
|---------------|---------|--------------------|----|-------------------|----|
| Listening     | Reading | Spoken interaction |    | Spoken production |    |
| C1            | C1      | C1                 | C1 | C1                | C1 |
| A2            | A2      | A2                 | A2 | A2                | A2 |

(\*) [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)

**Research stages:** June 22– August 10, 1997, and July 1 – September 30, 1998 – research stage in the laboratory of Prof. Walter Hunziker, Institute of Biochemistry, University of Lausanne, Switzerland; November 19, 2002-March 16, 2003; March 8 - June 5, 2004, February 27 - April 23, 2006 and June 22 - July 17, 2007 - research stages in Prof. Dimitris Kardassis' lab, Univ. Crete, Heraklion, Greece; May 23 - June 3, 2007 – research stage in the laboratory of Dr. L. Nagy – Univ. Debrecen, Hungary; October 18-31, 2008 - research stage in the laboratory of Dr. K. Kypreos, Patras University, Greece

**Training courses:** 2006 – Eukariotic gene expression Training Course - National Cancer Institute - Colo Spring Harbor Laboratory (New York, USA); 2007- EMBO Course on Chromatin Immunoprecipitation and related techniques, EMBL Heidelberg, Germany; 2008: PCR and Cloning Methodologies: Theory and Practice Workshop –Newcastle University, UK; 2008: Summer School on System Biology for Medical Applications, Tenerife, Spain; Cardiovascular Regenerative Medicine Summer School 2018 – CAVAREM Groningen, The Netherlands; 2018-10th Training school on Microencapsulation (Biomedical applications), Trondheim, Norway.

Social skills and competences

- Team spirit; I have worked in various research teams
- Good ability to adapt to multicultural environments, gained through my work experience abroad;

Organisational skills and competences

- Leadership (currently responsible for a team of 5 people);
- Sense of organization (experience in logistics);
- Good experience in project management, since :
  - I was Executive Manager of two European Grants (one in FP5 and one in FP6);
  - I was coordinator of 13 Grants;
  - I organised two international scientific workshops and two training courses for young researchers of ICBP with top quality instructors from abroad;
  - I coordinated 4 master theses.
    - Together with Dr. Alexandrina Burlacu, I organised the international training course: *Simionescu Advanced School of Cellular and Molecular Approaches for the Progress of the Biomedical Research*. November 5-14, 2012
    - In the frame of the COST ACTION BM0904, I organised the international training course: "HDL Physiology, Regulation and Therapeutic Potential". Bucharest and Sinaia, August 26-30, 2013

Technical skills and competences

Biochemistry (protein and nucleic acid determination and analysis, electrophoresis, chromatography, Western Blot, ELISA, etc.), cell culture, molecular biology (PCR, RT-PCR and Real Time PCR, cloning, sequencing, transfection, etc.), microscopy.

Computer skills and competences

- Very good abilities in Molecular Biology Software: Gene Runner, SnapGene, etc.
- Good command of Microsoft Office™ tools (Word™, Excel™ and PowerPoint™);
- Basic knowledge of graphic design applications (PhotoShop™).

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Driving licence                   | I am a holder of a Romanian drivers license for vehicles Category B.  |
| Past research interest            | Structure of caveolae from plasmalemma of endothelial cells (EC). Isolation, characterization and immortalization of EC. Cellular receptors (transferrin receptor, albumin receptor, IgG receptors expressed by the human placental endothelium). |
| Present research interest         | Apolipoproteins and their implications in various diseases. Mechanisms and therapy of atherosclerosis. Gene regulation in normal and pathological states. Stem cells in therapies. Chimeric proteins for therapeutic purposes.                    |
| Member of scientific associations | Member of the Romanian Society of Cell Biology;<br>member in the Management Committee of COST action BM0904 HDLnet  |

### Additional information

**Hirsch's h-index:** 14 (Scopus) 15 ( Google Scholar)

**Citations:** 915 citations (Scopus) 1243 (Google Scholar)

**Author ID:** 6506192688

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-1290-1346>

**Reviewer for various scientific papers at international journals** (Atherosclerosis, Cell and Tissue Research, Gene, Gordon immunopharmacology, Jove, Molecules, MPDI, Nutrition and Metabolism, Pharmaceuticals, BBA, etc. )

**Reviewer for project applications** (UEFISCDI, Research Foundation Flanders, FWO)

### Awards:

1. Prize CNCSIS for the results obtained in the frame of the grant "Regulation Of Apolipoprotein Gene Clusters- An Innovative Therapeutic Approach Of Neurodegenerative And Cardiovascular Diseases" "Young researchers -Excellent Projects" 2005-2007
2. Prize of Excellency- 2007- National Foundation for Science and Art.
3. Four Prizes from CNCSIS for 4 papers published in peer reviewed journals

**Fellowships:** I received four fellowships to attend scientific meetings from: European Science Foundation, European Commission, European Cell Biology Organization and German Research Council

### Member of the project teams:

- Executive manager of a complex project (PCCDI), PN-III-P1-1.2-PCCDI-2017-0697, grant awarded to Dr. Maya Simionescu by UEFISCDI from Romanian Education and Research Ministry 2018-2020.
- Executive Manager of an European project in FP5: "Function and dysfunction of blood vessels: transcytosis in normal/pathological states, alterations in atherosclerosis and diabetes; their therapeutic control"- "Centre of Excellence", Grant in the Framework Programme 5 of the European Community (2000-2004). (ICA-CT-2000-70020)
- Executive Manager of an European project in FP6: "Strengthening the European Research Area by Reinforcement of Romanian Research Competency in Genomics and Proteomics of Major Global Risk Diseases: Atherosclerosis, Diabetes and its Complications" Grant in FP 6 of the European Community (2004-2007) Contract No 016873
- member in 15 national projects/grants
- member of the team of a project supported by Swiss National Science Foundation, #7RUPJ048567/ "IgG transport through endothelial cells", grant awarded to Dr. Maya Simionescu and Dr. Walter Hunziker (1996-1998)
- member of the team of a project supported by NATO Science Program - Collaborative linkage grant: "Role of ApoE in cholesterol and triglyceride homeostasis", awarded to Prof. Vassilis Zannis, Boston Univ. School of Medicine, USA.

### GRANTS AWARDED:

**2019:** Integrative Personal Omics Profiles in Glioblastoma Recurrence and Therapy Resistance – ERA-NET PerMed – Coordinator for Romanian team (2019-2021).

**2014:** Genetically engineered apolipoproteins immobilized on nanoparticles: a Molecular Trojan horse targeting atherosclerotic plaque (Acronym: APGEN) PN-II-RU-TE-2014-4-2143, Projects for Young Research Teams, supported by CNCSIS Romania, 2015-2017.

**2011:** Apolipoprotein E-based novel anti-atherosclerosis cell-therapy approaches Exploratory research projects, project PN-II ID\_PCE-2011-3-0591, supported by CNCSIS Romania 2011-2016.

**2009:** Novel strategies employing genetic engineering to increase plasma HDL- the protective lipoproteins in atherosclerosis, Exploratory research projects:1307 supported by CNCSIS Romania (2009-2011).

**2005:** Grant awarded by the Romanian Ministry of Research: "Excellence Research Program: Projects for Young Researchers"- project "Regulation of apolipoprotein gene clusters- an innovative therapeutic approach of neurodegenerative and cardiovascular diseases" (2005-2007).

**2005:** Grant awarded by the Greek and Romanian Ministries of Research- to Prof Dimitris Kardassis and Dr. Anca Gafencu - Support for collaboration and exchanges in the framework of the project "Regulation of the expression of the human apolipoprotein E gene in macrophages and the brain: new approaches for the treatment of dyslipidemias and Alzheimer's Disease" (2005-2007).

**2003:** Grant awarded by the Romanian Ministry of Research- National Research Program for Biotechnology "BIOTECH"- project "ApoE gene regulation - therapeutic target in cardiovascular and neurodegenerative diseases", (2003-2005).

**2001:** Grant awarded by the Romanian Ministry of Research- National Research Program for fundamental research "CERES"- project "Characterization of albumin and IgG receptors, expressed by the endothelial cells in normal and pathologic states", (2001-2003).

**2000:** Grant awarded by the Romanian Research Ministry- project "Functional analysis of the IgG receptors in endothelial cells"

**1999:** Grant awarded by the Romanian Academy- project entitled "Identification of FcR in human placental endothelial cells"

**1998:** Grant awarded by the Romanian Academy- project entitled "Immortalization of endothelial cells"

**1997:** Grant awarded by the Romanian Academy- project "Lipid composition of the microdomains of the endothelial cell membrane" (1997 – 1998).

**1996:** Grant awarded by the Romanian Research Ministry- project "Biochemical and functional characterization of the endothelial plasmalemma" (1996- 1999).

#### **Publications:**

- **Scopus: 33 papers**
- **Other databases: 9 papers**
- **Book chapter: 1**

#### **Patents:**

1. Adenovirus containing murine FasL mini-gene for induction of the functional FasL expression in transduced cells, Mădălina Dumitrescu, Violeta Georgeta Truscă, Alexandrina Burlacu, Maya Simionescu, Nadir Askenasy, Anca Violeta Gafencu – OSIM A/00512/26.08.2019 – patent pending

2. The technologic process of polymeric vesicles and tubes formation, Denisa Ficai, Andreea Iliev, Anton Ficai, Violeta Georgeta Trusca, Anca Violeta Gafencu, Sanda-Maria Bucatariu, Fundueanu Constantin Gheorghe, Maya Simionescu, Ecaterina Andronescu – patent pending

