



Eva-Maria ZANGERL-PLESSL

How would you summarize your thesis results in 3 sentences?

Crystal structures of proteins lead to their better understanding; however, all ion channels undergo poorly understood conformational changes during gating. Thus, my thesis focused on exploring their gating dynamics using molecular dynamics simulations, in cooperation with experimentalists. In these simulations, we made use of single point mutations which reached the open state within a feasible timeframe and were later crystalized.

Finishing year: 2016

Supervisor: Anna Weinzinger,
Faculty of Life Sciences,
University of Vienna

Thesis title: Investigation of
drug receptor interactions in
inward rectifier and hERG
potassium channels and
modulations by "lipids".

Current Position and Employer:

PI in the FWF-Zukunftskolleg
„PeptAIDes“, currently on
maternity leave

MolTag alumni page:

[Eva Zangerl-Plessl \(univie.ac.at\)](#)

Social network:

[Eva-Maria Plessl | LinkedIn](#)

What did you do after your PhD?

I started a PostDoc position at Prof. Herings lab and am now a PI in a Zukunftskolleg funded by the FWF.

What was the impact of the MolTag program on your further career?

During my time in the program, I had the financial possibility to do an internship at one the most renown scientist in the field of the hERG channel in the USA. His recommendation letters and word-to-mouth advertising should never be underestimated.

What did you particularly like about the MolTag program?

For me, it was the financial support to go to conferences and visit international labs. Also, the **easy access to a variety of different expertise's within MolTag to perform interdisciplinary research within Vienna** was a great advantage.

What is your recommendation for current MolTag PhD students?

Don't take it for granted! The possibilities within MolTag are almost unlimited and you will have a lot of colleagues that won't have the opportunity to visit one or more international conferences per year. Use this possibility!

