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Violeta Rus M.D., Ph.D.

Academic Title: Associate Professor

Primary Appointment: Medicine

VRUS@UMARYLAND.EDU

Location: MSTF Room 8-34

Phone: (410) 706-8456

Fax: (410) 706-0231

Lab: (410) 706-3205

Research Interests:

Dr Rus' lab objective is to define the mechanisms that regulate (auto) ab mediated responses in lupus with the goal of developing immune based therapy which can modulate these responses. Research is performed in both the human system and in the well characterized chronic graft-versus -host disease model of lupus like disease. Current studies are aimed at defining the in vivo role of TNF Related Apoptosis Inducing Ligand (TRAIL) in the development of the (auto)ab mediated immune response. The focus of the research is on the role of TRAIL in (auto) atg specific clonal expansion, the persistence of the autoimmune response and on the in vivo manipulation of TRAIL-TRAIL R system as a potential therapeutic tool in lupus.

Publications:

Via CS, Shustov A, Rus V, Lang T, Nguyen P, Finkelman FD. In vivo neutralization of TNF-alpha promotes humoral autoimmunity by preventing the induction of CTL. J Immunol 2001;167:6821-6

Rus V, Atamas SP, Shustova V, Luzina IG, Selaru F, Magder LS, Via CS. Expression of cytokine- and chemokine-related genes in peripheral blood mononuclear cells from lupus patients by cDNA array. Clin Immunol 2002; 102:283-90

Keiser RE, Rus V, Todd CW, Kalappa N, Flores R. Evidence for Aerobic insufficiency in Women with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus .Arthritis Rheum ; Arthritis Care & Research 2003, 49:16-22

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Rus V, Chen H, Zernetkina V, Magder LS, Mathai S, Hochberg MC, Via CS. Gene expression profiling in peripheral blood mononuclear cells from lupus patients with active and inactive disease. Clin Immunol. 2004;112, 231-234

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