

Evelyne Naus

VIB-SWITCH laboratory
Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine
O&N1; Campus Gasthuisberg
KULeuven

BSc Bio-engineering, KULeuven, 2010
MSc Bio-engineering, KULeuven, 2012

Current Position

PhD student at SWITCH laboratory, KULeuven

E-mail: Evelyne.naus@switch.vib-kuleuven.be
Phone: +32 16 379833



Keywords

Protein aggregation, protein quality control system, neurodegeneration and cancer

Science

Research at the SWITCH laboratory is focused on the understanding of the mechanisms gearing protein folding and misfolding and their relation to human disease. Protein aggregation underlies several neurodegenerative diseases including Parkinson, Alzheimer's and ALS, but also prion diseases, diabetes and cancer. As the protein homeostasis (proteostasis) of a cell is fundamental to maintain protein solubility and the cellular protein quality control machinery (PQC), driven by the heat shock response, is a key element in proteostasis, stimulating and/or restoring various pathways of the PQC in cells can provide a promising strategy against the formation of protein aggregates.

My research therefore focuses on understanding the regulation of the PQC system in cells during malignancy and finding new therapeutic strategies that interplay with the PQC system to target protein aggregation in diseases. As the SWITCH lab stipulated a mechanism on how the p53 tumor suppressor protein can also aggregate in human cancer, leading to a gain-of-function effect, I am also studying the impact of p53 aggregation in cancer, and will use the aforementioned strategies to target protein aggregation during cancer development.

Recent Scholarship

Strategic basic research (SBO) IWT funding: PhD Scholarship
Period: 01.01.2014 – 01.01.2018