

# Taina Pihlajaniemi – CV

## Education and positions

1981	Licentiate of Medicine (MD), University of Oulu
1982-1985	Research/Teaching Specialist III (post-doctoral fellow), University of Medicine and Dentistry - Rutgers Medical School, Piscataway, New Jersey, U.S.A., 3 years
1987	Doctor of Medicine (PhD), University of Oulu
1987	Docent in Medical Biochemistry, University of Oulu
1985-1988	Research Associate, Academy of Finland
1988-1990	Junior Research Fellow, Academy of Finland
1989-1990	Associate Professor (tenure) of Biochemistry, University of Oulu
1990-	Professor of Medical Biochemistry, University of Oulu
1991-2009	Chairman of the Department of Medical Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, U Oulu
1996-2009	Scientific Director of Biocenter Oulu, University of Oulu
1996-2009	Director of the Biocenter Oulu Graduate School, University of Oulu
2003-2005	Director, Collagen Research Unit, National Centre of Excellence in Research
2006-2007	Director of Biocenter Finland, joint organisation of Finnish Bioinstitutes
2010-2014	Vice Rector/Vice President (Provost for Science and Research), University of Oulu
2012-2017	Director, Finnish Centre of Excellence in Cell-Extracellular Matrix Research

## Selected scientific advisory functions

1993	Scientist co-founder and collaborator, FibroGen Inc., San Francisco, CA, USA
1998-2003	Member of the Research Council for Health in the Academy of Finland
1999-2003	Member of the State Committee of Sports Sciences
1998-2010	Member of the Board of Directors for the Center for Scientific Computing
2005-2010	Vice Chairperson/Chairperson
2000-2008	Member of the Board of Directors of the Finnish Cancer Research Organization
2001-	Contributor, Faculty of 1000
2004-2010	Member of ESFRI (European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructure) Working Group on Research Infrastructure for the Biological and Medical Sciences
2005-2006	Chairperson of ESFRI Expert Group on Genomics, Bioinformatics, <i>et al.</i>
2005	Member of the Ministry of Education Biotechnology Committee
2005–2007	Member of the Science and Technology Policy Council of Finland
2008-2017	Chairperson/Member of the Advisory Board for the Spemann Graduate School of Biology and Medicine, University of Freiburg, Germany
2008-2012	Chairperson of the Oulu Center for Cell-Matrix Research
2009	Evaluator for the Lithuanian infrastructure roadmap
2010-	Evaluator for ERC junior grant applications, European Commission
2012-	Member of Specialist Group for Research Infrastructures (FIRI) Academy of Finland
2012-2014	Chairperson, University of Oulu Research Assessment Exercise Steering Group
2012-2013	Member of the international search committee for BBMRI – ERIC Director General
2013	Member of evaluation committee for health sciences, U Copenhagen, Denmark
2013-	Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of PARAS Biopharmaceuticals, Oulu

## Honors and awards

1989	Award of the Pentti Kaitera Foundation for Internationally Recognized Medical Research in the University of Oulu (shared with Kari Kivirikko)
1991	The Young Scientist Award of the Finnish College of Physicians (Duodecim)
1994	The Anders Jahre's Nordic Medical Prize for Young Scientists, Norway
1995-	Member of the Finnish Academy of Sciences and Letters (Academia Scientiarum Fennica)
1998	The Order of the White Rose in Finland, Knighthood 1 <sup>st</sup> Class

1999 The Science Prize of the State of Finland (shared with K. Kivirikko and L. Ala-Kokko)  
2006 Hans Kupczyk Guest Professorship Award, Universität Ulm, Germany  
2013 Matti Äyräpää Prize (the most prestigious Finnish prize in medicine)

### **Selected publications**

Eklund L, Piihola J, Komulainen J, Sormunen R, Ongvarrasopone C, Fässler R, Muona A, Ilves M, Ruskoaho H, Takala T, and Pihlajaniemi T. Lack of type XV collagen causes a skeletal myopathy and cardiovascular defects in mice. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 98: 1194-1199, 2001

Fukai N, Eklund L, Marneros AG, Oh SP, Keene DR, Tamarkin L, Niemelä M, Ilves M, Li E, Pihlajaniemi T, and Olsen BR. Lack of collagen XVIII/endostatin results in eye abnormalities. *EMBO J* 21: 1535-1544, 2002.

Brideau G, Mäkinen MJ, Elamaa H, Alitalo K, and Pihlajaniemi T, Heljasvaara R. Endostatin overexpression inhibits lymphangiogenesis and lymph node metastasis in mice. *Cancer Res* 67: 11528-11535, 2007.

Latvanlehto A, Fox MA, Sormunen R, Tu H, Oikarainen T, Koski A, Naumenko N, Shakirzyanova A, Kallio M, Ilves M, Giniatullin R, Sanes JR, and Pihlajaniemi T. Muscle-derived collagen XIII regulates maturation of the skeletal neuromuscular junction. *J Neurosci* 30: 12230-12241, 2010.

Rasi K, Hurskainen M, Kallio M, Stavén S, Sormunen R, Heape AM, Avila RL, Kirschner D, Muona A, Tolonen U, Tanila H, Huhtala P, Soininen R, and Pihlajaniemi T. Lack of collagen XV impairs peripheral nerve maturation and, when combined with laminin-411 deficiency, leads to basement membrane abnormalities and sensorimotor dysfunction. *J Neurosci* 30: 14490-14501, 2010.

Rasi K, Piihola J, Czabanka M, Sormunen R, Ilves M, Leskinen H, Rysä J, Kerkelä R, Janmey P, Heljasvaara R, Peuhkurinen K, Vuolteenaho O, Ruskoaho H, Vajkoczy P, Pihlajaniemi T, and Eklund L. Collagen XV is necessary for modeling of the extracellular matrix and its deficiency predisposes to cardiomyopathy. *Circ Res* 107: 1241-1252, 2010.

Su J, Stenbjorn RS, Gorse K, Su K, Hauser KF, Ricard-Blum S, Pihlajaniemi T, Fox MA. Target-derived matricryptins organize cerebellar synapse formation through  $\alpha 3\beta 1$  integrins. *Cell Rep* 2: 223-230, 2012.