

Promotoren

Prof. Y. Vander Heyden

Department of Analytical Chemistry and
Pharmaceutical Technology (FABI)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Prof. B. Rombaut

Department of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
and Molecular Biology (MICH)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Copromotoren

Dr. B. Thys

Department of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
and Molecular Biology (MICH)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Dr. Bieke Dejaegher

Department of Analytical Chemistry and
Pharmaceutical Technology (FABI)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Leden van de examencommissie

Dr. Jérôme Vial

Laboratoire des Sciences Analytiques,
Bioanalytiques et Miniaturisation, ESPCI Paris Tech
France

Prof. Ann Van Schepdael

Laboratory for Pharmaceutical Analysis
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Prof. Vicky Caveliers

Department of Medical Imaging and Physical
Sciences (BEFY)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Prof. Yvette Michotte, voorzitter

Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Drug
Analysis and Drug Information (FASC)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel



Vrije Universiteit Brussel

FACULTEIT GENEESKUNDE EN FARMACIE

Doctoraat Farmaceutische Wetenschappen

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UITNODIGING

Voor de openbare verdediging van het
doctoraatsproefschrift van

Iuliana OITA

Vrijdag 8 juni 2012

U wordt vriendelijk uitgenodigd op de openbare verdediging van het proefschrift van

Iuliana OITA

'Development and optimization of separation methods for viral compounds'

Op **vrijdag 8 juni 2012** om **18 uur** in auditorium **Brouwer** van de Faculteit Geneeskunde & Farmacie Laarbeeklaan 103, 1090 Brussel

Situering van het proefschrift

Viruses are widespread and ecologically important organisms mostly known for their small size and ability to cause diseases. Since their discovery in the late 19th century, viruses were constantly in the spotlight for their pathogenic properties, but over the last years they became an inspiration source also for architects, nanotechnologists, pharmacologists, or material science professionals.

Separation methods, such as CE or HPLC, are fast, reproducible, sensible and accurate techniques. Compared to traditional molecular biology tools, separation methods are able to determine both virus concentration and sample purity within one run, while the infective properties of the virus particles are not mandatory. Still, the traditional molecular biology tools have an important advantage when specificity and, sometimes, sensitivity are considered. However, the advantage of the molecular biology tools over separation methods might decrease in the future, as better analytical equipments will be available in response to the technological advancement.

The aim of this thesis was to evaluate the potential of separation-science methods in virology. As a consequence, better sample characterization and further insights into unsolved virus mysteries might be obtained.

Curriculum Vitae

Iuliana Oita was born on July 8, 1976 in Botosani, Romania. In 1999, she obtained her BSc in Pharmacy at the University "Gr. T. Popa" Iasi. In 2003 she graduated the Drug research and analysis Master Program at the University "I. Hatieganu" Cluj-Napoca. After her Pharmaceutical studies, Iuliana started her career in Romania where she held regulatory, quality assurance and development positions within different pharmaceutical companies.

In 2007 she joined the Analytical Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Technology (FABI) & Pharmaceutical Biotechnology and Molecular Biology (MICH) departments as pre-doctoral researcher. Her research work was financed by a Horizontale Onderzoeksactie (HOA) of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and a research grant (G.0051.08) of the FWO. After her financing ended, she worked as a Quality Assurance Associate at Cromsource in Brussels. Since April 2012 she joined Biocartis, as Scientist in the Department of QC Development & Industrialization.

The results of the research work performed at FABI&MICH were published in several international peer-reviewed journals and presented as oral and poster communications at national and international conferences and workshops.