

## **Ekaterina Dadachova, Ph.D.**

Dr. Dadachova received her Bachelor of Chemistry degree in 1986 and her Ph.D. in physical chemistry in 1992 from Moscow State University (Moscow, Russia). In 1993, she emigrated to Australia to begin postdoctoral work at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization (ANSTO), and in 1995, she was invited as a guest scholar to Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), where she worked in isotope production and radiolabeling of antibodies for cancer treatment. Upon returning to ANSTO from ORNL, she was promoted to research scientist. In 1998, Dr. Dadachova was invited to join the radioimmune and inorganic chemistry section of the National Cancer Institute, NIH as a visiting associate. In this position, she participated in all aspects of pre-clinical development and evaluation of radioactive drugs, including radiolabeling, animal therapy, and toxicity studies, until her recruitment to the faculty of Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University in 2000.

She is currently a Sylvia and Robert Olnick Faculty Scholar in Cancer Research and associate professor of nuclear medicine and of microbiology and immunology at Einstein and focuses her research on different applications of radioimmunotherapy (use of disease-specific radioactive active antibodies for therapy), including:

- (i) infectious diseases,
- (ii) viral cancers by targeting viral antigens on cancer cells, and
- (iii) melanoma with anti-melanin antibodies and peptides (all three projects in collaboration with Dr. A. Casadevall MD PhD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine).

The technology of radioimmunotherapy of melanoma involves using radiolabeled monoclonal antibody to melanin to specifically target melanoma tumor sites and deliver a short burst of lethal radiation, without harming normal tissue. This technology was recently licensed to Pain Therapeutics, Inc., and is currently in Phase I/II clinical trial in patients with metastatic melanoma. Ongoing research projects in Dr. Dadachova's laboratory are funded by NIH, research foundations and industry grants.

Dr. Dadachova served on several government and research foundations grant review panels. She has received Guest Scholar Award, Nuclear Medicine Program, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN (1995); Fogarty International Visiting Associate, NIH (1998), Philips Medical System Radiological Society of North America Seed Award (2002), Society of Nuclear Medicine Young Professionals Committee First Prize in Basic Science (2008), and Mary Kay Ash Foundation Award (2008). To date, Dr. Dadachova has published 91 peer-reviewed papers and is named inventor on 12 pending and/or issued patents. She currently serves on the editorial boards of *Nuclear Medicine and Biology* and *Cancer Biotherapy and Radiopharmaceuticals*.