



EU-LIFE Woman Postdoc Mentoring Programme

Short bios of mentors



Danijela Vignjevic

Group Leader

Institut Curie

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Danijela Matic Vignjevic was trained as a molecular biologist at the University of Belgrade, Serbia and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, US. She did her PhD in cell biology, working on the actin cytoskeleton during cell migration at Northwestern University, Chicago, US. She then did a post-doc at Institut Curie, working on mouse models for colon cancer metastasis as an HFSP fellow and later as an INSERM researcher. She started her independent team at Institut Curie in 2013 when she got interested in how epithelial cells interact with their microenvironment in homeostasis, wound repair, and cancer invasion. Her research strategy combines cell biology and mechanobiology techniques with live-cell imaging using different model systems such as 2D and 3D in vitro cell cultures; tissue slices cultured ex vivo; and different transgenic mouse models. She is a recipient of ERC starting and consolidator grants.

She can share her experience in doing research in different countries, dealing with failure, balancing lab work and family, serving in different committees and experience with interdisciplinary collaborations.