

Research Interests – Prof. Agnieszka Chacińska, PhD

Agnieszka Chacińska is a graduate of the Faculty of Biology of the University of Warsaw. In 2000 she was awarded with a PhD degree in biochemistry at the Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. In the years 2001–2009 she worked at the University of Freiburg in Germany as a postdoctoral fellow and subsequently as an independent group leader. Since 2009 Agnieszka Chacińska is at the International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw. She was honored with the title of a full professor in 2014. Her research interests cover the biogenesis, transport and turn-over of proteins within the cell. She is a recipient of prestigious grants, including WELCOME from the Foundation for Polish Science.

Mitochondria are cellular components commonly known as power plants of the cell for their crucial role in metabolism. To build and maintain mitochondria hundreds of proteins are needed, and they must be transported from the place of their synthesis to the place of destination inside mitochondria. Prof. Chacińska's long-standing interests concern the mechanisms, by which mitochondrial proteins find their way into and within mitochondria. More recently, she is also pursuing novel directions of the cross-talk between mitochondrial protein biogenesis and global cellular protein quality control and its role in pathology and degeneration.