2ND PRAGUE SYMPOSIUM ON CANCER METABOLISM

Katerina Rohlenova, Ph.D.

Katerina started her scientific journey during her Ph.D. studies with Prof. J. Neuzil in Prague at the Institute of Biotechnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, where she focused on metabolism of breast cancer cells. She characterized the mechanism of action of a mitochondria-targeted anti-cancer compound MitoTam, culminating in a successful clinical trial. Next, she moved to explore metabolism of stromal cells, another important tumor compartment. During her postdoctoral training in the laboratory of Prof. P. Carmeliet (VIB - Center for Cancer Biology, KU Leuven) in Belgium, she focused on endothelial cells, the stromal component that ensures tumor blood supply. Specifically, she characterized tumor endothelium using the powerful single cell omics technology and identified new molecular approaches to target abnormal tumor vasculature. Her work was awarded the Werner Risau Prize for outstanding study in endothelial biology. In 2020 Katerina returned to the Czech Republic to start a new research group at the Institute of Biotechnology in BIOCEV. With her team she aims to build on her previous expertise to explore metabolic communication in tumors to identify new metabolic anti-cancer strategies.