



Supporting the fight against SARS-CoV-2: an assay platform to identify novel antiviral drugs

Speakers

Sara Tremolada, PhD – Principal Scientist, Cell Biology
Simone Nenci, PhD – Senior Scientist, Biochemistry

**Live session (1 hour): Wednesday 14th April 2021
at 15.00 CEST / 09.00 EDT**

Register at: https://axxam.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-PkZJQKpRgeHw9VE-pHL6Q

**Repeat session (1 hour): Wednesday 21st April 2021
at 18.30 CEST / 12.30 EDT / 09.30 PDT**

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**** Please note carefully ****

This is a free webinar and places are limited. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing your personal link to access the webinar. Early registration is strongly recommended to reserve your place. Due to previous high registration request, we will allow for a 25% overbooking of places. This means first connected, first accommodated!

If you are unable to connect to the webinar, and you have a registration confirmation email, it may mean that the session is running at full capacity.

This webinar will provide you with some insights on several functional assays for SARS-CoV-2, suitable for high throughput screening (HTS) applications, for the identification of novel antiviral drugs. The assay platform that will be described includes a cell-based viral entry assay, useful for the identification of inhibitors of the viral entry step, as well as biochemical assays, which provide an important tool to screen for inhibitors of SARS-CoV-2 life cycle at different stages. Overall, this comprehensive assay platform could be of great value for the identification of novel drugs active against viral as well as host cell targets, and that could act synergically to prevent viral infection at multiple stages.

Keywords: SARS-CoV-2, COVID-19, antiviral drugs, viral entry assay, biochemical assay, ACE2-spike interaction, MPro (3CLpro)

About the Speakers

Sara Tremolada

Sara is currently a Principal Scientist, belonging to the Cell Biology Unit at Axxam. She holds a Master's degree in Biotechnology and a Ph.D. in Molecular Medicine, and around ten years experience in the field of cell-based assays for drug discovery. Sara has recently given her major contribution in the STOP-COV project, granted by Regione Lombardia, whose main goal was to set-up an assay platform, suitable to High Throughput Screening (HTS) applications, to identify novel antiviral drugs against SARS-CoV-2.



Simone Nenci

Simone Nenci is currently Senior Scientist in the biochemistry group at Axxam with 5 years of experience in the field of assay development and HTS assay configuration on therapeutically relevant targets with focused expertise in biochemical and biophysical assays. He is responsible for the strategic design of recombinant protein expression and he succeeded in developing several functional biochemical assays for HTS across a broad range of targets including different enzyme classes, hetero-multimeric protein complexes, protein-protein interaction, and protein-nucleic acids interaction. Simone has a Master's degree in Applied Biology and a Ph.D. in Biotechnology.

