

Prof Alexey Potekhin

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Biosketch

Prof. Alexey Potekhin, born in 1975, Saint Petersburg (ex Leningrad), USSR. Obtained his Ph. D. in Cell Biology (2002) in St Petersburg State University. Since 2007 – associate professor, since 2015 – professor at the Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biology, St Petersburg State University, Saint Petersburg, Russia. Now he also holds a position of researcher in University of Innsbruck, Austria. He is a main lecturer for several courses ("General Virology", "Molecular Parasitology of Protists and Bacteria", "Genetics of microorganisms"). His research focuses in ciliates, and his main interests are symbiosis between ciliates and bacteria and *Paramecium* genetics, epigenetics and speciation.

Prof. Potekhin is an author of about 50 publications in the peer-reviewed journals, including an article in *Nature* (2014). In last 10 years he was a principal investigator in a number of research grants, and his group participated in several international network projects, such as European Community Marie Curie program "Ciliates as reservoirs for pathogenic bacteria", and European Community COST program "*Paramecium* genome dynamics and evolution". His group collaborates with the groups from Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, France; University of Pisa, Italy; Freiburg University, Germany. He worked as an Invited Professor in Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, France, at the University of Pisa, Italy, and at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.