

Longevity of the Mind



Mirjana Maletic-Savatic

CURRENT RESEARCH

Understanding brain regeneration to improve the human mind

Wouldn't it be great to live life in awe, like children do? To accumulate knowledge and to remember the color, the taste, and the aroma of everything, not to mention the names of friends and people, phone numbers, and the title of a memorable movie? However, with each passing day, these abilities are somehow chipped away.


And then comes the hardship of a disease...Anna's dad was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis when she was just 12. While the debilitating disease ate away at her dad's brain, immobilizing and confining him to his bed, Anna's mom suffered a critical financial crisis and left the family, forcing Anna to step up to fill the absence of both her parents and take charge of her two younger siblings. With advancing technology, science has offered incredible ways to elongate life; to enable people to live with these diseases and to breathe another day. However, can there be more to life than just living to see another day?

For Dr. Mirjana Maletic-Savatic, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Neuroscience at Baylor College of Medicine, these people we encounter daily -- whether it be you, me, or the next door neighbor -- comprise the core of her research. Determined to help people achieve the "longevity of the mind," Dr. Maletic-Savatic studies neurogenesis throughout the entire spectrum of life: from early development of the brain in children to the decline of the brain cells in the elderly. She is also developing new neuroimaging methodologies to facilitate early diagnosis of multiple cognitive disabilities and diseases; had her research been widespread 13 years ago, Anna and her family's lives may have been drastically different.

To...

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AFFILIATION

 Baylor College of Medicine

EDUCATION

- Child Neurology Residency in 2002, Stony Brook University
- Postdoctoral Fellow in 1999, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
- M.D., Ph.D. in 1996, University of Belgrade, Serbia

AWARDS

- Women in Medicine Award, Harris Medical Society and Health Museum Houston, 2014
- Nancy Chang Award for Research Excellence, 2013
- Virginia and L.E. Simmons Collaborative Research Award, 2010
- Dana Foundation Brain Neuroimmunology Imaging Award, 2009
- McKnight Neuroscience of Brain Disorders Award, 2009

RESEARCH AREAS

Health & Wellness, Longevity, Immortality Research

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Mirjana Maletic-Savatic and her lab at Baylor College of Medicine as they explore the mechanisms of neuronal regeneration to ameliorate cognitive decline and enhance the human mind. Donations will help fund the \$500K/year required to support personnel, molecular and clinical studies, and computational method development, crucial for identifying biomarkers of early brain dysfunction. Partner with Dr. Maletic-Savatic as she makes a tangible impact on today's society.