Jagiellonian University Medical College is the leading medical institution among Polish medical schools. The University itself was founded by royalty in the year 1364. The Chair of Microbiology is located in the city centre close to many hotels and a conference centre.

The Chair of Microbiology is comprised of 4 departments:
1. Department of Bacteriology, Microbial Ecology and Parasitology;
2. Department of Epidemiology of Infections;
3. Department of Virology and
4. Department of Medical Mycology.

Besides of academic activities with medical, dentistry and nursing students, the main research activities of the Chair are primarily devoted to pathomechanisms and epidemiology of infections in the above mentioned fields.

The Chair is headed by Prof. Małgorzata Bulanda, M.D., Ph.D. and has 4 microbiology labs. It cooperates with many facilities in Europe including UK, France, Germany, Scandinavia and the USA. Recent scope of research involves studies (and clinical studies) on human G.I. tract (IBD), biofilm, skin and vaginal flora (bacterial vaginosis, intermediate vaginitis), streptococci, probiotics, characterization of lactic acid bacteria using both in vitro and in vivo techniques, studies on pathomechanisms of colon cancer, cooperation with the Polish Society of Hospital Infections in the field of hospital epidemiology and nosocomial infections. Capabilities and resources of the Chair include classical culture methods and cell line cultures as well as molecular methods like: RT-PCR, FISH, DGGE, PFGE, RAPD, etc. Recent scope of research at the Chair of Microbiology of the Jagiellonian University Medical College in Cracow involves the following areas:

1. Hospital epidemiology and infection control
2. Probiotics and prebiotics
3. Human microbiota with special regards to vaginal and G.1. tract flora
4. Herpes viruses
5. Papilloma viruses
6. Dermatophytes
7. Toxoplasma
8. Biofilm

Figure 1. BX 51 fluorescence microscopy.
Figure 2. Studies on parasites and bacteria.

Other photos (right to left from the top):
Main square in the city of Cracow, typical southern forest, winter in the mountains, stream in the Tatra mountains in Zakopane - just a drop away from Cracow

We would like to invite ESCMID Observers esp. for weekly and daily visits. For most recent publications please type: "Bulanda M" in www.pubmed.com and also see articles published on www.journalofmedicalimages.com

Chair of Microbiology, Jagiellonian University Medical College
18 Czyżyny Street, 31-121 Cracow, Poland

Contact person at the ECC:
Assistant Prof. Piotr Kochan, M.D., Ph.D.
E-mail: pkochan@om-uj.krakow.pl
Telephone: +4812 633 25 67
Fax: +4812 423 39 24

READ MORE ON: WWW.WJOMI.COM