

Dr Jurgita Skiecevičienė is a senior researcher at the Institute for Digestive System Research (IDSR) at the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, the head of the IDSR Clinical and Molecular Gastroenterology Laboratory, and a lecturer at the Department of Gastroenterology. In 2011, she defended the doctoral dissertation "Genetic Characteristics of Lithuanian and Latvian Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease". The aim of her research is to investigate the genomic changes in patients with inflammatory bowel diseases and the composition of the digestive tract microbiome, to study the mechanisms of pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel diseases, and to search for biomarkers suitable for diagnosis and treatment of these diseases. Since 2008, she has published 39 research articles in the journals with citation index listed in the Clarivate Analytics Web of Science Core Collection database (Nature, Nature Genetics, Gastroenterology, Gut, Gut Microbes, etc.). In 11 of these 39 published articles, she is the lead (first or last) author. Dr Jurgita Skiecevičienė's publications were cited over 5000 times, and her h-index is 18. She has led four national projects (funded by the Research Council of Lithuania, EU Structural Funds), two international projects (funded by the European Organization for Crohn's and Colitis, (ECCO), Christian-Albrecht University Science Foundation (Kiel, Germany)) and participated in three national and one international research projects that focused on the importance of the gastrointestinal and circulating microbiome in the pathogenesis of oncological and inflammatory diseases of the gastrointestinal tract and development of intestinal microbiome modification prototype. Since 2012, Dr Skiecevičienė is a member of the International Consortium of Inflammatory Bowel Disease Genetics. As of 2019, she is a member of the 1M Genomes consortium working group. In 2011, she won the scholarship of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences for participation in the 61st Meeting with Nobel Prize Winners (Physiology / Medicine) (Lindau, Germany). In 2012, she was the winner of the first round of the competition of the Lithuanian Young Scientists' Union for the best dissertation. In 2013, Dr Skiecevičienė was awarded with the Young Scientist Scholarship granted by the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. In 2019, Jurgita Skiecevičienė won the L'Oréal Baltic for Women in Science Award in Lithuania (the award granted by L'Oréal Baltic, the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, and the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO).