



Dr Juozas Grigas

In 2011, Grigas enrolled in the course of Veterinary Medicine at the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. His scientific career began in the Immunology Laboratory of the Department of Anatomy and Physiology. Following an MSc in Veterinary medicine from the Veterinary Academy of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences in 2017, Grigas began his PhD studies at the Department of Anatomy and Physiology of the Veterinary Faculty of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, supervised by Dr Arūnas Stankevičius.

Since then, Dr Grigas has conducted his research primarily within the framework of One Health and focused on zoonotic, animal, and human viral diseases. His pioneering work evaluating the prevalence of zoonotic hepatitis E virus (HEV) in the animal and human populations of Lithuania, identification of dominant viral strains, genetic characterization, and *in vitro* investigation of cross-species transmission culminated in a PhD thesis and multiple research publications and co-authorships. In addition to HEV, Dr Grigas contributed to research focusing on epidemiology and ecology of other zoonotic viruses, such as viruses of tick-borne encephalitis virus and rabies and animal viruses (e.g., African swine fever virus).

Throughout his scientific career, Grigas has had an opportunity to collaborate with multiple national and international partners, including those from NFAVRAIOL Serology Unit, Vilnius University Life Sciences Centre, Gastroenterology Clinic of the Hospital of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, *Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas Margarita Salas CIB-CSIC* in Spain, Madrid. Most recently, Grigas has been working on host-virus metabolic and immune system interactions of SARS-CoV-2 together with colleagues from CIB-CSIC.

Throughout this career, Grigas, together with co-authors, published 17 research papers in journals with the impact factor (*h*-index 8), presented his research findings at 21 international and national conferences, implemented research projects, and participated in two COST Actions.

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