

Short CV: Avi-Hai Hovav

Avi-Hai Hovav obtained his Ph.D. in microbiology at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel in 2005. He did his postdoctoral training at Harvard University, Beth-Israel Medical Center, in the laboratory of Dr. Norman Letvin (2005-2008). At 2008 he joined the Faculty of Dental Medicine at the Hebrew University as a Lecturer, become a Senior Lecturer at 2011 and appointed as an Associate Professor at 2014. His research group focuses on two main topics. One is the ontogeny of mucosal Langerhans cells, particularly in the oral mucosa. In the frame of this work they also study the interplays of Langerhans cells with the microbiota at steady state and infection. An additional research venue focuses on the mechanisms engaged by the oral mucosal immune system to maintain immunological / microbial homeostasis as well as to protect the host against oral pathogens. His laboratory also investigates the mechanisms involved in the establishment of oral squama cell carcinoma in a murine model.