

CURRICULUM VITAE

Prof. LIVIA PULJAK, MD, PhD

Affiliation

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Personal information

Birth date: October 25, 1977
Birth place: Split, Croatia
Family status: Married, one child



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Web of Science ResearcherID: D-5080-2017

Scopus Author ID: 23668498800

Education

2008 PhD, University of Split School of Medicine, Croatia
2002 MD, University of Zagreb, Medical Studies in Split, Croatia

Work experiences

2024 – Full Professor with Tenure, Catholic University of Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia
2020 – Head, Center for Evidence-Based Medicine and Healthcare, Catholic University of Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia
2011 – 2025 Deputy Director, Translational Research in Biomedicine – PhD Program, USSM
2018 – 2024 Full Professor, Catholic University of Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia
2016 – 2018 Senior Advisor, Agency for Quality and Accreditation in Health Care, Croatia
2013 – 2018 Associate Professor, University of Split School of Medicine, Croatia (USSM)
2013 – 2017 Head, Department of Histology and Embryology, USSM
2011 – 2013 Head, Laboratory for Pain Research, USSM
2010 – 2011 Vice Dean for Research, University of Split School of Medicine, Croatia
2009 – 2013 Assistant Professor, University of Split School of Medicine, Croatia
2008 – 2009 Director, Croatian Branch of The Cochrane Collaboration
2007 – 2009 Research Officer, University of Split, Croatia
2006 – 2009 Instructor, University of Split School of Medicine, Croatia
2004 – 2006 Postdoctoral fellow, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, USA
2003 – 2004 Postdoctoral fellow, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver, USA

Training

2016 Visiting scientist, Centre for Practice Changing Research, OHRI, Ottawa, Canada
2008 Scholar, European Pain School, Siena, Italy
2007 Guest scientist, University of Ottawa, Canada
2002 Student exchange, Nijmegen Center for Molecular Life Sciences, The Netherlands

Research interests

Research methodology, Evidence synthesis, Evidence-based medicine, Clinical epidemiology, Pain

Professional service

2024 – European Commission, Coordination Group on Health Technology Assessment (HTACG)
2021 – Ethics Committee, Catholic University of Croatia
2019 – 2024 Research Committee, Catholic University of Croatia
2018 – Scientific Advice Working Party (SAWP), European Medicines Agency
2009 – Knowledge Translation Coordinator, Cochrane Croatia
2021 Strategic Action Plan Committee, Catholic University of Croatia
2020 - 2021 Senate Member, Catholic University of Croatia
2018 – 2020 Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC), European Medicines Agency; Independent expert appointed by European Commission

2018	Committee for Safety of Patients in Republic Croatia, Ministry of Health, Croatia
2016 – 2018	Committee for Safe Use of Medicines, Agency for Medicinal Products and Medical Devices (HALMED)
2013 – 2019	Translation project manager, Cochrane Croatia
2011 – 2018	Board of Directors, Zeljko J. Bosnjak Foundation
2010 – 2018	Committee for Continuous Medical Education, School of Medicine in Split
2010 – 2017	Festival of Science, Organizing Committee, University of Split
2010 – 2014	Fame Lab, Organizing Committee, University of Split
2014 - 2016	President, Doctoral School, University of Split School of Medicine
2013 – 2015	Researchers' Night, Organizing Committee, University of Split
2011 – 2012	Scientific Committee, Bridges in Life Sciences Annual Conference
2010 – 2011	Committee for Research, School of Medicine in Split
2008 – 2010	European Science Foundation (ESF) Member Forum on Research Integrity, Chair of Working Group for Research on Research Integrity
2008 – 2009	Quality Assurance Committee, School of Medicine in Split

Grants

2025 -	Project collaborator. Development of an Innovative Antibacterial Material for Hip Endoprosthesis – AntibacHip. "Targeted Scientific Research" call from the National Recovery and Resilience Plan 2021-2026. Ministry of Science and Education of Croatia. (principal investigator: Prof. Tamara Holjevac Grgurić)
2024 -	Project collaborator: Development and testing of a tool to foster shared decision-making in clinical practice guidelines (EDEL) [Entwicklung und Testung eines Instruments zum Einbezug von Shared Decision-Making in Leitlinien]. German Innovation Fund
2023 -	Project collaborator. NutriSom: Efficacy and safety of dietary supplementation in targeting sleep quality (L7-50044). ARIS - Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency and Valens (principal investigator: Igor Pravst)
2023-2024	Partner. ERA-NET NEURON. JTC2022 - Networking Chronic Pain: PRiSE. Developing a Pain Research Strategy for Europe: an international network of world-leading experts and patient representatives.
2022-2024	Co-lead. Synergistic education of parents with children with special needs – SynergyEd. Erasmus+ project.
2022	Management Committee. COST Action CA21150: Parental Leave Policies & Social Sustainability (Sustainability@Leave).
2020 -	Project collaborator. Research Projects – Slovenian-Croatian bilateral projects (principal investigator: Prof. Ines Banjari)
2020 - 2024	Project collaborator, Professionalism in health: decision making in practice and research; HRZZ-IP-2019-04-4882 (principal investigator: Prof. Ana Marušić)
2019	Project participant. Promoting integrity in the use of research results in evidence based policy: a focus on non – medical research (PRO-RES) (H2020-SwafS-2016-17)
2018 - 2023	Project Co-Applicant, COST Action CA17117: Towards an International Network for Evidence-based Research in Clinical Health Research, EVBRES (COST)
2016 - 2020	Project participant: European network for Health Technology Assessment Joint Action 3 (EUnetHTA JA3), Number 724130
2015 -2019	Project participant: Sustainable intEgrated care modeLs for multi-morbidity: delivery, FInancing and performance, SELFIE , Number 634288 (Horizon 2020)
2017	Project Coordinator, Popularization of science grant (MZOS)
2016	Project Coordinator, Popularization of science grant (MZOS)
2016	Project Mentor, Young Scientist Career Development (HRZZ, I-2238-2016)
2015 - 2017	Clinical site coordinator, Multi-dimensional omics approach to stratification of patients with low back pain; Pain-OMICS (EU FP7 project)
2015 - 2019	Project collaborator, Professionalism in health; HRZZ-IP-2014-09-7672 (principal investigator: Prof. Ana Marušić)
2015 - 2019	Project collaborator, Treating neuropathic pain with dorsal root ganglion stimulation; HRZZ-IP-2013-11-4126 (principal investigator: Prof. Damir Sapunar)
2014	Project Coordinator, Popularization of science grant (MZOS)
2013	Project Coordinator, Popularization of science grant (MZOS)
2010 – 2013	Principal Investigator, Molecular Memory in Diabetic Neuropathy (MEMODIN); Installation research Projects, 02.05./28 (HRZZ)

2011 - 2012	Project Mentor, Unity Through Knowledge 2A (UKF)
2009 - 2010	Project Coordinator, Initiative for Improving Pain Education Grant (IASP)
2007 - 2009	Project Manager, Capacity Building for Research in Croatia (TEMPUS JEP)
2007 - 2008	Science Manager, Tempus project "Training for EU-liaison officers in Croatian Universities: pursuing Bologna and EU integration aims (TRIUMPH)"
2007	Project participant, CARDS project "Intellectual Property Rights Infrastructure for the R&D Sector in Croatia"

Memberships in professional associations

Cochrane
 Cochrane Croatia
 Croatian Reproducibility Network (CroRIN)

Awards and recognitions

2025	Best Oral Presentation Award, 5th EBR Conference, Bergen, Norway
2025	Top 1% of world scientists in 2024 and top 2% in the entire career, based on citation impact (https://elsevier.digitalcommonsdata.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/8)
2025	2024 Top Scholar by ScholarGPS (top 0.5% of all scholars worldwide)
2025	Editor of Distinction Award 2025, Springer Nature
2024	Top 1% of world scientists in 2023 and top 2% in the entire career, based on citation impact (https://elsevier.digitalcommonsdata.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/7)
2023	Top 1% of world scientists in 2022 and top 2% in the entire career, based on citation impact (https://elsevier.digitalcommonsdata.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/6)
2023	Award for research accomplishments, Catholic University of Croatia
2022	The best PhD mentor. TRIBE program, University of Split School of Medicine.
2022	Award for research accomplishments, Catholic University of Croatia
2022	Top 1% of world scientists in 2021 and top 2% in the entire career, based on citation impact (https://elsevier.digitalcommonsdata.com/datasets/btchxktzyw)
2021	Top 1% of world scientists in 2020 and top 2% in the entire career, based on citation impact (https://elsevier.digitalcommonsdata.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/3)
2020	Top 2% of world scientists in 2019 based on citation impact (https://bit.ly/3pVhUE6)
2020	Bill Silverman Prize, awarded by the Cochrane
2019	Top peer reviewer, Publons
2018	The best published manuscript in clinical medicine, University of Split School of Medicine
2017	Chris Silagy Prize, awarded by the Cochrane
2015	Award for science promotion. University of Split School of Medicine.
2013	The best poster award. Scandinavian Pain Association Meeting.
2005	Abstract of the year. American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.

Teaching experience

- *Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland*: Visiting professor. Systematic reviews in health sciences - practical workshops
- *Catholic University of Croatia*: Writing a research manuscript, Quantitative research methods, Qualitative research methods, Principles of research in nursing
- *University of Split School of Medicine*: Histology and Embryology, Writing a research paper, Communication and presentation skills, Assessment of a research article, Cochrane library and evidence in medicine, Systematic review and meta-analysis, Empathy and pain, The Cochrane library, The puzzle of pain, Fertilization
- *Medical School Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina*: Principles of research in medicine, The puzzle of pain
- *University of Tuzla School of Medicine, Bosnia and Herzegovina*: Evidence-based medicine
- *University of Granada*: Evidence-Based Research
- *Continuous Medical Education Courses*: Croatian Cochrane Symposium (Split, Croatia), Interprofessional treatment of Pain (Split and Šibenik, Croatia), Writing a research manuscript (Konjic, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- *Presentations at professional symposia*: Health inWest 2013 (Zagreb, Croatia), Summer school of health promotion "Media and Health" 2013 (Groznanj, Croatia), Metabolic syndrome congress 2013 (Osijek, Croatia)

Educational software

Saraga-Babić M, Sapunar D, **Puljak L**, Vukojević K, Lovrić Kojundžić S. Histology Atlas. Virtual Medical School, 2007.

Books

- 2023 Evidence-Based Medicine [in Croatian, original title: Medicina temeljena na dokazima]. Davor Štimac and collaborators. Author of one chapter, Risk of bias (**Puljak L.**)
- 2023 Croatian translation of Junqueira's Basic Histology: Text and Atlas, 17th Edition. Croatian title: Junqueira Osnove histologije. Naklada Slap, Jastrebarsko, Croatia. Translated one chapter, Epithelial tissue (**Puljak L.**).
- 2022 Sapunar D, **Puljak L**. TRIBE – 10 years of excellence. University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia.
- 2016 Croatian translation of Dale Purves' Neuroscience, 5th edition. Croatian title: Neuroznanost. Editors: Heffer M, Puljak L, Kostić S. Medcinska naklada, Zagreb.
- 2014 Translator (**Puljak L.**) of the Croatian version of the book: Evans I, Thornton H, Chalmers I, Glasziou P. Testing Treatments. Croatian title: Gdje su dokazi? Profil, Zagreb, Croatia.
- 2014 Embryology and Histology of a Human [in Croatian; original title: *Embriologija i histologija čovjeka*]. Saraga Babić M, **Puljak L**, Mardešić S, Kostić S, Sapunar D. Redak, Split, Croatia.
- 2010 **Puljak L**, Sapunar D. Dictionary of Pain [in Croatian]. Redak. Split, Croatia.
- 2010 Sapunar D, **Puljak L**. Neurobiology of Pain [in Croatian]. In: Pain – causes and treatment. Editors: Jukic M, Majeric Kogler V, Fingler M. Medicinska naklada, Zagreb, Croatia.
- 2010 Sapunar D, **Puljak L**, Kostic S, Banozic A. Are mice small rats? Rodent models of neuropathic pain. In: Anatomy and Embryology of the Mouse. Editor: Marusic A. University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia.

Guidelines

External Review Group (ERG) member: World Health Organization. WHO Guideline for non-surgical management of chronic primary low back pain in adults in primary and community care settings. Launched: December 7, 2023.

Co-author: Jukic M, **Puljak L**, Katic M, Majeric Kogler V, Bergman Markovic B, Kvolik S, Fingler M. Guidelines for the use of opioids in chronic nonmalignant pain. Croatian Association for the treatment of pain (HDLB) and Association of Teachers in General Practice/Family Medicine (DNOOM). *Medix* 2014;20 (11).

Successful application for the WHO Expert Committee on Selection and Use of Essential Medicines

Poklepovic Pericic T, Utrobicic A, Dosenovic S, Puljak L. Review of the Available Evidence on Tacrolimus in Adults and Children for the Prevention and Treatment of Transplant Rejection, and Proposal for Inclusion for the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines (EML). Applications for inclusion in the 2021 revision of the WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines. Published April 19, 2021. Available at: <https://www.who.int/news/item/19-04-2021-applications-for-the-23rd-who-expert-committee-on-selection-and-use-of-essential-medicines-available-for-public-review-and-comment>

The application was successful: <https://apps.who.int/iris/rest/bitstreams/1374985/retrieve>

Editorial experiences

- 2024 Editorial Board Member, Journal of Clinical Epidemiology
- 2024 Guest Editor, BMC Medical Research Methodology
- 2020 Senior Board Member, BMC Medical Research Methodology
- 2020 Guest Editor, BMC Medical Research Methodology COVID-19 Collection
- 2020 Associate Editor, Research Synthesis Methods
- 2018 - 2020 Section Editor, BMC Medical Research Methodology
- 2013 - Editorial Board, Central European Journal of Paediatrics (ex: Paediatrics Today)
- 2012 - Editorial Board, Liječničke novine
- 2014 - 2018 Editor, web portal Dokazi u medicini
- 2014 - 2015 Editorial Board, Bosnian Journal of Basic Medical Sciences
- 2017 - 2018 Editorial Board, Croatian Medical Journal
- 2007 - 2013 Editor, Magazine of the School of Medicine in Split
- 2005 - 2006 Editor-in-Chief, The Postdocket
- 2000 - 2002 Editor of www.medicina.hr, Croatian independent medical web-site

Postdoctoral activities

2005 - 2006 Founder and inaugural president of the Postdoctoral Association at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, TX, USA

Student activities

2001 - 2002 National Public Health Officer, CroMSIC
 2001 Author and coordinator of the international medical students' project «Raising awareness on organ donation and donor card»
 2000 - 2002 Organizer of international exchange of medical students in Split, Croatia
 2000 Founder and president of the Croatian Medical Students' International Committee,
 Local Committee Split (CroMSIC LC Split)
 1997 - 1999 Demonstrator (teaching assistant) for Anatomy, Histology and Embryology

Volunteering experiences

2012 - Certified Mountain Guide, Croatian Mountain Guide Association
 2010 - 2015 Head of the Mountaineering School, Mountaineering club Split, Croatia
 2007 - Cochrane
 2006 - 2015 Executive Board, Mountaineering club Split, Croatia
 2003 - 2004 Team Leader, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, Denver, CO, USA
 2003 - 2004 Volunteer, Colorado Fourteeners Initiative, Golden, CO, USA

Mentoring (81 defended theses):**Mentored graduate students (25 PhD and 2 MSc theses)**

2025 Ružica Bojčić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2025 Fran Šaler, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2024 Jakov Milić, Doctoral thesis, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek
 2024 Ana Sanader Vučemilović, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2023 Antonija Hrkać, Doctoral thesis, University of Mostar
 2022 Danijel Nejašmić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2021 Mirko Gabelica, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2021 Marina Krnić Martinić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2021 Ivana Vuka, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2021 Andrija Babić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2021 Ognjen Barčot, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2020 Lenko Šarić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2020 Marina Biočić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2020 Edita Runjić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2019 Mišo Krstičević, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2018 Svjetlana Došenović, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2018 Krste Boric, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2018 Tonći Brković, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2018 Mahir Fidahić, Doctoral thesis, University of Tuzla
 2018 Filipa Markotić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2015 Mladen Lešin, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2015 Matija Borić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2014 Antonia Jeličić Kadić, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2013 Lejla Ferhatović, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2012 Filipa Markotić, Master of Science thesis, University of Mostar
 2011 Katarina Novak, Doctoral thesis, University of Split
 2011 Suzyen Kraljević, Master of Science thesis, University of Split

Mentored undergraduate students (54 theses)

2025 Matea Valešić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
 2025 Ivona Škrinjar, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
 2025 Dinko Klinec, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
 2024 Matea Tolić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
 2024 Martina Radić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
 2024 Lara Vinko, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia

2024	Marija Janeš, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2024	Jelena Međaković, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2023	Petra Nikolić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2023	Daniel Rehlicki, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2023	Kristina Kraljić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2023	Karlo Ložnjak, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2023	Valentina Koščak, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2022	Mia Plenković, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2022	Blaženka Pavličić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2022	Anica Svalina, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2021	Darko Novak, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2021	Josip Strčić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2021	Jelena Bilić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2021	Renata Runjić, MD Thesis, University of Split
2020	Andria Dujmić, MD Thesis, University of Split
2020	Marija Franka Marušić, MD Thesis, University of Split
2020	Mate Maretić, Master of Nursing thesis; Catholic University of Croatia
2019	Nys Siebers, MD Thesis, University of Split
2018	Katarina Matičić, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2018	Antonija Penić, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2018	Clemens Janda-Martinac, MD Thesis, University of Split
2018	Ivana Propadalo, Doctor of Dental Medicine Thesis, University of Split
2017	Tonkica Škugor, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2017	Ivana Utrobičić, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2017	Nikolina Markovina, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2017	Katja Janačković, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2017	Anja Engelking, MD Thesis, University of Split
2016	Goran Tintor, MD Thesis, University of Split
2016	Nikolina Gabelica, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2016	Anamarija Vučko, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2016	Ana Tokić, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2016	Marija Radman, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2016	Karmen Dragičević, MD Thesis, University of Split
2016	Marin Viđak, MD Thesis, University of Split
2016	Nives Surjan, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2015	Petra Jurkić, Master of Pharmacy Thesis, University of Split
2015	Marina Biočić, MD Thesis, University of Split
2015	Krste Borić, MD Thesis, University of Split
2014	Andrea AniĆ-Matić, MD Thesis, University of Split
2014	Katarina Dogan, MD Thesis, University of Split
2013	Ivan Škopljanać, MD Thesis, University of Split
2012	Andrija Babić, MD thesis, University of Split
2012	Marko Brekalo, MD thesis, University of Split
2012	Roberta Andrea Tešija, MD thesis, University of Split
2012	Eliana Brković, MD thesis, University of Split
2011	Karolina Balajić, MD thesis, University of Split
2011	Antonija Marić, Master of Nursing thesis, University of Mostar
2011	Ankica Ćosić, Master of Nursing thesis, University of Mostar

Reviews and evaluations

Reviewer of research projects: COST, FP7, Horizon 2020, The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO); Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ), Polish National Science Center (NCN), La Caixa Foundation, ERA PerMed Personalised Medicine: Multidisciplinary Research Towards Implementation, UKRI future leadership fellowships, UK Medical Research Council.

Reviewer at symposia: Bridges in Life Sciences, Cochrane Colloquium, Croatian Cochrane Symposium

Reviewer of doctoral theses: School of Medicine at University of Josip Juraj Strossmayer Osijek Croatia, School of Medicine at University of Rijeka in Croatia, University of Split School of Medicine, School of Medicine at University of Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC: Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya), The University of Paris (Université de Paris)

Peer-reviewer for scholarly journals (N=168)

ACS Chemical Neuroscience; Acta Anaesthesiologica Scandinavica; Acta Histochemica; Acta Medica Academica; Acta Medica Croatica; Acupuncture in Medicine; Advances in Health Sciences Education; Advances in Medical Education and Practice; Advances in Therapy; Alcohol and Alcoholism; American Journal of Case Reports; American Journal of Kidney Diseases; Anatomical Sciences Education; Anesthesia & Analgesia; Archives of Disease in Childhood; Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation; Archives of Physiology & Biochemistry; Artificial Intelligence in Medicine; Biological Psychiatry; Biopolymers and Cell; BMC Anesthesiology; BMC Health Services Research; BMC Medical Education; BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders; BMC Psychology; BMJ; BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine; BMJ Open; BMJ Open Quality; Bosnian Journal of Basic Medical Sciences; Brazilian Journal of Physical Therapy; British Journal of Dermatology; British Journal of Medicine and Medical Research; Cancer Biology & Medicine; Cardiovascular Diabetology; Cephalalgia; Chronic Diseases and Translational Medicine; Clinical and Experimental Dental Research; Clinical and Experimental Dermatology; Clinical Epidemiology; Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics; Clinical Interventions in Aging; Clinical Science; ClinicoEconomics and Outcomes Research; Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews; Collegium Antropologicum; Complementary Therapies in Medicine; Croatian Medical Journal; Current Medical Research & Opinion; Diabetes and Vascular Disease Research; Diagnostics; Drug, Healthcare and Patient Safety; Drug Safety; Drugs; Drugs – Real World Outcomes; EClinicalMedicine; Educational Research; EURASIA Journal of Mathematics, Science and Technology Education; European Journal of Dental Education; European Journal of Pain; European Science Editing; Experimental Gerontology; Experimental and Molecular Pathology; Expert Review of Medical Devices; Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics; Expert Review of Proteomics; F1000; Family Medicine; Gastroenterology Research and Practice; Indian Heart Journal; International Health; International Journal of Behavioral Medicine; International Journal of Developmental Neuroscience; International Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering (IJECE); International Journal of Evidence-Based Healthcare; International Journal of Pharmacy Practice; International Journal of Preventive Medicine; International Journal of Sports Medicine; International Medical Case Reports Journal; JMIR Formative Research; JMIR mHealth and uHealth (JMU); JMIR Medical Education; JMIR Research Protocols; Journal of Academic Ethics; Journal of Anesthesia & Clinical Care; Journal of Child & Adolescent Mental Health; Journal of Clinical Anesthesia; Journal of Clinical Epidemiology; Journal of Comparative Effectiveness Research; Journal of Disease and Global Health; Journal of Drug Assessment; Journal of Educational Administration and Policy Studies; Journal of Endocrinology; Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine; Journal of Functional Foods; Journal of Global Health; Journal of Health Psychology; Journal of Herbal Medicine; Journal of International Medical Research; Journal of Interprofessional Care; Journal of Medical Education and Curricular Development; Journal of Medical Internet Research; Journal of Medical Systems; Journal of Multidisciplinary Healthcare; Journal of Neurosciences in Rural Practice; Journal of Nursing Scholarship; Journal of Nutrition, Health and Aging; Journal of Pain Research; Journal of Physiology and Biochemistry; Journal of the Knowledge Economy; Journal of the Medical Library Association; Khyber Medical University Journal; Liječnički vjesnik; Macedonian Journal of Medical Sciences; Materials Science & Engineering C; Med (Cell Press); Medical & Biological Engineering & Computing, Medical Education, Medical Humanities; Medical Science Monitor; Medicinski glasnik; Microscopy and Microanalysis; Molecular Neurobiology; Molecular Pain; Neurobiology of Disease; Neuromodulation: Technology at the Neural Interface; Neuroscience; Neuroscience Letters; Nurse Education Today; Obesity Reviews; Open Access Journal of Sports Medicine; Open Access Rheumatology: Research and Reviews; Open Medicine; Ophthalmology; Osteoarthritis and Cartilage; Pain and Therapy; Pain Management; Pain Research and Management; Pain Practice; Patient Preference and Adherence; PeerJ; Pharmacological Reports; PharmaNutrition; Phytomedicine; PLoS One; Postgraduate Medicine; Psychology, Health & Medicine; Psychology Research and Behavior Management; Recent Patents on Biotechnology; Research Synthesis Methods; SAGE Open Medicine; Saudi Medical Journal; Science and Engineering Ethics; Scientometrics; Sestrinski glasnik/Nursing Journal (SG/NJ); Signa Vitae; SN Comprehensive Clinical Medicine; Somatosensory & Motor Research; SpringerPlus; Statistics in Biopharmaceutical Research; Systematic Reviews; Technology in Society; Therapeutic Advances in Musculoskeletal Disease; Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management; Trials; Toxicology Reports; Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology; World Journal of Gastroenterology; World Journal of Orthopedics; Zeitschrift fuer Evidenz, Fortbildung und Qualitaet im Gesundheitswesen (ZEFQ)

Web of Science author record with verified peer reviews:

<https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/record/D-5080-2017>

Publications in scholarly journals (N=324)

1. Shmatkova M, Buljan I, **Puljak L**, Sapunar D. Experiences of Ukrainian researchers participating in a project assisting in writing and publishing war-related research: a mixed-methods study. *Studies in Higher Education*. Accepted December 12, 2025. doi: 10.1080/03075079.2025.2605099.
2. Vinko L, Koščak V, Plenković M, Matić I, Čivljak M, Čargo M, Mijoč V, Barać I, Zoranić S, Marendić M, Neuberg M, Majstorović D, Breček A, Ivanišević K, Vukša A, Skitarelić N, Puharić Z, Čukljek S, **Puljak L**. Job satisfaction and professional relationships of nurse educators employed in higher education institutions in Croatia: a qualitative study. *BMC Nursing*. 2025;24(1):1461. doi: 10.1186/s12912-025-04144-z.
3. **Puljak L**, Pintur S, Rombey T, Lockwood C, Pieper D. Use of structured tools by peer reviewers of systematic reviews: a cross-sectional study reveals high familiarity with PRISMA but limited use of other tools. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*. 2025 Nov 20:112084. doi: 10.1016/j.jclinepi.2025.112084.
4. **Puljak L**, Sapunar D. PhD theses defended in Croatia (1992-2023): a retrospective analysis of trends, institutional contributions, and data collection challenges. *Acta Medica Academica*. 2025 Nov 20. doi: 10.5644/ama2006-124.488.
5. Kraljić K, Mijoc V, Cargo M, Barcot O, Čivljak M, Marendić M, Sapunar D, Vukša A, Kabić T, Novak D, Medaković J, Ivanisević K, Puharić Z, Skitarelić N, Majstorović D, Neuberg M, Čukljek S, Racz A, Zoranić S, **Puljak L**. Publication outcomes and research trends in bachelor's and master's theses in health sciences in Croatia: retrospective cohort study and survey of mentors. *PLoS One*. 2025 Nov 3;20(11):e0335350. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0335350.
6. Andabaka T, Mahmic Kaknjo M, **Puljak L**. Applying the GREET checklist for assessing reporting of evidence-based practice educational interventions and teaching showed inter-rater discrepancies and item-level challenges. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*. 2025 Oct 23:112020. doi: 10.1016/j.jclinepi.2025.112020.
7. Melendez G, Rahman S, Zubrytska O, Naudet F, **Puljak L**, Witt CM, Zhong LL, Moher D, Cramer H, Ng JY. Exploring study materials and data sharing practices in traditional, complementary and integrative medicine research: a protocol for a cross-sectional study. *Evidence-Based Chinese Medicine and Technology Assessment*. 2025;1(2):9570014. doi:10.26599/eCMTA.2025.9570014.
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Active participation at scientific meetings (N=125)

1. Kabić T, Šimundić Munitić M, Weerasekara I, Bala M M, Zajac J, Briel M, Pieper D, **Puljak L**. Reporting guidelines can be used to foster reporting of evidence-based research principles: A cross-sectional study. 5th Evidence-Based Research (EBR) Conference. Bergen, Norway. November 19-21, 2025.
2. Puljak L. Systematic reviews: causing but also preventing research waste. Symposium *How to improve research quality and impact*. Sošice, Croatia. September 18-20, 2025.
3. Puljak L. Round table: Improving research quality & impact in Croatia. Symposium *How to improve research quality and impact*. Sošice, Croatia. September 18-20, 2025.
4. Puljak L. Keynote lecture – Lost in publication: a journey through questionable evidence. PubMet 2025. The 12th Conference on Scholarly Communication in the Context of Open Science. Zagreb, Croatia. September 11-12, 2025.
5. Grabarić Andonovski I, Puljak L, Ševkušić M. Enhancing Quality in Diamond Open Access Publishing. PubMet 2025. The 12th Conference on Scholarly Communication in the Context of Open Science. Zagreb, Croatia. September 11-12, 2025.
6. Fischer L, Wollny R, Orduhan C, Schewe L, Scheibler F, Karge T, Langer T, Schaefer C, Florez I, Hutchinson A, Li S, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Perestelo-Perez L, **Puljak L**, Stiggelbout A, Pieper D. A qualitative study on how to (better) integrate shared decision-making and decision support tools into clinical practice guidelines. 24th German Congress for Health Services Research. Hamburg, Germany. September 22-24, 2025. (Accepted)
7. Schewe L, Scheibler F, Fischer L, Baghus A, van Bostraeten P, Bresser C, Burgers J, Conijn D, Dreesens D, Ellwyn G, Forcino R, Franco J, Garvelink M, Giguere A, Gionfriddo M, Gupta S, Hoffmann T, van Leeuwen A, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Peleg M, Perestelo-Perez L, Schubbe D, Sprengers D, Stacey D, Stiggelbout A, Trujillo-Martín M, van der Weele G, Florez I, Hutchinson A, Li S, **Puljak L**, Karge T, Langer T, Orduhan C, Schaefer C, Pieper D. When should clinical practice guidelines consider recommending the development of patient decision aids: A modified Delphi study. 24th German Congress for Health Services Research. Hamburg, Germany. September 22-24, 2025. (Accepted)
8. Fischer L, Schewe LV, Scheibler F, Wollny R, Schaefer C, Karge T, Langer T, Berghold J, Florez ID, Hutchinson A, Li S, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Perestelo-Perez L, **Puljak L**, Stiggelbout A, Pieper D. Methods for the development and integration of patient decision aids in the context of clinical practice guidelines: A scoping review. Paper number 142. Long Oral Presentation. GIN 2025 Conference. Geneva, Switzerland. September 16-19, 2025. (Accepted)
9. Fischer L, Wollny R, Schewe LV, Scheibler F, Karge T, Langer T, Schaefer C, Florez ID, Hutchinson A, Li S, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Perestelo-Perez L, **Puljak L**, Stiggelbout A, Pieper D. Linking clinical practice guidelines, shared decision-making, and decision support tools more successfully: A qualitative study. Paper number 144. Flash Oral Presentation. GIN 2025 Conference. Geneva, Switzerland. September 16-19, 2025. (Accepted)
10. Vukša A, Mijoč V, Matić I, Čivljak M, Čargo M, Čukljek S, Ivanišević K, Marenić M, Puharić Z, Skitarelić N, Zoranić S, Neuberg M, Majstorović D, Breček A, Barač I, **Puljak L**. Perspectives of heads of nursing studies in Croatia about students' motivation to enroll in the Master of Nursing program despite uncertainty about future salary and status: a qualitative study. Oral presentation. 14th Congress of Croatian Nurses Association. Opatija, Croatia. June 05-08, 2025.
11. Fischer L, Wollny R, Orduhan C, Schewe L, Scheibler F, Karge T, Langer T, Schaefer C, Florez I, Hutchinson A, Li S, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Perestelo-Perez L, **Puljak L**, Stiggelbout A, Pieper D. A qualitative study on how to (better) integrate shared decision-making and decision support tools into clinical practice guidelines. 24. Deutscher Kongress für Versorgungsforschung 2025. Hamburg, Germany. September 22-24, 2025. (accepted)
12. Schewe LV, Scheibler F, Fischer L, Baghus A, van Bostraeten P, Bresser C, Burgers J, Conijn D, Dreesens D, Ellwyn G, Forcino R, Franco J, Garvelink M, Giguere A, Gionfriddo MR, Gupta S, Hoffmann T, van Leeuwen A, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Peleg M, Perestelo-Perez L, Schubbe D, Sprengers D, Stacey D, Stiggelbout A, Trujillo-Martín MM, van der Weele G, Florez ID, Hutchinson A, Li S, **Puljak L**, Karge T, Langer T, Orduhan C, Schaefer C, Pieper D. When should clinical practice guidelines consider recommending the development of patient decision aids: A modified Delphi study. 24. Deutscher Kongress für Versorgungsforschung 2025. Hamburg, Germany. September 22-24, 2025. (accepted)
13. Kukec I, Bilić I, Poljak I, Uroić M, Čavlek M, Pedljo H, Pleština S, **Puljak L**. Prevalence and quantitative analysis of symptom burden in oncology patients at University hospital centre Zagreb: experiences from three years of multidisciplinary team work. Oral presentation. 7th conference on palliative care with international participation. Let's think palliatively. Petrčane, Zadar, Croatia. April 11-13, 2025.
14. Bilić J, Skokandić L, **Puljak L**, Kukec I, Miličević J. Differences in healthcare professionals' perceptions of difficulties and obstacles in cancer pain treatment based on professional

- characteristics. Oral presentation. 7th conference on palliative care with international participation. Let's think palliatively. Petrcane, Zadar, Croatia. April 11-13, 2025.
15. Fischer L, Schewe LV, Scheibler F, Wollny R, Schaefer C, Karge T, Langer T, Berghold J, Florez ID, Hutchinson A, Li S, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Perestelo-Perez L, **Puljak L**, Stiggelbout A, Pieper D. Scoping review on the methods used to develop and integrate patient decision aids in the context of clinical practice guidelines. EbM-Kongress 2025. Freiburg, Germany. March 26-28, 2025.
 16. Vukša A, Čivljak M, Matić I, Mijoč V, Čargo M, Čukljek S, Ivanišević K, Marendić M, Lojpur M, Puharić Z, Racz A, Skitarelić N, Ljubičić M, Zoranić S, Neuberg M, Ložnjak K, Majstorović D, Bošković S, Šegulja S, Stevanović A, Županić M, Ozimec Vulinac Š, Sedić B, Turuk V, Milošević M, Mikšić Š, **Puljak L**. Perspectives of heads of nursing studies in Croatia about students' motivation to enroll in the Master of Nursing program despite uncertainty about future salary and status: a qualitative study. Oral presentation. 6th congress of Croatian national nurses. Vodice, Croatia. November 14-16, 2024.
 17. Fischer L, Scheibler F, Schaefer C, Karge T, Langer T, Schewe LV, Florez ID, Li S, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Perestelo-Perez L, Puljak L, Stiggelbout A, Pieper D. Development and testing of a tool to foster shared decision-making between patients and healthcare professionals in clinical practice guideline. 23. Deutscher Kongress für Versorgungsforschung. Potsdam, Germany. September 24-27, 2024.
 18. Radosevic T, Weerasekara I, Bala MB, Zajac J, Briel M, Pieper D, **Puljak L**. Guidance on evidence-based research (EBR) approach in reporting guidelines: a cross-sectional study. Global Evidence Summit. Prague, Czech Republic. September 10-13, 2024.
 19. Fischer L, Scheibler F, Schaefer C, Karge T, Langer T, Schewe LV, Florez ID, Li S, Maes-Carballo M, Munn Z, Perestelo-Perez L, **Puljak L**, Stiggelbout A, Pieper D. Development and testing of a tool to foster shared decision-making between patients and healthcare professionals in clinical practice guidelines. Global Evidence Summit. Prague, Czech Republic. September 10-13, 2024.
 20. Lazzarini SG, Minozzi S, **Puljak L**, Pieper D, Arienti C. Appropriate use of the label 'systematic review' according to a novel definition in a sample of recently published papers. Global Evidence Summit. Prague, Czech Republic. September 10-13, 2024.
 21. Arienti C, Armijo-Olivo S, Ferriero G, Feys P, Hoogeboom T, Kiekens C, Lazzarini SG, Minozzi S, Negrini S, Oral A, Pollini E, Puljak L, Todhunter-Brown A, Walshe M. The influence of bias in randomised controlled trials on rehabilitation intervention effect estimates: what we have learned from meta-epidemiological studies. Accepted to be presented at the Global Evidence Summit. Prague, Czech Republic. September 10-13, 2024.
 22. Lund H, Brunnhuber K, Klugar M, **Puljak L**, Hrobjartsson A, Munn Z. Multiple systematic reviews addressing the same topic – (when) is it a problem? Workshop. Global Evidence Summit. Prague, Czech Republic. September 10-13, 2024.
 23. Bralic N, **Puljak L**, Čačić B, Borges do Nascimento IJ, Šimundić Munitić M, Krnić Martinić M, et al. Do authors care about abstracts of clinical trials? Completeness of reporting in abstracts of dental medicine randomized clinical trials published in high-ranking dental medicine journals, 2015-2023. In: Book of Abstracts from the 8th World Conference on Research Integrity; June 2-5, 2024; Athens, Greece. Abstract PP-078.
 24. Büchter RB, Rombey T, Mathes T, Khalil H, Lunny C, Pollock D, **Puljak L**, Tricco AC, Pieper D. Data extraction in systematic reviews: a survey on current practice, methods and research priorities. Evidenzbasierte Politik und Gesundheitsversorgung – erreichbares Ziel oder Illusion? 25. Jahrestagung des Netzwerks Evidenzbasierte Medizin. Berlin, 13.-15.03.2024. Poster presentation. Düsseldorf: German Medical Science GMS Publishing House; 2024: Doc24ebmPS3-05. <https://dx.doi.org/10.3205/24ebm071>.
 25. **Puljak L**. What is a Cochrane review? How to read it and understand it? 13th Croatian Cochrane Symposium. Rijeka, Croatia. December 8-9, 2023.
 26. **Puljak L**. WG4 – Indicators of EBR and meta-research. Oral presentation. EBRNetwork seminar/workshop: Advancing Evidence-Based Research: Trends and Insights. Online. December 4-5, 2023.
 27. Kraljić K, Mijoč V, Čargo M, Barčot O, Čivljak M, Marendić M, Sapunar D, Vukša A, Radošević T, Novak D, Medaković J, Ivanišević K, Puharić Z, Skitarelić N, Majstorović D, Neuberg M, Čukljek S, Racz A, Zoranić S. **Puljak L**. Study design and journal publication of results of theses defended in health sciences studies in Croatia: a retrospective cohort and cross-sectional study. Oral presentation. 7th emergency medicine congress of nurses and medical technicians. Vodice, Croatia. November 22-24, 2023.
 28. Babic A, Barcot O, Visković T, Šarić F, Kirkovski A, Barun I, Križanac Z, Ananda RA, Fuentes Barreiro YV, Malih N, Dimcea DAM, Ordulj J, Weerasekara I, Spezia M, Žuljević MF, Šuto J, Tancredi L, Pijuk A, Sammal S, Iascone V, von Groote T, Poklepovic Pericic T, **Puljak L**. Frequency of use and reporting adequacy of Cochrane RoB 2 tool in non-Cochrane systematic reviews published in 2020: meta-research study. Oral presentation. Cochrane Colloquium 2023. London, United Kingdom. September 4-6, 2023.

29. **Puljak L.** Evidence-based medicine: using systematic reviews for better practice and better research. Plenary lecture. 7th Croatian Congress on Neurorehabilitation and restoration neurology. Osijek, Croatia, May 14-17, 2023.
30. Tolic M, Sablic M, Silobrcic V, Heffer M, Polic B, Barcot O, Sapunar D, **Puljak L.** Difficulties in accessing the defended PhD theses from medical schools: a case study from Croatia. Poster presentation. 17th annual ORPHEUS conference 2023, Leuven, Belgium. 13-15 April 2023
31. SpringerNature webinar "Data available on request: exploring a challenge in research data sharing". 16 February 2023. Presentation and panel discussion. Moderator: Maria Hodges. Panelists: **Livia Puljak**, Rajarshi Guha, Graham Smith, Nicholas Bailey.
32. Heinen L, Goossen K, Lunny C, Hirt J, **Puljak L**, Pieper D. Database combinations to retrieve systematic reviews in overviews of reviews: An updated methodological study. 24th Annual Conference of German Network for Evidence-based Medicine. Potsdam, Germany, 22-24 March 2023.
33. Vardić A, **Puljak L**, Galić T, Viskić J, Kuliš E, Poklepović Perićić T. Analysis of outcomes used in randomized controlled trials about efficacy and safety of dental implant therapy: meta-research study. Oral and poster presentation. 8th Croatian Periodontology Days. Rovinj, Croatia. 24-26 November 2022.
34. JRC Centre for Advanced Studies and Exploratory Research Annual Workshop 2022 - Anticipation and challenges in research. 16-18 November 2022. Panel discussion. Participants: Prof. Arnout van der Rijt, European University Institute; Prof. **Livia Puljak**, Catholic University of Croatia; Jana Berkessel, University of Mannheim; Dr. Danny Kingsley, Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science; Miguel-Angel Serra Beltran, JRC; Leire Salazar, JRC; Hendrik Bruns, JRC on 18 November 2022.
35. **Puljak L.** How to avoid redundancy in systematic reviews? Oral presentation. 3rd Evidence-Based Research (EBR) Conference – Seeing Further: The Past, Present and Future of Evidence-Based Research. Online conference held on 6-7th October 2022.
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Language skills

Croatian (Native speaker)
English (Advanced)
Italian (Intermediate)
German (Basic)
Spanish (Basic)

Driving license

B category

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