

AYHAN-ACILAN Ceyda, Assist.Prof.Dr.

Koc University, Translational Medicine Research Center

Dr. Ceyda ACILAN AYHAN graduated with honors from Bogaziçi University from the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics in 2001. She earned her doctoral degree in 2006 at the University of Pittsburgh in the department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, under the supervision of Dr. William S. Saunders. She pursued her research interests as a post-doctoral associate at the University of Pittsburgh in the same laboratory. In 2008, Dr. Ayhan joined TÜBİTAK, Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Institute as a Senior Researcher. She received her Chief Senior position in 2013 and her associate professorship in 2014. Since 2018, she started to work as a faculty member at Koç University, in the School of Medicine. In addition to her academic activities, she is one of the founding partners of DFA BioXcell biotechnology company operating both at Drexel University Technology Center (USA) and in Turkey. She is actively leading collaborative projects with University of Pittsburgh and still performs research activities at U-Pitt as a visiting researcher.

Dr. Ayhan's laboratory, Targeted Cancer Therapies lab (TTL), at Koç University mainly focuses on "Development of personalized cancer treatment strategies targeting mitotic disorders" and "Investigating the mechanism of action of drug candidates targeting epigenetic modifiers". Dr. Ayhan has been the recipient of several awards for her contribution in the scientific era. Her doctoral studies were deemed worthy of the "Scientific Excellence and Potential Award" by Hillman Cancer in the USA. With her current research in Turkey, Dr. Ayhan has received science awards from L'Oreal UNESCO, Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA-GEBİP), Science Academy (BAGEP) and Eczacıbaşı Holding. Her research is supported by numerous different sources, including 7th European Framework Programme, TÜSEB (Turkish Health Institutes Presidency), TÜBİTAK 1003, 1001, Koç University and International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology-ICGEB.