The immune system can help the outcome of Parkinson´s Disease

A new PhD project from Health, Aarhus University, shows that the immune system can be manipulated to improve some of the motor symptoms that patients with Parkinson´s Disease display. The project was carried out by Marianne von Euler Chelpin, a PhD student defending her dissertation on 20 December, 2016.

Parkinson´s Disease is one of the most common neurological disorders that affects around 7300 Danes per year. Patients with the disease show very severe motor symptoms and these could be attributed to the death of brain cells. In her recently completed PhD project, Marianne von Euler Chelpin has shown that stimulating a special kind of cells in the immune system, the regulatory T cells, through vaccination, can protect the brain cells from dying and improve the severe motor symptoms. This has significance for the health of the Danes since it could be used as a possible therapy for treating the motor symptoms and improving the life quality of Parkinson´s Disease patients.

The defense is public and takes place on 20 December 2016 at 13:00 in Det Blå Auditorium, Victor Albeck Building, Aarhus University, 8000 Aarhus C. The title of the project is “Effect of COP-1/alpha-synuclein vaccination on a pre-parkinsonian mouse model: role of regulatory T cells”. For more information please contact PhD student Marianne von Euler Chelpin, email: marianne.chelpin@biomed.au.dk, phone: +4551400862.