

# Arilena Drovik

PhD Molecular Biology  
Principal Investigator | Professor of Molecular Genetics

## Contact

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## Professional Role

A highly accomplished molecular biologist and geneticist with over 20 years of experience in research, academic leadership, and translational science. Principal Investigator and Professor at Lund University, leading a research group focused on gene regulation and epigenetics in developmental biology and disease. International experience spanning industry and academia, with strong expertise in CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing, RNA biology, and single-cell sequencing technologies. Proven track record of securing competitive research grants, publishing in high-impact journals, and mentoring early-career scientists.

## Areas of Expertise

- Molecular Biology & Genetics
- Epigenetics & Gene Regulation
- CRISPR-Cas9 and Genome Editing
- Single-cell Transcriptomics
- RNA Biology and Non-Coding RNAs
- Translational Research & Drug Target Validation
- Scientific Leadership & Academic Mentoring
- Research Grant Writing and Project Management

## Career History

### 2016 – Present

Professor and Principal Investigator – Department of Molecular Biology, Lund University, Sweden

- Lead research program on gene regulation during early mammalian development.
- Supervised 7 PhD students and 4 postdocs; over 30 peer-reviewed publications.
- Partnered with biotech companies on translational gene therapy projects.
- Developed core facility for single-cell RNA-sequencing technologies.
- Successfully secured multiple grants from the Swedish Research Council and EU Horizon programs.

### 2009 – 2016

Senior Scientist – Genomics & Molecular Biology Division, Helixon Therapeutics Ltd., London, UK

- Directed preclinical drug target validation projects in oncology and rare genetic diseases.
- Led international collaborations between academia and pharma partners.
- Co-inventor on 4 patents related to RNA-based therapeutic strategies.
- Championed diversity and mentoring initiatives for early-career scientists.

## Educational History

PhD in Molecular Biology  
University of Cambridge, UK  
Graduated: 2009  
Dissertation: 'Epigenetic Modulators of Gene Expression in Early Development'

MSc in Molecular Biology  
Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic  
Graduated: 2004

BSc in Biology  
Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic  
Graduated: 2002

## **Professional Memberships and Languages**

Member, European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO)  
Member, American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB)  
Member, Swedish Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SFBBM)

Languages  
Czech (native), English (fluent), Swedish (fluent), German (conversational)