

Ivan Gout (IG) graduated as an MD with distinction at Lviv State Medical University (Ukraine) in 1983 with a great passion to become a surgeon in oncology. Thinking that a PhD in experimental oncology would help to realize his dream, he obtained a doctorate degree at the Institute of Experimental Oncology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in 1987. A fellowship from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) took him even further from clinical oncology and also from Ukraine. He arrived in London on the first wave of perestroika and began post-doctoral studies in Mike Waterfield's laboratory at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research (UCL Branch), studying signal transduction via the PI3 kinase pathway. In 1996, IG started his own group at the same Institute, focusing on the regulation of cell growth via the mTOR/S6K pathway in normal and cancer cells. Since 2003, he has been a Professor of Cancer Biochemistry at University College London, working on signal transduction, cellular metabolism and redox regulation in health and disease. IG was the first to report molecular cloning and characterization of several signaling and metabolic proteins, including ribosomal S6 kinase 2 (S6K2), mammalian target of rapamycin (mTORb) and CoA synthase.

A new field of research on protein CoAlation and antioxidant function of coenzyme A (CoA) in eukaryotes and prokaryotes has been recently pioneered in his laboratory. CoA, a key metabolic integrator in healthy cells, was shown to function as a major cellular antioxidant under oxidative or metabolic stress. The research is now focused on defining molecular mechanisms of the CoAlation/deCoAlation cycle and examining the pattern of protein CoAlation in health and pathologies. He firmly holds a world-leading position in this emerging and promising field of redox regulation. IG has a strong research (145 papers in peer-reviewed journals, H-Index 61) and patent (10 world-wide patents) portfolio and coordinates two drug discovery programs.