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Dr. Nikolich-Zugich is internationally recognized as a leading immunologist and gerontologist. He received his M.D., MSc and Ph.D. in Immunology from the Belgrade University School of Medicine, Belgrade, Serbia. His academic appointments included:

- 1987-1990, Research Associate, Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, laboratory of Dr.M.J. Bevan, FRS, NAS, HHMI.
- 1990-2001, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, NY – Assistant (1990-1996) & Associate Member (1996-2001), Concurrently, Assistant (1990-1996) and Associate Professor (1996-2001), Cornell University Graduate School of Medical Sciences.
- 2001-2008, Professor and Senior Scientist, OHSU Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute;
- 2008-present, Bowman Professor and Head, University of Arizona Department of Immunobiology and the Arizona Center on Aging (co-Director).
- Chair of the Board and CEO (2014-2020), American Aging Association, Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America; Fellow, the American Aging Association.



Dr Nikolich investigates: (i) basic mechanisms of immunity and how these mechanisms decline and deteriorate with age to erode protective immunity against infection; (ii) how persistent infections such as cytomegalovirus (CMV), modulate immunity and healthspan with aging; (iii) how we can devise methods to correct or ameliorate immune dysfunction by means of new vaccines, immunomodulatory and metabolic intervention and/or immune rejuvenation; and (iv) whether and how different longevity extension treatments can improve function of the immune system while still providing longevity/healthspan benefit. He investigates these questions in the context of viral (alpha-, flavi-, pox-corona- and herpesvirus) and bacterial (*L. monocytogenes*) infections, and vaccination in rodent, human and non-human primate models.