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The origins of the Institute go back to 1962 with the establishment of the Institute of Experimental Biology and Genetics of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (CSAS), which was an outgrowth of a department of the former Institute of Biology of the CSAS. In 1976 the Department of Molecular Biology and several groups from the Department of Biochemistry of the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the CSAS were merged with the Institute. At that time the name was changed to the Institute of Molecular Genetics. Pursuant to Act No. 341/2005 Coll., the Institute became a public research institution as of 1 January 2007.

The Institute carries out basic research in the areas of microbial and mammalian genomics, oncogenes and retroviruses, cell biology, mechanisms and regulation of gene expression, cell signalling, molecular immunology, molecular developmental biology and protein structure.

The Institute core facilities produce inbred and congenic mouse strains and chicken lines, bacterial and cell culture media, monoclonal antibodies, provide methodical and instrumental support for expression profiling by DNA chips and quantitative PCR, as well as microscopic techniques and flow cytometry.

More detailed information about the organisational structure of the Institute and its research and specialised units can be found at the following URL: http://www.img.cas.cz

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