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Dr. Messaoudi is currently an Associate Professor in the Division of Biomedical Sciences at the University of California Riverside School of Medicine. Her research focuses on cellular and molecular mechanisms of host defense and inflammation and how they are modulated by age, nutrition and viral infections. Her lab is currently investigating the reactivation of varicella zoster virus, the impact of alcohol and obesity on immunity and the ability of hemorrhagic fever viruses to evade host defenses. Her research efforts leverage nonhuman primates and clinical samples to address these questions.