

BIOENGINEERING & BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH SEMINAR



PANCREATIC ENDOCRINE CELL DEVELOPMENT: FROM RODENT TO HUMAN

Dr. Raphael Schafmann
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Raphael Schafmann obtained his PhD in 1989 at University Paris VII, France. He next did a post doc at the Salk institute, La Jolla, CA (1989-1991) and obtained a permanent position at INSERM at the end of 1991. He obtained the prestigious Minkowski Award (for distinguished research in the field of Diabetes in Europe) (1999), the Award from the European Society for Clinical Investigation (2003), the Award from the French National Academy of Medicine (2010) the Bettencourt Award, (Coup d'élan à la Recherche Française) (2012) and the Roger Assan Award from the French speaking society of Diabetologia (2020). He is currently Research Director at INSERM within the Cochin Institute, University of Paris, France. He is one of the co-founders of EndoCells/Human Cell Design, a French biotech company. The major objective of his group is to define signals regulating functional pancreatic endocrine cell mass in rodent and human.

In this seminar, we will discuss innovative assays that we developed and used to dissect the regulation of functional pancreatic beta cell (the cells that produce and secrete insulin) mass, both in rodent and human. Specifically, we will focus on (i) assays based on the culture of fetal pancreases, to study beta cell development in rodent; (ii) assays based on transplantation and FACS to dissect pancreas development in human and (iii) innovative approaches to generate functional human beta cell lines and their study in patho-physiological conditions.

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