“Discovering therapeutic targets for ALS and SMA”

by

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Thursday, September 29, 2011, 16u30

Leuven, Gasthuisberg, Building O&N2,
Lecture Room BMW3, Host: Wim Robberecht

Prof. Henderson spent much of his career in France but moved in 2005 to take up a position as Professor of Pathology, Neurology and Neuroscience at Columbia University. There he is Co-Director of the Center for Motor Neuron Biology and Disease, a new initiative in translational neuroscience that creates a continuum from basic research on developmental mechanisms and motor control through to clinical research on the motor neuron diseases ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; Lou Gehrig’s disease) and SMA (spinal muscular atrophy). Prof. Henderson’s work is focused on motor neuron development and pathology, and in particular on mechanisms of growth, survival and cell death. His interest in therapeutic applications of his work led him to co-found Trophos, a drug discovery biotech which currently has a drug in clinical trials for ALS and SMA. Together with Prof. Hynek Wichterle, he is Co-Director of the Project A.L.S./Jenifer Estess Laboratory for Stem Cell Research, whose work is focused on the use of human ES- and IPS cell-derived motor neurons for modeling ALS.

Publications


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