Babraham Institute Enterprise



Commercialising the Science of the Babraham Institute



Introduction

 Areid view of the Babraham Research Campus

The Babraham Institute undertakes innovative, life sciences research to understand the biological processes underpinning lifelong health and wellbeing. Our work is recognised as world leading and is supported by strategic funding from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation

Our Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation Programme seeks to maximise the impact of our research through collaboration and interactions with key stakeholders. As well as their basic biological research, many of our scientists are involved in translational research such as identifying new diseases drivers, validating new drug targets or developing new methods and reagents. Much of the funding for this translational research comes from the MRC, Wellcome Trust, charities and industry.

Babraham Institute Enterprise

Babraham Institute Enterprise Limited (BIE) is the wholly-owned trading arm of the Babraham Institute. BIE supports the delivery of the commercialisation of the Babraham Institute's science. As part of this role, it manages, develops and commercialises the Babraham Institute's intellectual property portfolio. BIE also facilitates collaborations between the Institute and industry, and arranges access to the Institute's expertise and scientific facilities and services. The Institute is co-located on the Babraham Research Campus with over 50 biomedical companies, and benefits from a number of on-site collaborations.

Our Science

The Institute's research focuses on signal transduction and genome regulation (particularly the interplay between the two), how they regulate important physiological adaptations to maintain health and how, over lifetime, their failure or abnormality may contribute to ageing and age-related pathological conditions.

Epigenetics

Developmental decisions in all organisms are accompanied by epigenetic modifications of DNA or chromatin, and by genome regulation through non-coding RNAs and higher order chromatin structures. The Babraham Institute's Epigenetics Programme seeks to understand how epigenetic changes regulate genome function, especially during development and in response to external signals. The programme is amongst the world's ten leading epigenetic research centres (www.sciencewatch.com).

Immunology

The Immunology Programme performs world-leading studies into how cells of the immune system develop and function to provide life-long protection against a vast number of lethal or debilitating infectious diseases. Maintaining immune cell homeostasis – the balance between the different types of white blood cells – is a major challenge.





It often breaks down with age and can result in increased susceptibility to infections and various immune-related disorders. Understanding how immune cells communicate with each other and with their respective environments is therefore of considerable importance.

Signalling

The Signalling Programme focuses on the signal transduction pathways and networks that coordinate how cells and organs develop and respond to changes in their environment. We are interested in defining how the PI3 Kinase, mTOR, MAPK and NAD signalling pathways are controlled and how they contribute to cellular homeostasis throughout life. There is good evidence that these pathways control key molecular aspects of the ageing process and are de-regulated during ageing. These signalling systems also coordinate age-related pathologies and we also have expertise in disease models and drug discovery.

Scientific Facilities

The Babraham Institute provides its scientists with an extensive infrastructure of central, state-of-the-art, scientific support services. Many of these services are available for use by external organisations. The Institute's scientific facilities and services include:

- Bioinformatics
- Biological Chemistry
- Biological Support Unit (small-animal facility)
- Flow cytometry
- Gene Targeting
- Imaging
- Lipidomics
- Mass Spectrometry
- Next-Generation Sequencing





The heads of the scientific services also provide training, and several run training courses – please see our website for upcoming courses.

Please contact us if you would be interested in accessing the Babraham Institute's scientific facilities.

Contact us

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The Babraham Institute

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