Drosophila as a model for investigating obstructive pulmonary diseases: Suppression of NF-kB-mediated innate immune responses in flies and humans by elevated CO2 levels (hypercapnia)

Lecturer’s Profile

Dr. Beitel is an associate professor in Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology of North Western University. His research focuses on the molecular and cellular mechanisms of tubulogenesis in the *Drosophila* tracheal system. He has pioneered the study of tracheal tube size control by systematically identifying a set of genes involved in tracheal tube expansion. His work has lead to the identification of novel classes of proteins involved in tube size regulation, including the Na+ K+ ATPase and the first member of invertebrate Claudin. In this seminar he will tell us his relatively new project of CO2 sensing and innate immune systems in *Drosophila* and human.

Please be reminded that he will give another talk on cell polarity and cell adhesion in 1st Global COE workshop by Kobe University "Cell adhesion and epithelial morphogenesis" in January 31, 2008 (http://www.research.kobe-u.ac.jp/ksui-gcoe/jpn/symposium/).

Beitel lab home page: http://www.biochem.northwestern.edu/beitel

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