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Mechanistic insights and novel treatment for age-dependent intervertebral disc calcification

Prof. Makarand Risbud

(Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, USA)

27 May 2024 | 14:30

Room Natta, Bulding 6
Piazza Leonardo da Vinci, 32 Milano

live | online

link will be emailed to registered participants

[Registration Form](#)

Pathological calcification of the soft tissues of the spine in particular of intervertebral disc is an important sequale of aging and progressive degeneration. However, our understanding of this pathology is limited. Clinically, disc calcification is associated with poor surgical outcomes and back pain refractory to conservative treatment. The seminar will discuss the new evidence from mouse models that sheds light on the mechanistic underpinnings of this progressive pathology. A novel experimental therapy that is showing promise in a preclinical model of disc calcification will also be discussed.

Dr. Makarand V. Risbud is the James J. Maguire Jr. Professor of Spine Research and Director of the Division of Orthopaedic Research at Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University. Dr. Risbud has published more than 160 peer-reviewed papers and has pioneered studies on the adaptation of nucleus pulposus cells to the unique hypoxic and hyperosmolar microenvironmental niche of the intervertebral disc. He serves on the editorial boards of many scientific journals, and on NIH grant review panels. He has served as the Chair of the ORS Spine section and convener of biannual ORS-PSRS International Spine Research Symposia. He is the recipient of the Henry Farfan Award by the North American Spine Society (NASS) for his outstanding contributions to basic spine research and The Professor Fredric Rieders Faculty Prize in Graduate Education by Jefferson College of Life Sciences.

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