

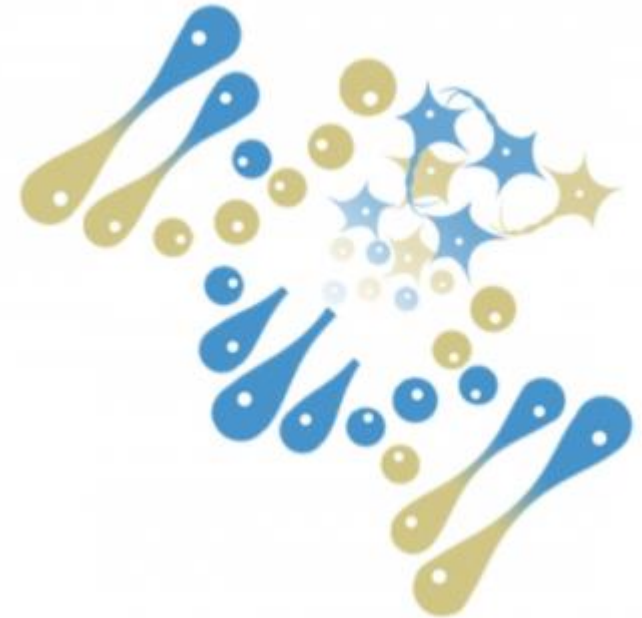


Institut et hôpital neurologiques de Montréal  
Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital



# **The Open Science iPSC/CRISPR Platform at the Montreal Neurological Institute**

Lenore Beitel, PhD



Centre universitaire  
de santé McGill

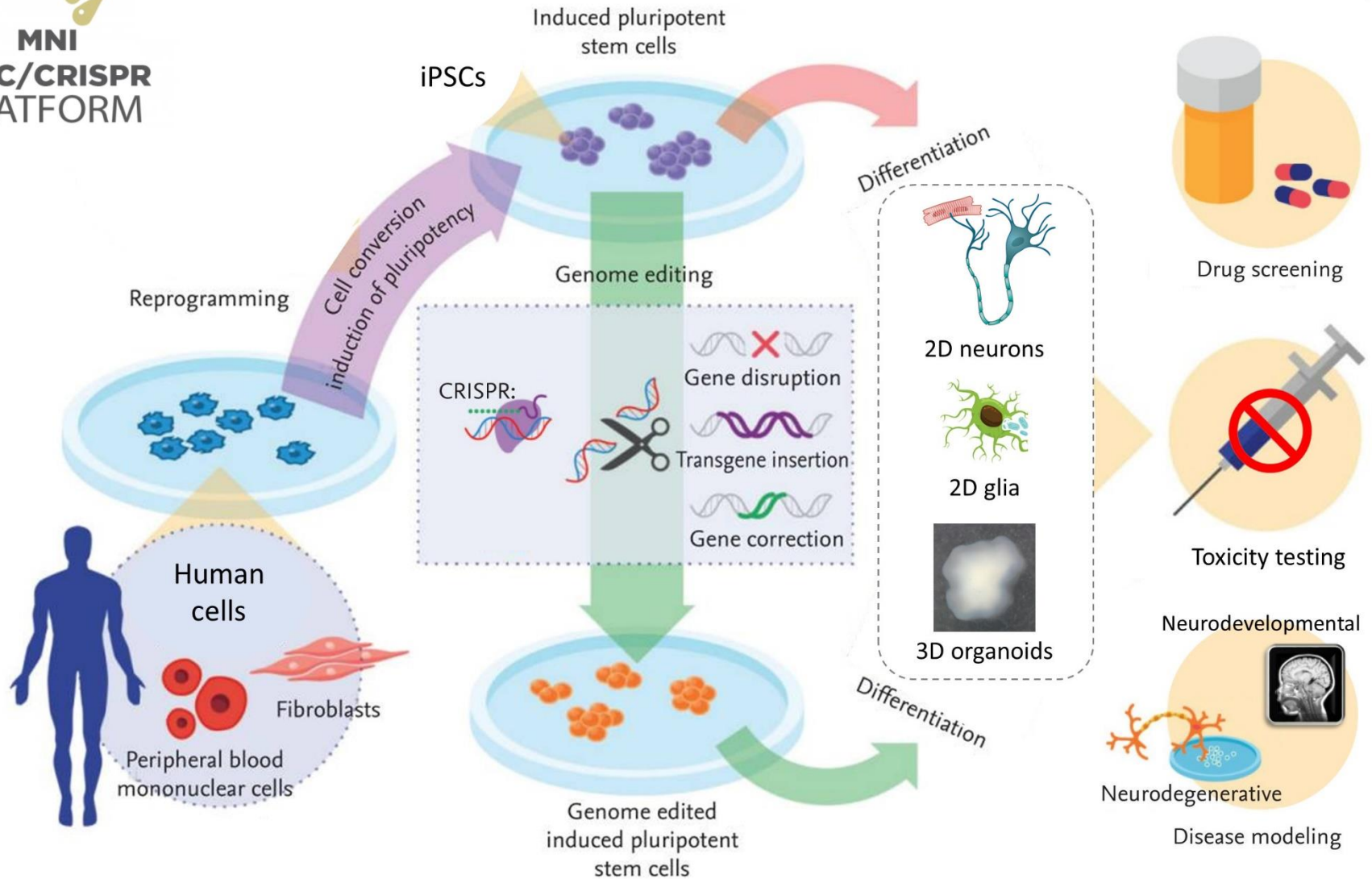
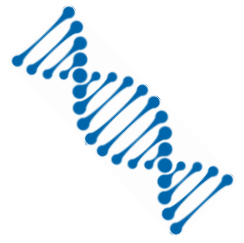


McGill University  
Health Centre



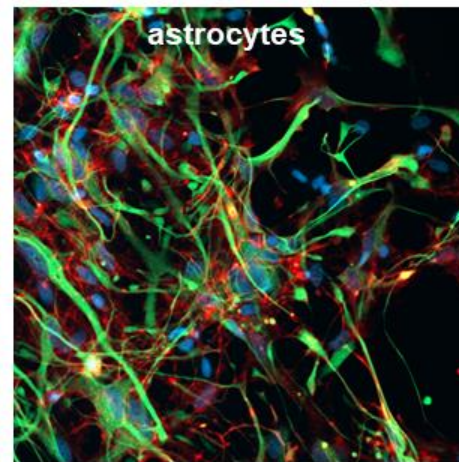
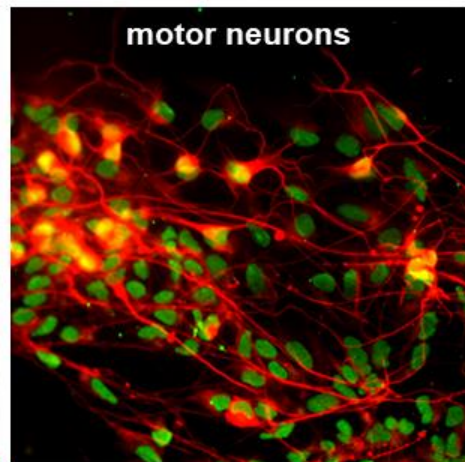
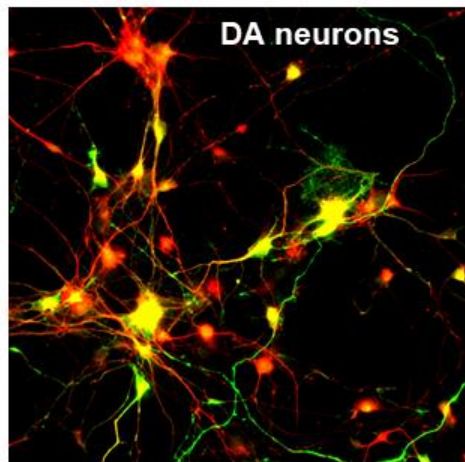
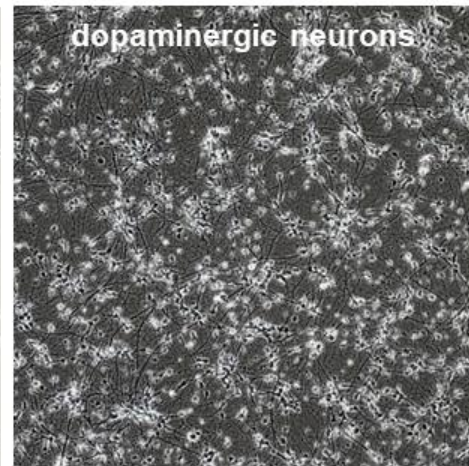
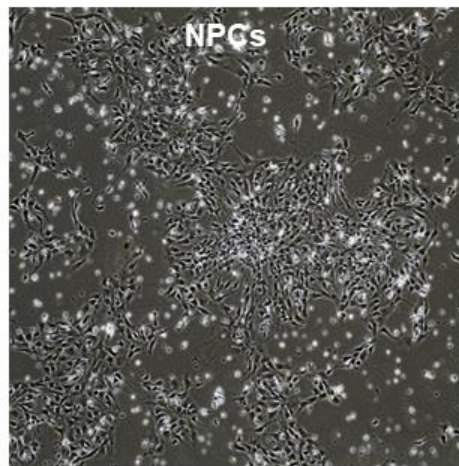
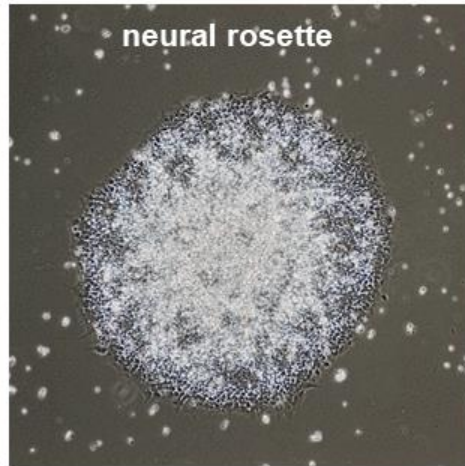
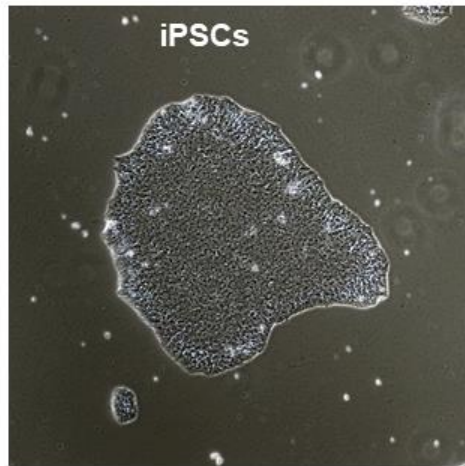
**MNI**  
**IPSC/CRISPR**  
**PLATFORM**

# Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs)





# iPSCs to differentiated neurons





# MNI iPSC/CRISPR Platform



- [Established in 2015](#) - private donation, Brain Canada, MNI, Quebec Parkinson's Network
- Partner with [iPSC reprogramming platform](#) at Université of Laval
- Expertise in neuronal differentiation and CRISPR genome editing
- Work with [academic and industry users](#)
- Help design/execute assays using iPSC-derived neurons
- “In house” [catalog of iPSC cell-lines](#)
- [Generate CRISPR knockout cell-lines](#)
- Train users to make neurons from iPSCs
- All protocols openly available as part of the [MNI Open-Science initiative](#)



UNIVERSITÉ  
LAVAL



The Centre  
for Drug Research  
and Development

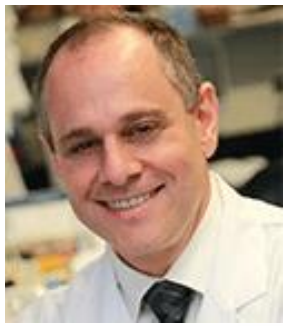


RÉSEAU  
PARKINSON  
QUÉBEC



SGC





**Ted Fon**  
**Scientific Director**  
**MNI**

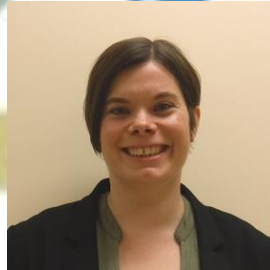
**Thomas Durcan**  
**Group Leader**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**McGill**



**Lenore Beitel**



**Faiza Benaliouad**



**Mathilde Chaineau**



**Carol Chen**



**Genevieve Dorval**



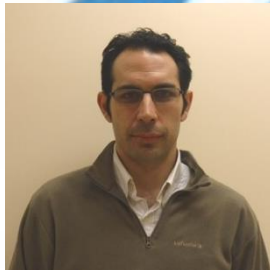
**Chanshuai Han**



**Nicolás Unsain**



**Meghna Mahuer**



**Gilles Maussion**



**Vi Mohamed**



**Emmanuelle Nguyen-Renou**



**Wolfgang Reintsch**



**Lorenza Villegas**



**Zhipeng You**



**Frédérique (Fred) Larroquette**



**Wen Luo**



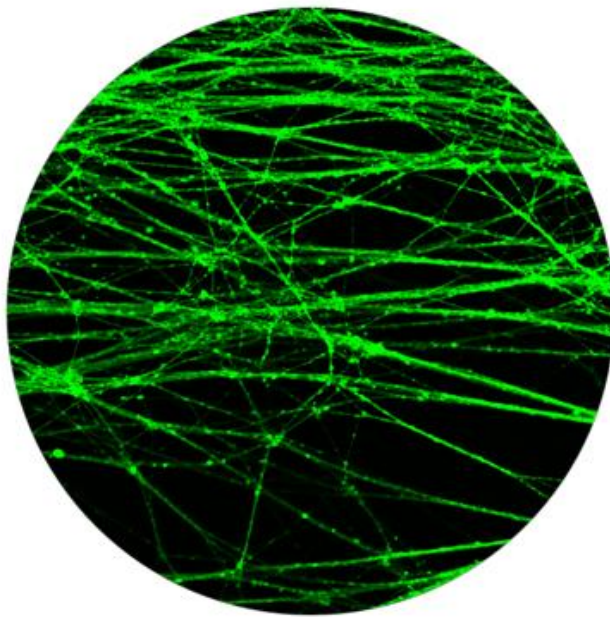
**Rosalind Roberts**

# ***The use of induced stem cells and microfluidics for developing new assays to identify new therapies for Kennedy's disease***

*Thomas Durcan – KDA Grant 2017*

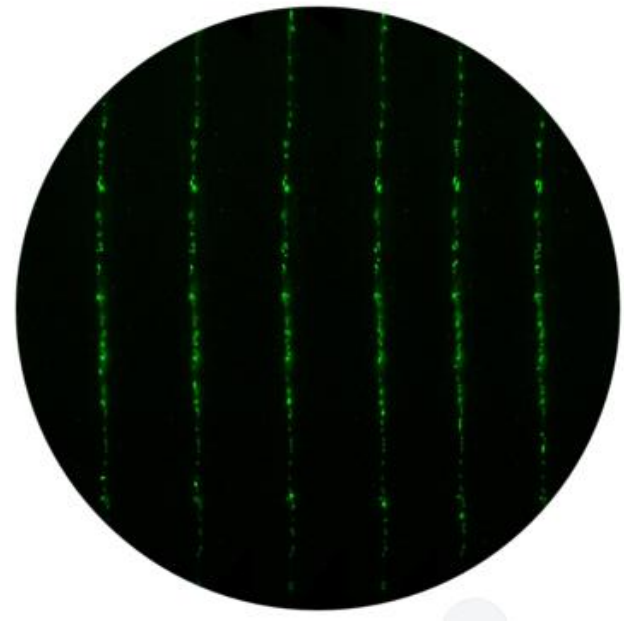


biocompatible silicone insert  
microchannels help direct axons



Without Ananda's device

Ambiguous analysis of axonal transport



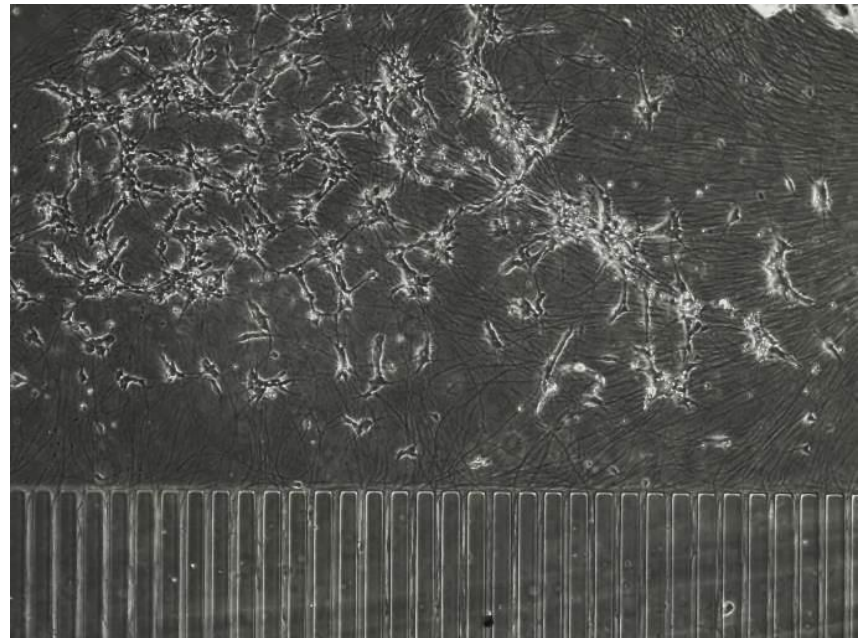
With Ananda's device

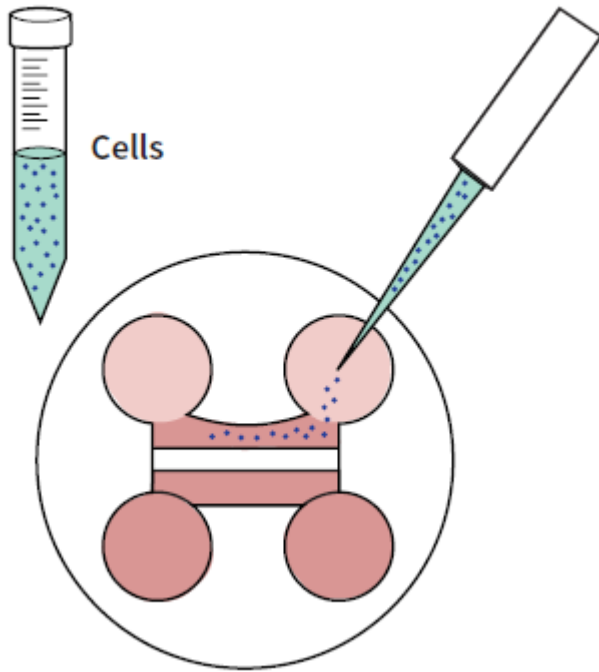
Fast and precise analysis of axonal transport



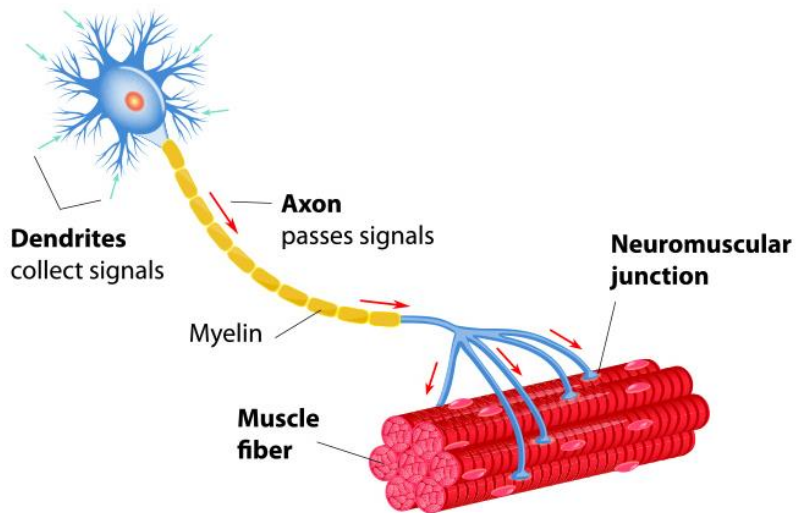


## HOW TO USE SILICONE MOLDS

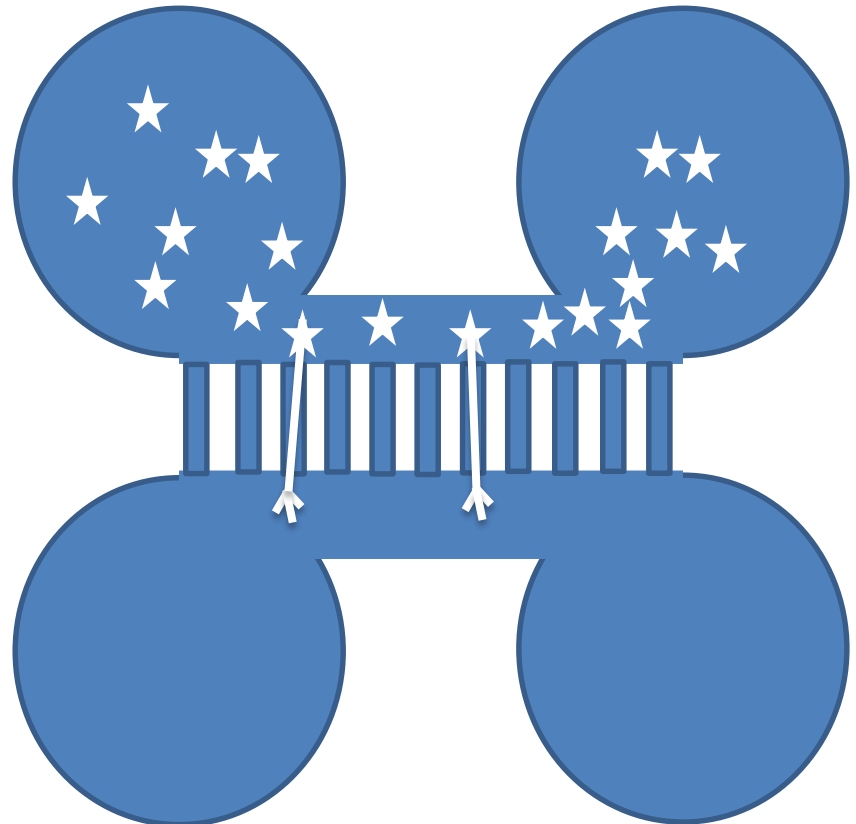




**MOTOR NEURON**

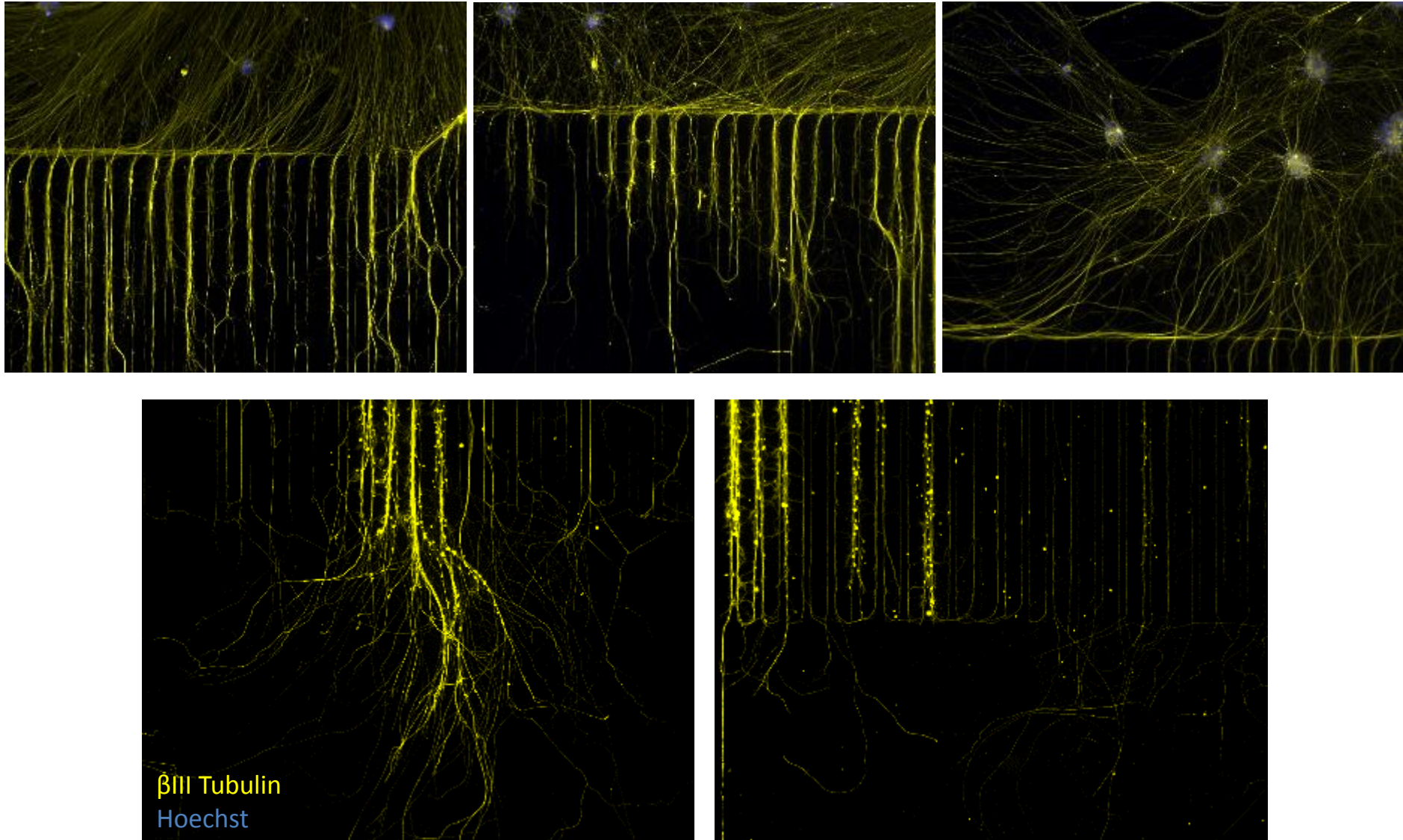


## ANANDA Devices

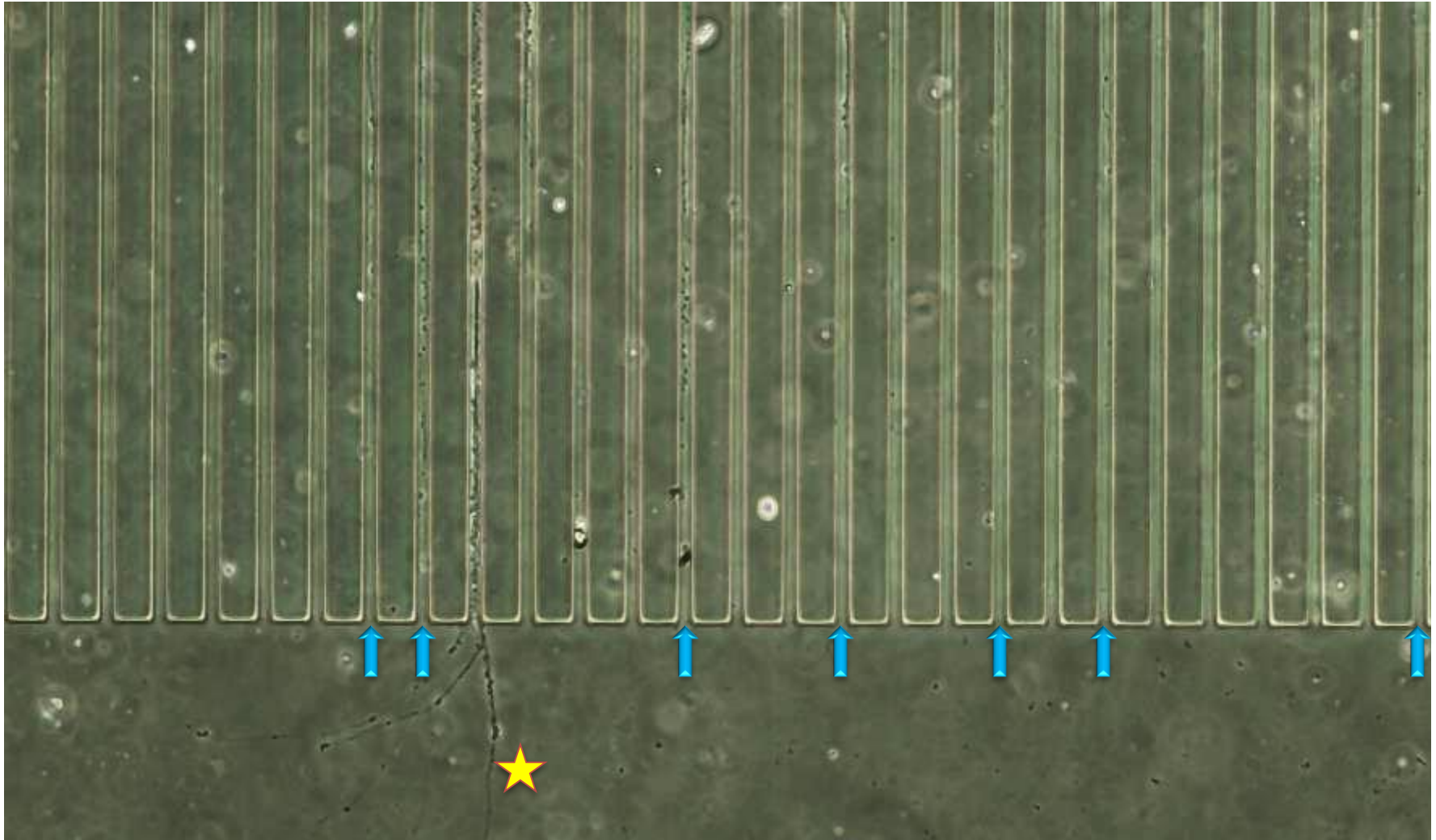




## Durcan Aim 1: Investigate the survival and neurite outgrowth of motor neurons from controls and KD patients



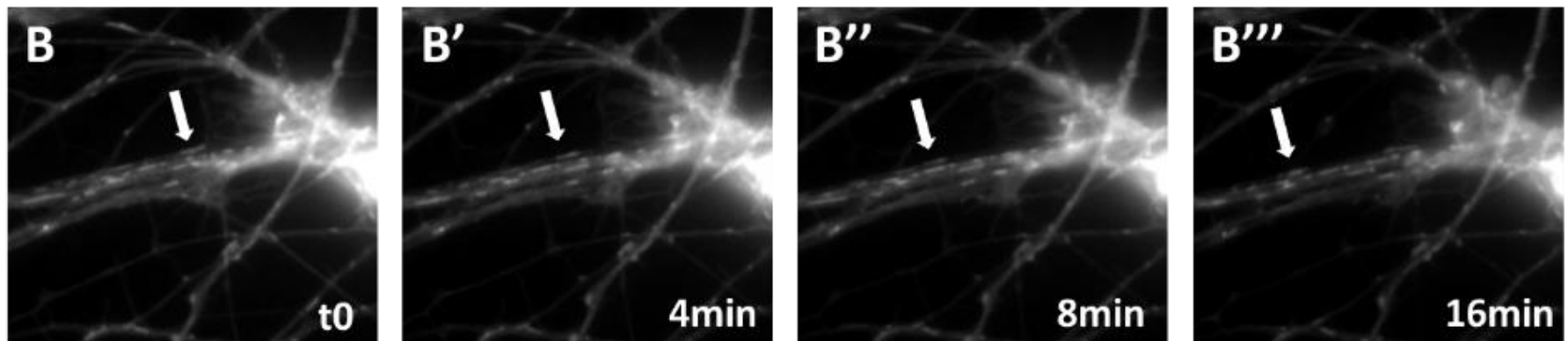
## Motor neurons after 14 days growth



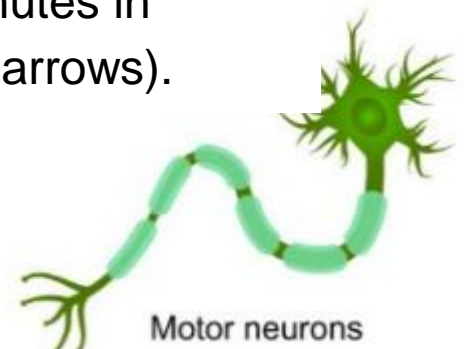
★ Axons coming out of channels

↑ Axons not coming out of channels

## Durcan Aim 2: Examine mitochondrial function in neurons derived from KD patients

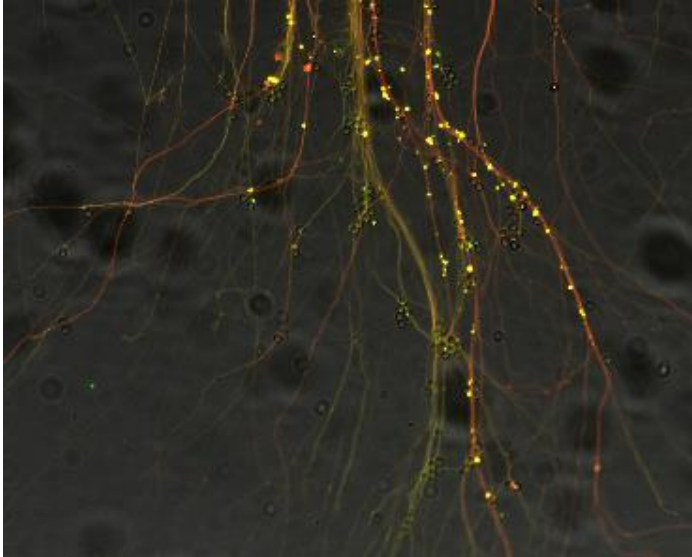


Study mitochondrial properties in iPSC-derived motor neurons (MN).  
Above: Images of live cell Mitotracker recording over 16 minutes in control MN. Mitochondrial movement can be tracked (white arrows).

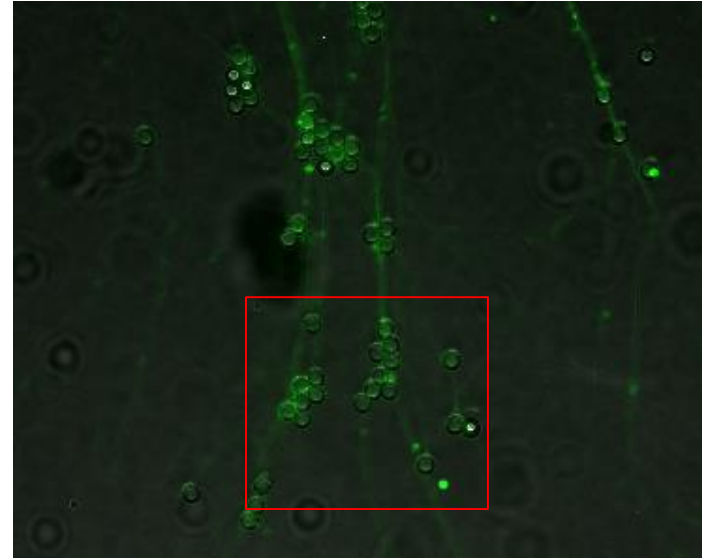




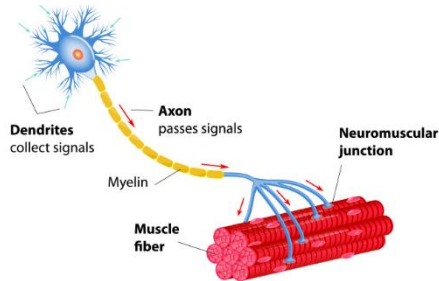
### Durcan Aim 3: Characterize the formation and maintenance of synapses from mutant neurons



Hoecht/Tuj1/NFM/  
Synaptophysin/Beads Brightfield



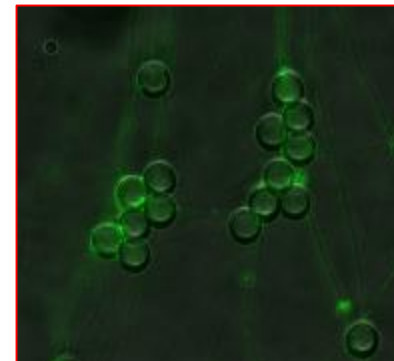
Synaptophysin/Beads Brightfield x40



○-netrin-1 bead

netrin-1 - involved in axonal guidance

Synaptophysin - a protein in neurons



Synaptophysin  
Beads Brightfield (zoom)

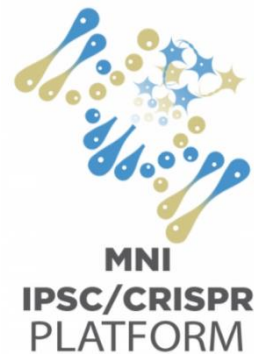
F. Larroquette

# Acknowledgements

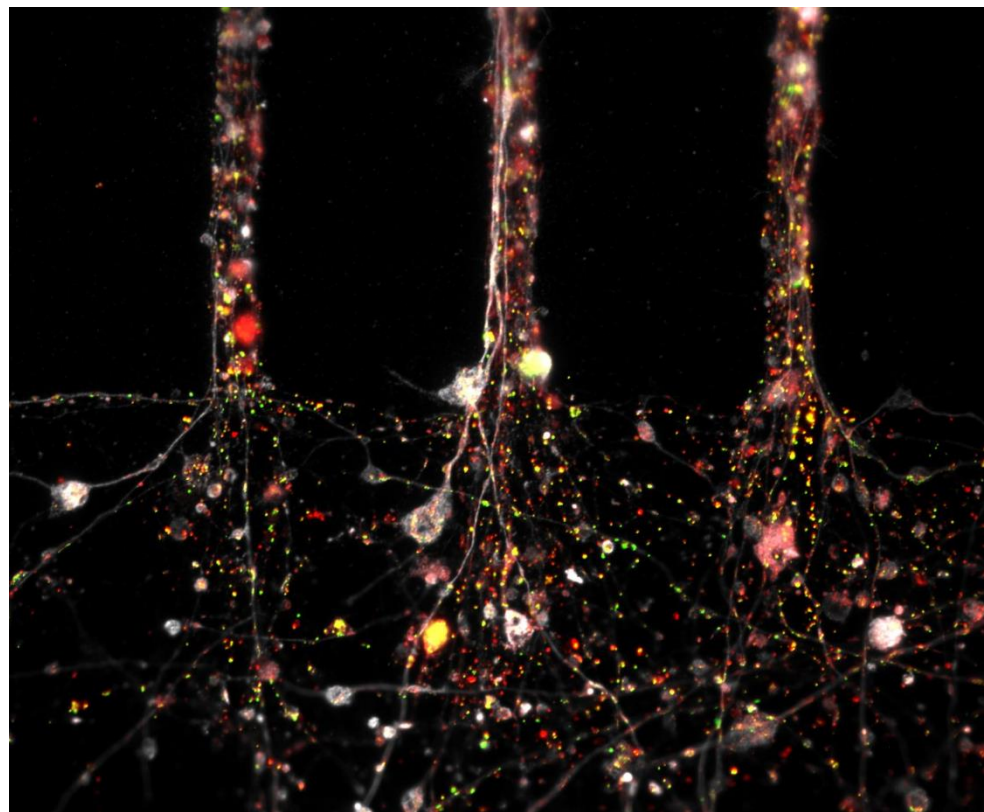
Thank you all...



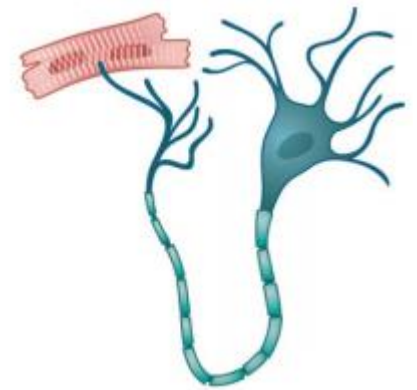
Tom Durcan



Frédérique Larroquette



The roots of life



***The use of induced stem cells and microfluidics for developing new assays to identify new therapies for Kennedy's disease***

Thus, our ***global aim*** for this project is to develop a suite of state of the art disease-relevant assays using human motor neurons (MNs) derived from induced pluripotent cells (iPSCs).

**Aim 1: Investigate the survival and neurite outgrowth of motor neurons from control and KD patients**

**Aim 2: Examine mitochondrial function in neurons derived from patients**

**Aim 3: Characterize the formation and maintenance of synapses from mutant neurons**

A drug screening in human neurons based on phenotypic defects specific to KD would be an effective way to identify such promising compounds for therapy