



RNA Horizons 2024 Therapeutics Symposium

Unlocking the RNA's Potential in Medicine

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Alfandega Congress Centre, Porto, Portugal

Professor Mary Anne O'Connell

European Research Area Chair on RNA & Immunity, CEITEC Masaryk University

Professor Mary Anne O'Connell was born in Ireland where she obtained a Bachelor of Science (Hons) degree in Microbiology at the University College Galway. She then moved Stateside and obtained both a Master of Science degree and Ph.D. in Molecular Biology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (New York) under the supervision of Prof. Lucy Shapiro. Her first postdoctoral work was on retroviruses with Prof. Nancy Hopkins at MIT (USA). She then went to the laboratory of Prof. Walter Keller in Basel, Switzerland where she purified and cloned two of the adenosine deaminases that act on RNA (ADAR) enzymes; ADAR1 and ADAR2. She was a Group Leader at the MRC Human Genetics Unit, Edinburgh from 1997-2013. Professor O'Connell is currently the European Research Area Chair in RNA and Immunity at the Central European Institute of Technology (CEITEC), Masaryk University, located in Brno, Czech Republic. Her laboratory focuses on RNA editing, particularly the conversion of adenosine to inosine. Professor O'Connell was elected European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) Member in 2017 while as an active member of the RNA Society, she served as Secretary/Treasurer between 2011-2014.