Fabrizio d’Adda di Fagagna, PhD

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The Role of Non Coding RNA in Genome Stability and Aging

October 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

West Lecture Hall, MSII

Fabrizio d’Adda di Fagagna, Ph.D. is a cell and molecular biologist that studies the involvement of the DNA damage response (DDR) pathways in physiologically-relevant processes such as aging and cancer.

As a postdoc in Cambridge, UK, in the group of Prof. Steve Jackson at the now Gurdon Institute, he discovered the engagement of DDR factors in the maintenance of telomeres and demonstrated that replicative cellular senescence is the outcome of DDR activation caused by the direct recognition of critically short telomeres.

He then set up his own research group at IFOM (FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology) in Milan, Italy, in 2003. Here, he demonstrated that oncogene activation is an intrinsically genotoxic event that, by altering DNA replication, causes DDR activation and cellular senescence establishment. Since then, he has been working on several aspects of cellular senescence. His most exciting recent finding is the discovery of an unanticipated role of non coding RNAs in the direct activation of the DDR. This discovery fuels most of his present investigative efforts.

Please contact Nikki Cortis, 615-4062, nanemt@umich.edu for additional information.