

ORCID 0000-0002-0472-9320
DATE OF BIRTH October 16, 1965, Denmark
CONTACT +45 35321644; Ironnov-jessen@bio.ku.dk
EDUCATION
1997 (May 16th) D. Sc. (Doctor scientiarum, highest scientific degree), UCPH, Denmark
1990 (Oct. 30th) Master of Science, Biology, UCPH, Denmark

SCIENTIFIC FOCUS AREAS

I am addressing the central question of the role of the microenvironment in normal tissue homeostasis and cancer. With the aim of unravelling fundamental biological and physiological mechanisms, I have continuously developed cell culture technologies and established several widely used culture models. Currently, I am particularly interested in the breast stem cell hierarchy and connective tissue cells as sources of niche conditions for stem cells and their progeny with particular emphasis on the origin and progression of breast cancer.

POSITIONS

1989 Scholarship from the Danish Cancer Society
1990-1995 Research Assistant and Research Fellow at the Danish Cancer Society
1996-1997 Research Fellow and Senior Fellow at the Finsen Laboratory., State University Hospital
1997-2003 Assoc. Prof. (externally funded) at the August Krogh Institute (by Oct. 1st)
2003- Assoc. Prof. at the August Krogh Institute, now Dept. of Biology (by July 1st)

GUEST SCIENTIST

1996 Berkeley National Laboratory, CA, US (3 mo)
1992 University of Geneva, C.M.U., Switzerland (2 wk)
1991-1992 L.G.M.E. du C.N.R.S., Strasbourg, France (3 mo)

ACADEMIC HONORS/AWARDS

2005 Prize from Bernhard Rasmussen og hustru Metas Rasmussens fond in appreciation of scientific work within cancer research
2001-2003 Fellowship from Købmand i Odense Johann og Hanne Weimann født Seedorffs Legat
1994 Nordic Molecular Biology Association-Pharmacia Biotech Young Scientist Award
1991 Winning prize paper in competition announced by fru Astrid Thaysens Legat for Lægevidenskabelig Grundforskning
1991 Short-term EMBO fellowship

RESEARCH LEADERSHIP/MANAGEMENT

2015-2023 Section Head, Section for Cell Biology and Physiology, Dept. of Biology, UCPH
2009-2015 Section Head, Section for Cell and Developmental Biology, Dept. of Biology, UCPH
2015 Biosecurity Officer certified
2013-2018 Management Representative of Occupational Health & Safety Committee (FAMU)
2010 FELASA C certified
2010 Research Group Leadership Development Programme (FGL, SCIENCE) completed
2004-2007 Board member of Cross Faculty Research Priority Area "BioCampus"
2003-2007 Member of the Department's Education Committee
2003-2007 Member of the Department's Research Committee (chairman 2004)

MAIN RECENT FUNDING

2023-2024 Haensch Fond (co-PI)
2023-2024 Fabrikant Einar Willumsens Mindelegat (PI)
2020-2021 Dagmar Marshalls Fond (PI)
2011-2021 Basic Stem Cell Biology in the national initiative Danish Stem Cell Center (co-PI)

SUPERVISION AND TEACHING

2-4 pre-graduate students per year, 8 PhD students since 2002
Current teaching: Bachelor's level: General Cell Biology, BioScience; Master's level: Advanced Cell Biology (~30% of course program), Developmental Biology (course coordinator, ~60% of course program).
Mentor in the UCPH mentor program (KU-Forskervejen) 2016

INNOVATION

Inventor of three commercially available human breast cell lines
•<https://ximbio.com/reagent/153783/iahf-intralobular-human-fibroblast-cell-line>
•<https://ximbio.com/reagent/153784/iehf-interlobular-human-fibroblast-cell-line>
•<https://www.abmgood.com/stable-human-er-positive-breast-epithelial-cell-line.html>

REVIEWER AND GRANT EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

Ad hoc reviewer, recently e. g. Nat. Commun., Nat. Cancer, Front. Oncol., Front. Cell Dev. Biol., Scientific Rep., Int. J. Dev. Biol., Stem Cell Res.

Research grant evaluator for e. g. Trond Mohn Foundation, Norway; Breast Cancer Now, UK; Czech Science Foundation, GAČR; National Cancer Institute, NIH, US

RECENT OUTREACH

- <http://sciencenews.dk/da/forskere-paa-sporet-af-hvordan-brystkraeft-opstaar>
- <https://bpno.dk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/betydning-af-bindevaevsceller-for-brystudvikling-og-hormonreceptor-ekspression.pdf>
- <https://www.cancer.dk/forskning/nyheder/nyt-redskab-i-brystkraeffforskningen-kan-foere-til-forebyggelse-af-brystkraeft-p4/>

BIBLIOMETRICS (as of June, 2023)

39 peer-reviewed papers with 2 announced as Top Story in Mammary Cell News

(<https://www.mammarycellnews.com/issue/volume-7-45-nov-19/>; <https://www.mammarycellnews.com/issue/volume-9-44-nov-9/9>), 6 book chapters, 3 patent applications, 1 lay publication, 1 graduate thesis, 1 prize paper, 1 doctoral thesis, and 1 book review.

H-index: Web of Science: 27, Google Scholar: 28

Citations: Web of Science: 5181; Google scholar: 7565

Published papers as first author: 11; as senior author: 7

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (CURRENT KEY COLLABORATORS)

2017- European Network of Breast Development and Cancer Labs. (ENBDC) committee member;

2021- Breast Tissue Working Group (ENBDC)

(Ole W. Petersen, Jiyoung Kim, René Villadsen, Department of Molecular Medicine, UCPH, Denmark; Mikkel Morsing Bagger, Lund University Cancer Centre, Lund University, Sweden)