

Juan Carlos Izpisúa Belmonte graduated from the University of Valencia, Spain and received his Ph.D. from the University of Bologna, Italy and the University of Valencia, Spain in 1987. He is currently a Professor in the Gene Expression Laboratory Director of the Center of Regenerative Medicine in Barcelona.

He has published over 200 articles in high profile, internationally recognized, peer reviewed journals and book chapters. He is a member of several scientific journal editorial boards, including *Development*, *Developmental Biology*, *Development Genes & Evolution*, the *International Journal of Developmental Biology* and *Mechanisms of Development*. He has also organized and spoken at numerous meetings and seminars.

His key scientific interests include the establishment of organ left-right asymmetry, limb and heart development, and stem cell biology and regeneration. He has received several notable honors and awards, including the William Clinton Presidential Award, the Pew Scholar Award, the National Science Foundation Creativity Award, the American Heart Association Established Investigator Award, and the Roger Guillemin Nobel Chair for his endeavors in these fields.

Dr. Izpisúa Belmonte has been at the forefront of developmental biology research. Through the years he has produced novel, groundbreaking results, such as uncovering the role of some homeobox genes in limb patterning and specification, as well as the identification of the molecular mechanisms that determine how the different cell type precursors of internal organs are organized spatially along the embryonic left right axis. Furthermore, his work has started to give us a glimpse into the molecular basis implicated during organ regeneration in higher vertebrates, the differentiation of human stem cells into various tissues, and the molecular basis underlying somatic cell reprogramming.