



Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology

Hosted by Dr. Susanne Bechstedt

“Causes and consequences of chromosome segregation error in early mammalian embryos.”

Greg FitzHarris PhD
University of Montreal



Chromosome segregation errors in early development jeopardize embryo viability and are thus considered a cause of infertility. However, why chromosome segregation is so error prone in the early embryo is unknown. Here I will discuss recent experiments from the lab examining the mechanisms of segregation in early mouse embryos. I will discuss the role of the spindle assembly checkpoint, which safeguards segregation in other cell types, and the unusual role of micronuclei in perpetuating and amplifying segregation errors in embryos. I will discuss how errors relate to cell fate decisions in the early embryo, and how the unusual challenges of segregating chromosomes in such a highly specialized cellular environment may contribute to the high rates of error.

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11:30 am

Strathcona Anatomy Building
3640 University Street
Room 2/36

www.mcgill.ca/anatomy/seminars
anatomysec.med@mcgill.ca