

The Steroid Hormones and Receptors in Health and Disease Conference

Keynote Lecture Bio: Donald P. McDonnell, PhD



Donald P. McDonnell, Ph.D., is the Glaxo-Wellcome Professor of Molecular Cancer Biology in the Department of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology at Duke University School of Medicine. In addition, he serves as Co-Director of the Women's Cancer Program within the Duke Cancer Institute.

Dr. McDonnell obtained a Degree in Biochemistry from the National University of Ireland (Galway) in 1983 and a PhD from the Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, in 1988, under the mentorship of Dr. Bert O'Malley. After three years in industry at SmithKline and Ligand Pharmaceuticals, he moved to Duke where his work has focused on the genetic and pharmacological dissection of the nuclear receptor signal transduction pathways. The insights from this work have led to the discovery and development of novel estrogen and androgen receptor modulators, some of which have advanced to the clinic and are being evaluated as treatments for breast and prostate cancers and a variety of endocrinopathies.

Dr. McDonnell has received numerous investigator awards; the most notable being the Roy E. Greep, Weitzman, and Ernst Oppenheimer Awards from the Endocrine Society, ASPET's John J. Abel Award, the Pharmacia-ASPET Award for Experimental Therapeutics, the NAMS SERM Research Award and the Robert Ruffolo lifetime achievement award in pharmacology. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland, a member of the National Academy of Medicine, and a Komen Scholar. Dr. McDonnell has published over 275 articles on the molecular pharmacology of nuclear hormone receptors.