

Biotechnology and Biosciences Seminars



Dipartimento di Biotecnologie e Bioscienze – UNIMIB

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"Out of phase": A tale of proteins and RNA in biological condensation

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Abstract: Molecular condensation helps regulating gene expression by modulating the interactions between proteins and RNA. However, dysregulation in these interactions can result in aberrant protein liquid-to-solid phase transition and in the accumulation of toxic deposits, hallmark of neurodegeneration. In this seminar, we will focus on the interplay between proteins and RNA in phase transition and explore the use of short synthetic RNA, aptamers, to track and control the process. We will examine the case of TDP-43, whose aberrant aggregation is associated with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and investigate the use of RNA aptamers for studying its aggregation in vitro, in cells and in tissue.

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