

CSI Investigator Award

Congratulations / Félicitations



Dr. Alberto Martin, *Professor, Department of Immunology, University of Toronto*

Dr. Martin is a Professor in the Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto. He did his undergraduate training at McGill University. He then completed his PhD in 1999 in the Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto with Dr. Florence Tsui, working on the autoimmune condition dermatomyositis. He then pursued post-doctoral training at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, U.S.A., with Dr. Matthew Scharff, focusing on characterizing the molecular mechanisms of secondary antibody responses, namely somatic hypermutation and class switch recombination, which are two processes that are central to the efficient neutralizing of pathogens and toxins. In 2003, he was recruited as a faculty member to the Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Martin's research is focused in three main areas. His main interest is on antibody production, on how high-affinity antibodies are generated, and how antibodies of different classes are produced. Both of these processes are necessary for an efficient antibody response. In addition, he has also been investigating how these processes are linked to lymphoma generation due to the now recognized link between antibody production and cancer development. Dr. Martin is also investigating the role of the gut microbiota in the etiology of colon cancer. His laboratory is currently funded by the CIHR and Canadian Cancer Society.