

Bio-Medicine, Health Care and Food Production

Ryszard Gorecki

Senate Republic of Poland

*(Vice Chair of the Commission of Science, Education &
Sport, and Member of the Commission on Health)*

Bio–Medicine

Biomedicine is known as *theoretical medicine*, is a term that comprises the knowledge and research which is more or less in common to the fields of human medicine, veterinary medicine, odontology and fundamental biosciences



Main research topics in Bio-Medicine

- } Stem cells as a source of pluripotent genetic material for regenerative medicine
- } Gene therapy - recombinant DNA technology to human therapeutics (*genetic cancer therapy*)
- } Molecular diagnostics
- } Drug production and testing, (pharmacogenomics)
 - drugs based on DNA/RNA
 - recombinants proteins
- } Metabolomics

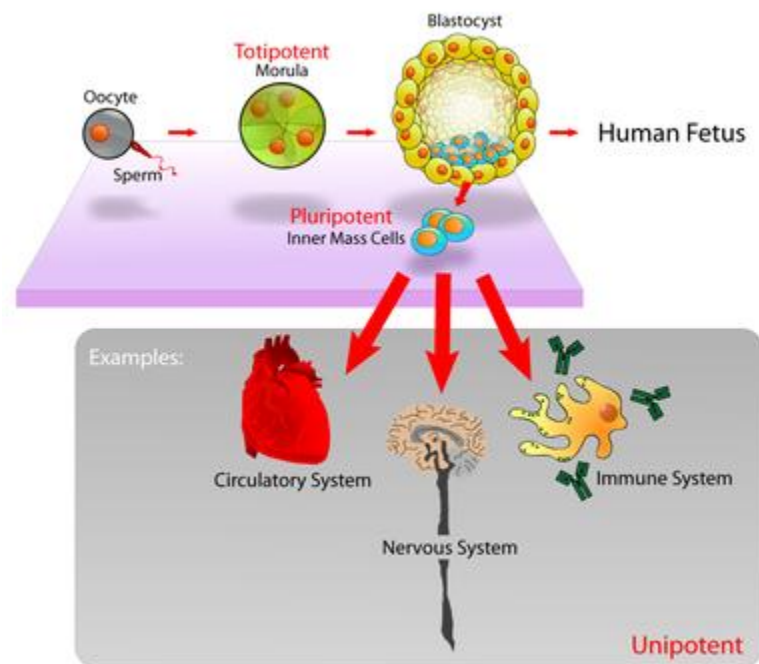
Stem Cells

Stem cells are cells are found in all multi-cellular organisms. They are characterized by the ability to renew themselves through mitotic cell division and differentiating into a diverse range of specialized cell types. The two broad types of mammalian stem cells are: **embryonic stem cells** that are isolated from the inner cell mass of blastocysts, and **adult cells** that are found in adult tissues. In a developing embryo, stem cells can differentiate into all of the specialized embryonic tissues. In adult organisms, stem cells and progenitor cells act as a repair system for the body, replenishing specialized cells, but also maintain the normal turnover of regenerative organs, such as blood, skin, or intestinal tissues.

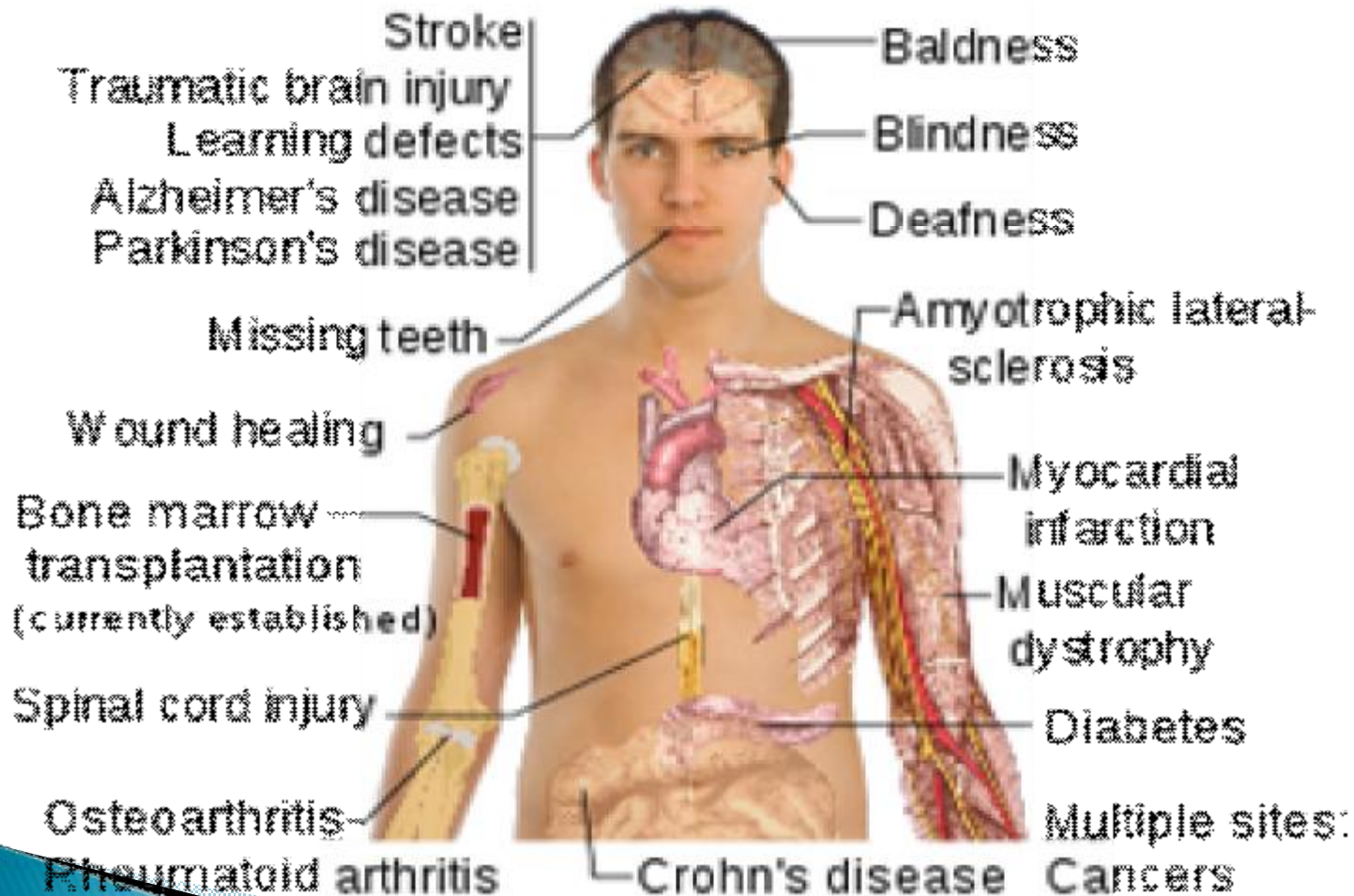
Stem cells can be grown and transformed into specialized cells used in medical therapies.



Stem Cells



Potential uses of **Stem cells**

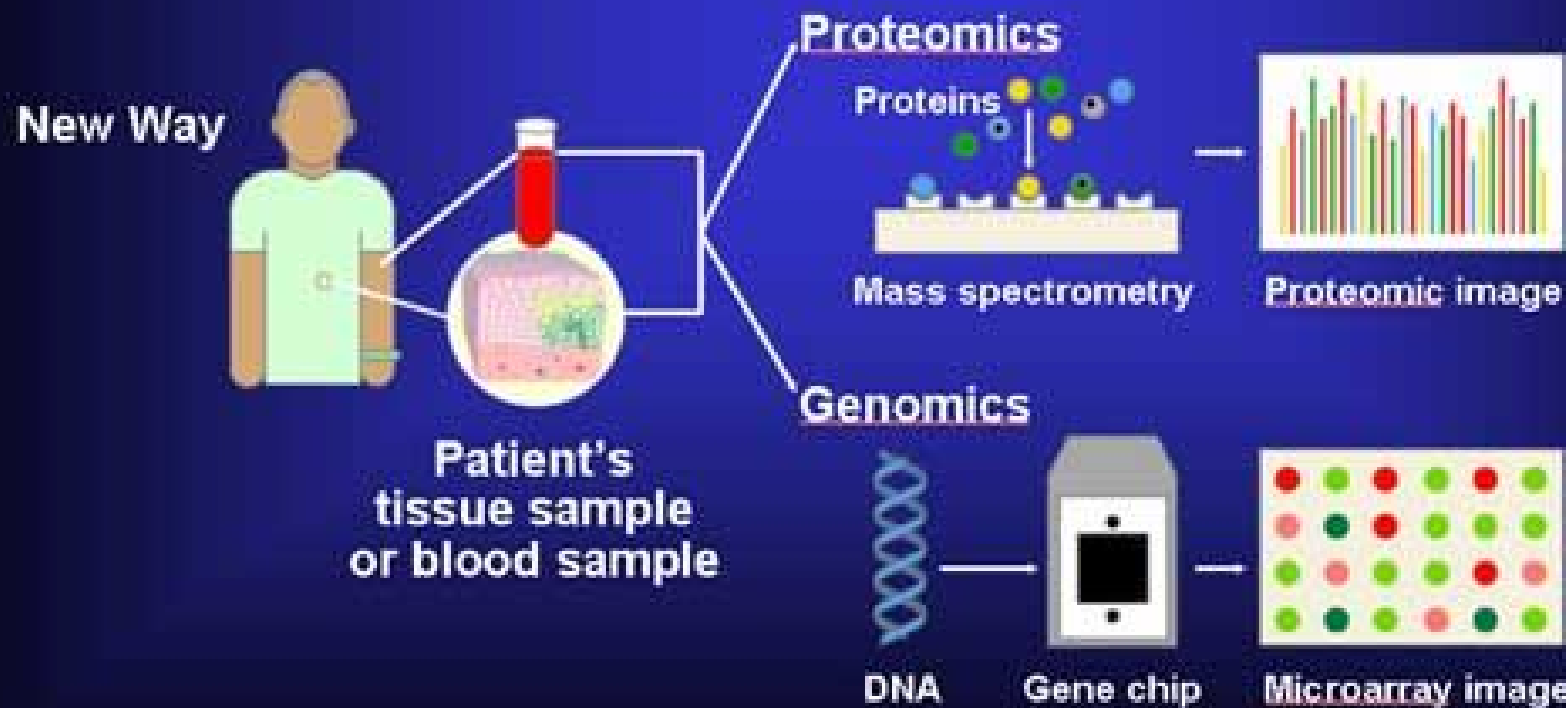
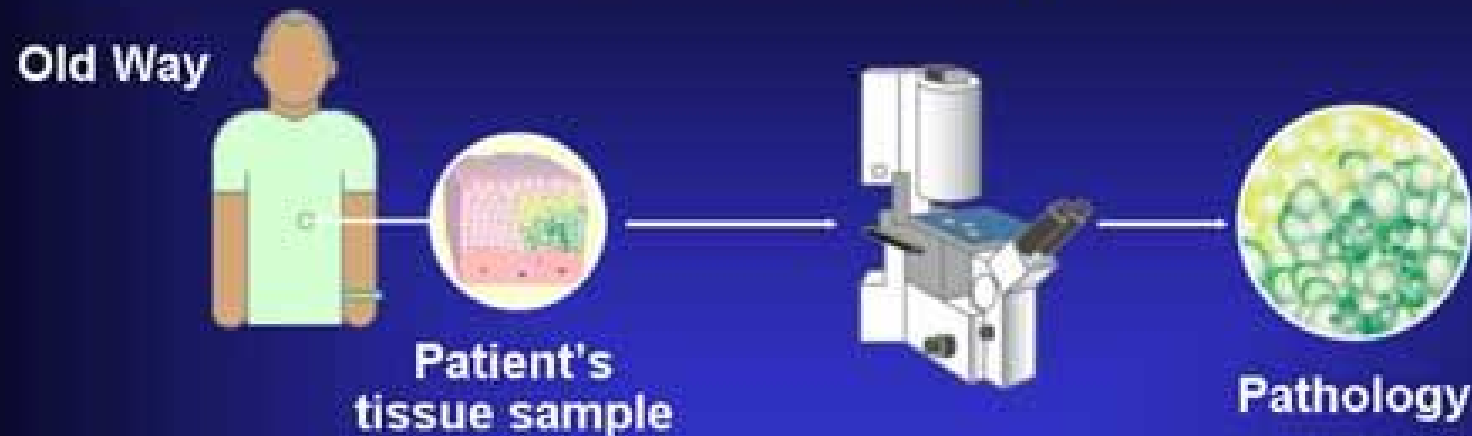


Gene therapy


- } Gene therapy is the treatment that involves introducing genetic material into a person's cells to fight or prevent disease
- } Researchers are studying gene therapy for cancer through a number of different approaches
- } A gene can be delivered to a cell using a carrier known as a “vector.” The most common types of vectors used in gene therapy are viruses

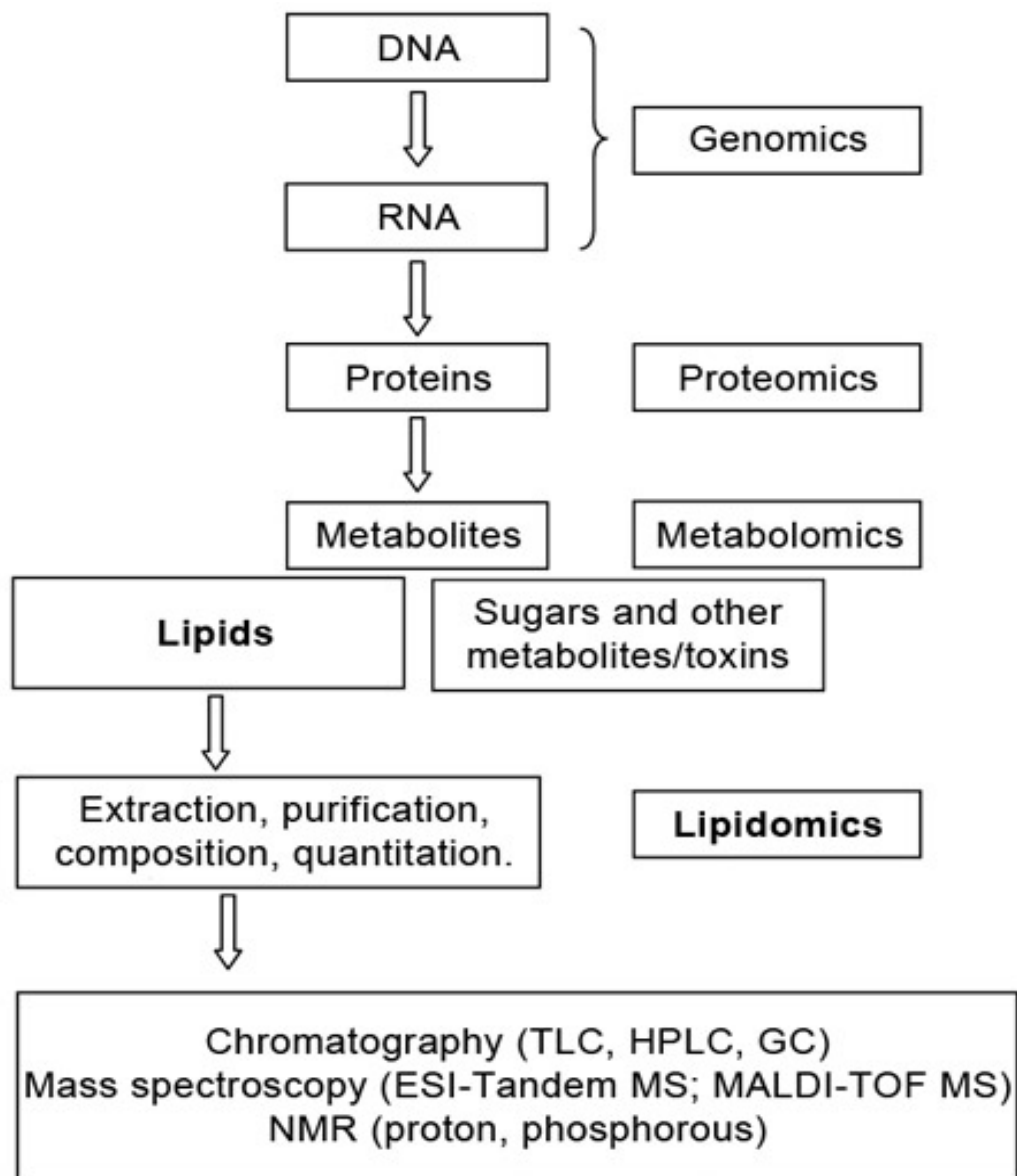


Molecular Diagnostics



Metabolomics in Medicine

- } Metabolomics is concerned with the measurement of global sets of low-molecular weight metabolites. It is the study of metabolites and their roles in various disease states and is a novel methodology.
 - } The major application of metabolomics is in toxicology, clinical trial testing, pharmacology and drugphenotyping, nutrient industry and food /beverage tests, cancer research, clinical pathology tests.
 - } Metabolomics developed mostly in plants, which are easier to study compared to mammals.
 - } Metabolomics in medicine is considered to have the potential to revolutionize medical practice in prevention, predicting and personalizing health care.
- 



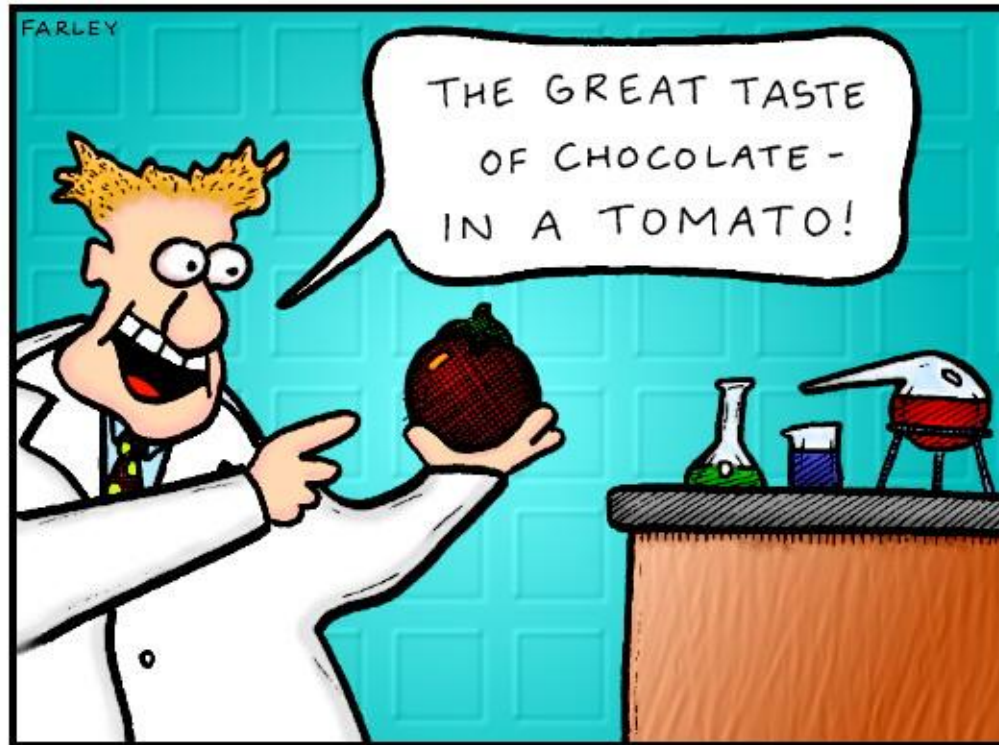
Food and Human Health

- } Production of special food contents (e.g. insulin in transgenic plants etc.)
- } Influencing vulnerability of crops by genetic engineering
- } Reduced use of fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture
- } Genetics and nutrition *(The understanding of the role of nutrients on DNA stability, repair and on the different gene expression processes recently became more prominent in nutritional science. Nutrients can induce gene expression thereby altering individual phenotype.)*

Production of special food contents

DOCTOR FUN

20 Apr 94



© Copyright 1994 David Farley. World rights reserved.
This cartoon is made available on the Internet for personal viewing only.
dgfl@midway.uchicago.edu
Opinions expressed herein are not those of the University of Chicago
or the University of North Carolina.

What we have to look forward to from genetic engineering.

Genetics and Nutrition

- } Metabolomics
- } Gene – environment – interaction in health maintenance and diseases development

Ecological Food



Development of Medical Biotechnology in Poland

1. Biopharmacology

- recombinants proteins
- production of drugs based on nucleic acids
- gene therapy

2. Molecular diagnostics

3. Implementation of law regulations for genetics research.



A portrait of Nicolaus Copernicus, a man with dark, wavy hair and a slight beard, wearing a red garment. The portrait is the background of the slide.

International – Baltic Biomedical Research Center in Olsztyn *BioBaltMed*

Olsztyn is a place where Nicolaus Copernicus was
used to live and work.

The city is the recognised as a scientific, academic,
business and cultural centre of
the North-Eastern Poland.



Aims of BioBaltMed Center:

- Research integration in the area of bio-medical and bio-veterinary sciences
- Integration of local science activities with European Research Area (ERA)
- Translating research into the practise

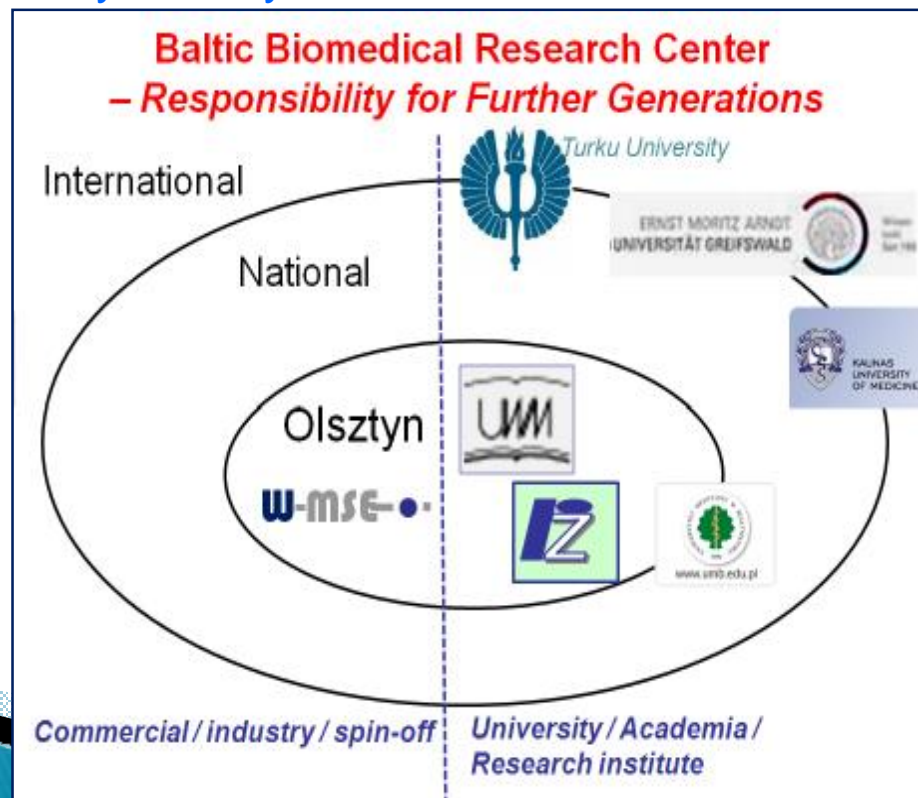
Partners and contributors:

1. Local contributors:
 - University of Warmia and Mazury
 - Institute of Animal Reproduction & Food Research of PAS
 - Warmia and Mazury Special Economic Zone (*Industry*)
2. Country (National) Partner(s):
 - Medical University in Bialystok

3. Baltic Sea Country Partners:

- Turku University (Finland)
- Greifswald University (Germany)

Kaunas University of
- Medicine (Lithuania),



ØBaton Rouge
Biomedical Research
Center (Louisiana),

ØMD Anderson
Cancer Center,
Houston (Texas)

ØMiller School of
Medicine, University
of Miami (Florida).

Structure and specific subjects of BioBaltMed Center (first level of organization)

1. **Reproductive Biology and Medicine** *(the study focused on infertility problems and biotechnics and biotechnology of reproduction)*
2. **Food and Health** *(the study focused on food quality, advanced food processing, personalized nutrition and metabolic diseases)*
3. **Neuro and Regenerative Biology and Medicine** *(the study focused on stem cells, neuroanatomy and neurodegeneration/regeneration, neuropharmacology and carcinogenesis)*

