

*Keynote lecture at the biannual meeting on
Biology in Iceland 2015*

Why don't we get more cancer?

The crucial role of Extracellular Matrix and
Microenvironment in metastasis and dormancy

Dr. Mina J. Bissell
Distinguished Scientist
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Thursday November 5th 16:00
Location: Lecture Hall – DeCode Genetics
Sturlugata 8.

Free admission
Registration to IceBio2015 is not required to attend the lecture

Abstract of Dr. Bissell talk

Tumors are like new organs and are made of multiple cell types and components. The tumor competes with the normal microenvironment to overcome antitumorigenic pressures. Before that battle is won, the tumor may exist within the organ unnoticed by the host, referred to as 'occult cancer'. In this talk dr. Bissell will discuss how normal tissue homeostasis and architecture inhibit progression of cancer and how changes in the microenvironment can shift the balance of these signals to the procancerous state. Dr. Bissell will also discuss how this information is being tailored for clinical use.

About Dr. Bissell

Dr. Mina Bissell has been recognized for her lifetime contributions to the fields of breast cancer research, the enhanced role of extracellular matrix (ECM) and the nucleus environment to gene expression in normal and malignant tissues. These works have ushered and have changed some central paradigms that have strengthened the importance of context in the development of cancer.