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CFA LECTURES

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Unravelling mechanisms of the radio-adaptive response

- Abstract -

We live on a planet bathed in radiation. Organisms have evolved mechanisms to cope with background radiation and also to respond to changing levels of radiation in their environment. The responses to changing levels of low dose radiation include radio-adaptive responses which can lead to a net protection from the damaging effects of radiation. The molecules involved in the adaptive response could be harnessed to prevent damage to organisms from radiation, to determine safe limits of radiation in the environment, and to slow down aging, cancer formation and other diseases. The in vivo and in vitro approaches that we have been undertaking to try to understand the mechanism of the radio-adaptive response will be discussed.

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