



Mechanisms of Tissue Adaptation and Maladaptation

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Dr. Shruti Naik, Ph.D., is an international leader in immunology and tissue stem cell biology. Her research leverages cutting-edge technologies to explore immune cell communication with tissues, with a focus on developing therapies that prevent inflammatory damage and promote organ rejuvenation at cellular and molecular levels.

Epithelial tissues, which line and protect our bodies, including the skin and gut, are perpetually exposed to stressors such as injuries, infections, and harmful environmental stimuli. These stressors disrupt homeostasis, triggering immediate detection by immune cells strategically positioned at barrier sites. My research delves into the context-specific mechanisms governing immune-tissue crosstalk, emphasizing the developmental and microbial factors that regulate epithelial barrier integrity, facilitate repair processes, and contribute to disease. By unravelling these intricate interactions, my research group aims to shed light on how epithelial tissues maintain resilience and respond to challenges, ultimately informing strategies for therapeutic intervention.

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