



Introduction



Corresponding Author

Joo Han Kim

E-mail: nskjh94@korea.ac.kr

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4747-9763>

Department of Neurosurgery, Korea
University Guro Hospital, Korea
University College of Medicine, Seoul,
Korea



This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>) which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Copyright © 2020 by the Korean Spinal
Neurosurgery Society

Bench to Bed (B2B) Project; Intervertebral Disc Degeneration in Collaboration With Biospine

Degenerative intervertebral disc disease evokes a common clinical problem which has major socio-economic impact in the developing and developed countries, but it is well known that restoration to the normal spine is impossible once the degeneration cascade has begun. Although there are many studies on this fundamental question with great effort by numerous research groups, most spine researchers agree that we are still lack of advanced convergence studies starting from the bench to bed and these researches should be continued consistently by a diversity of specialists.

BioSpine (International Congress on Biotechnologies for Spinal Surgery) was founded at the suggestion of Dr. Hans Jörg Meisel, President of REGENERATE Europe in 2002. Since 2002, 7 successful meetings have been organized by Dr. Meisel, founder, and Chair Bio Spine, Dr. Gianluca Vadalà, and Dr. Marianna Tryfonidou have been instrumental in organizing the recent meetings focused on the novel basic research and biotechnologies applied to degenerative spine disease, promoting mutual collaboration between different specialists and scientists involved in the spine field. Especially, BioSpine strives to deliver the up-to-date knowledge in the spine field including intervertebral disc degeneration. Therefore, I consider that this special issue project will be a synergic effort between the BioSpine and Neurospine in the field of intervertebral disc degeneration to regeneration. The leading editors of this issue include Prof. James D. Kang (USA), Prof. Hans Jörg Meisel (Germany), and Prof. Joo Han Kim (Korea), with Prof. Gianluca Vadala (Italy) and Prof. InBo Han (Korea) who take major roles as the executive editors. Prof. James D. Kang is an internationally recognized leader in the field of intervertebral disc degeneration research. In the past two decades, he has done pioneering work in understanding the biology and molecular mechanisms of disc degeneration as well as devising novel therapeutic interventions using stem cells and gene therapy. We also invited international leading researchers to introduce up-to-date research in regard to degenerative spine disease. The editorial team members for this special issue are comprised of experts, world-leading intervertebral disc researchers, and surgeons, whom ensure that articles published in this special issue will provide balanced views and evidence-based knowledge to our readers.



Title: The girls of Avignon

Artist: Pablo Picasso

Year: 1907

This painting, *Les Femmes d'Alger*, was painted in 1907 and is the most famous example of cubism painting. In this painting, Picasso abandoned all known form and representation of traditional art. He used distortion of female's body and geometric forms in an innovative way, which challenge the expectation that paintings will offer idealized representations of female beauty. It also shows the influence of African art on Picasso.

This painting is a large work and took nine months to complete. It demonstrates the true genius and novelty of Picasso's passion. He created hundreds of sketches and studies to prepare for the final work. Some critics argue that the painting was a reaction to Henri Matisse's *Le bonheur de vivre* and *Blue Nude*.

More information: <https://www.pablocicasso.org/avignon.jsp>

© 2020 - Succession Pablo Picasso - SACK (Korea)