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Presentation title: **The *Drosophila* model**

Message to the participants:

Welcome to the Youth Program! I was trained as a developmental biologist, but became a fly immunologist. Our studies, performed over many years and based on a combination of biochemistry, analytical chemistry, molecular biology and genetics has led our laboratory to propose a model of antimicrobial defences extending from the recognition receptors of infectious non-self to the activation of signalling cascades which trigger the rapid transcription of immune response genes, and most notably of the potent antimicrobial peptides. I am still working on the Innate Immune system trying to understand the interactions between the host and the pathogens. During my talk, I will try to tell you that success in Science depends on ideas, luck and importantly, stubbornness.

