

# What's Important in Hypoxic Cell Culture

## A Growing Trend in Cancer & Stem Cell Research

**Speaker: Samantha Lee**



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# Agenda

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- Hypoxia definition
- Why is Low Oxygen Important in Tissue Culture?  
Cancer, Cancer Statistics, Stem Cells
- Overview of Current Culture method
- Today Challenges in the Tissue Laboratory
- Ruskinn Hypoxia workstation
- Summary: what's advantages in Ruskinn workstations



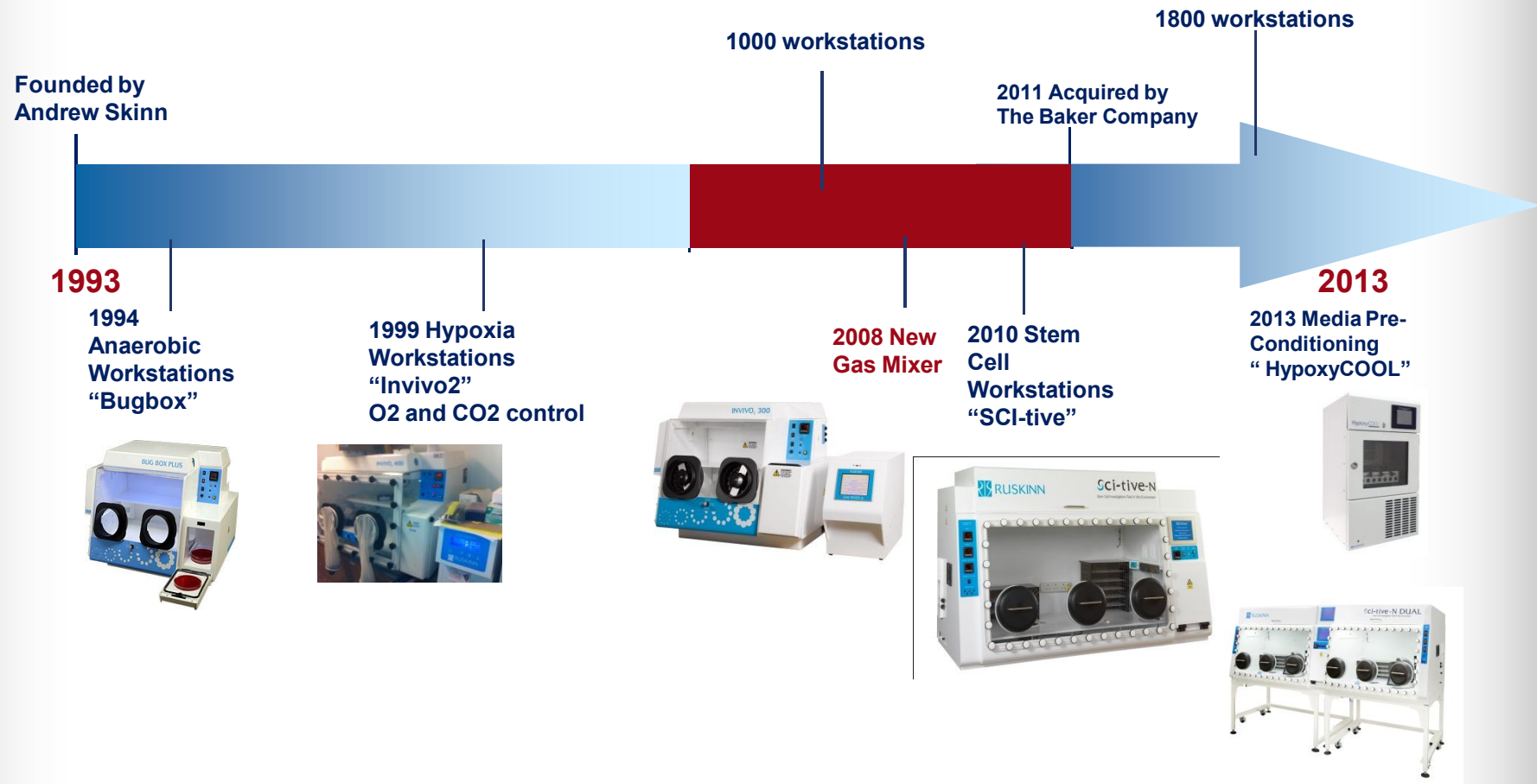
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# Ruskinn- Key Milestones



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# Hypoxia definition

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**Q: What is Hypoxia?**

**A: When  $O_2$  in the cell or organ drops below physiologically normal levels**

**Q: What is the physiologically normal  $O_2$  level?**

**A: It depends on cell or organ but is  $<20.9\%$**



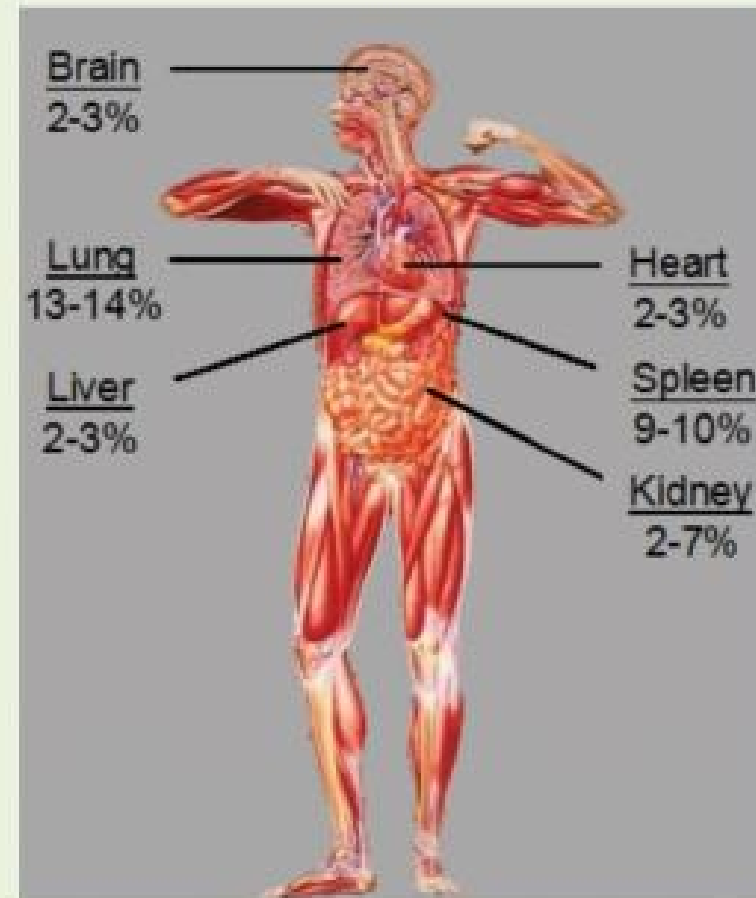
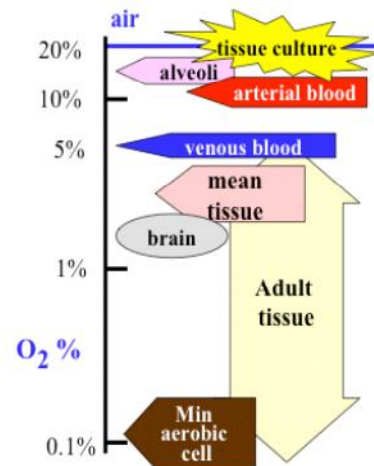
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# Why is Low Oxygen Important in Tissue Culture?

- Most Cells live within 2-8 % Oxygen (except lung )
- *in vivo* cell interaction does not occurs at ambient oxygen



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# Low Oxygen Tissue or Cell Culture and Research

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1. Cancer
2. Diabetes
3. Aging
4. Stem Cells

**Mainly HIF (Hypoxia Inducible Factor) dependent signalling pathways**



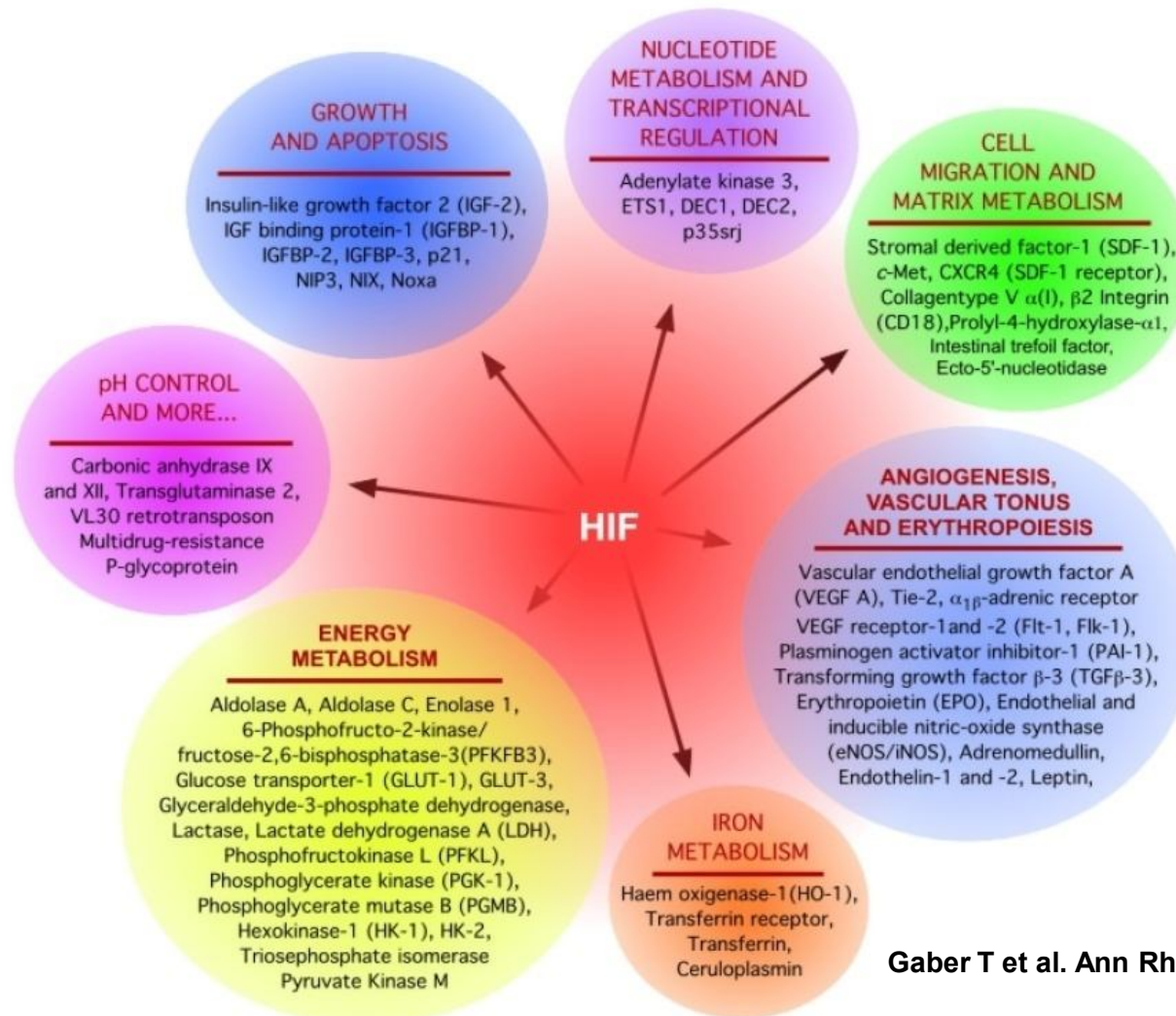
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# HIF, master regulator of hypoxia-induced gene expression



Gaber T et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2005;64:971-980



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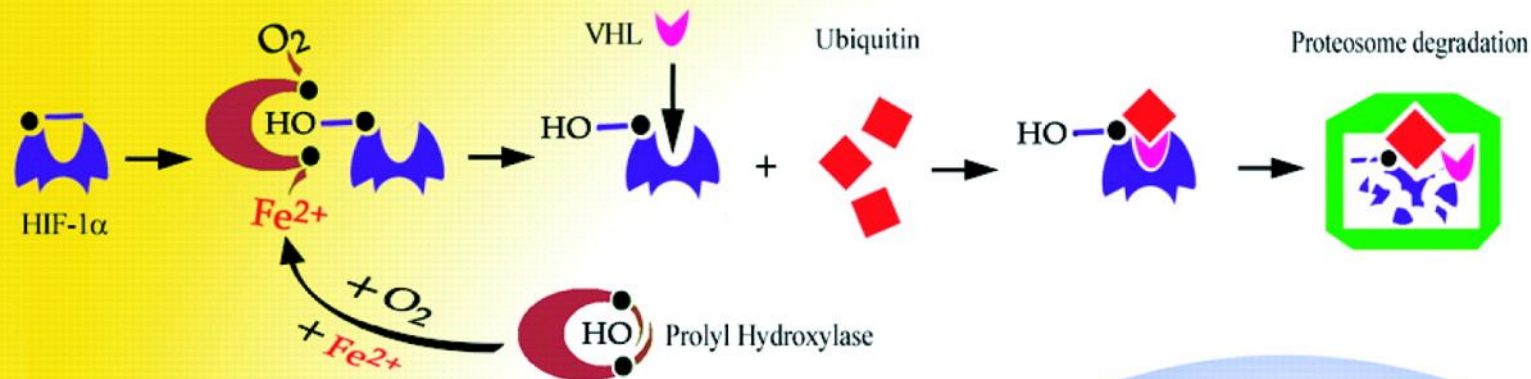
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# This scheme represents the current concept for hypoxia-inducible factor-1 (HIF-1) pathways

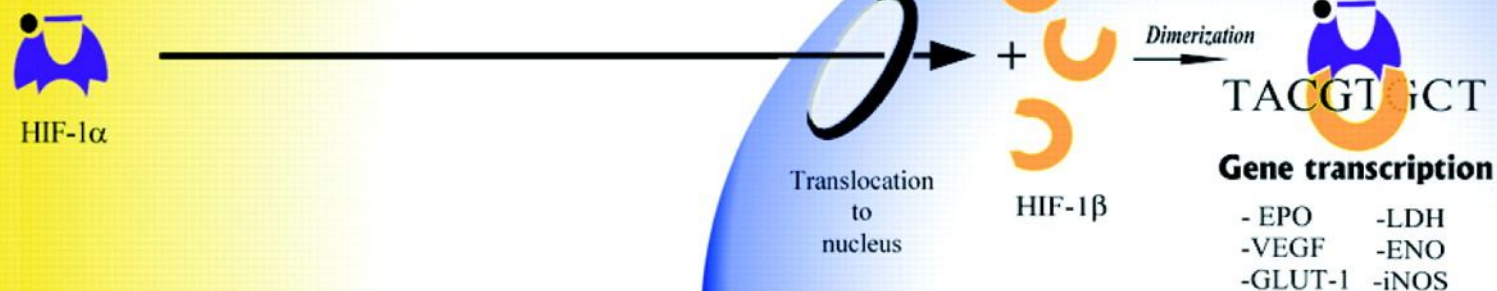
©2004 by The Company of Biologists Ltd

LaManna J C et al. J Exp Biol 2004;207:3163-3169

## Normoxia



## Hypoxia



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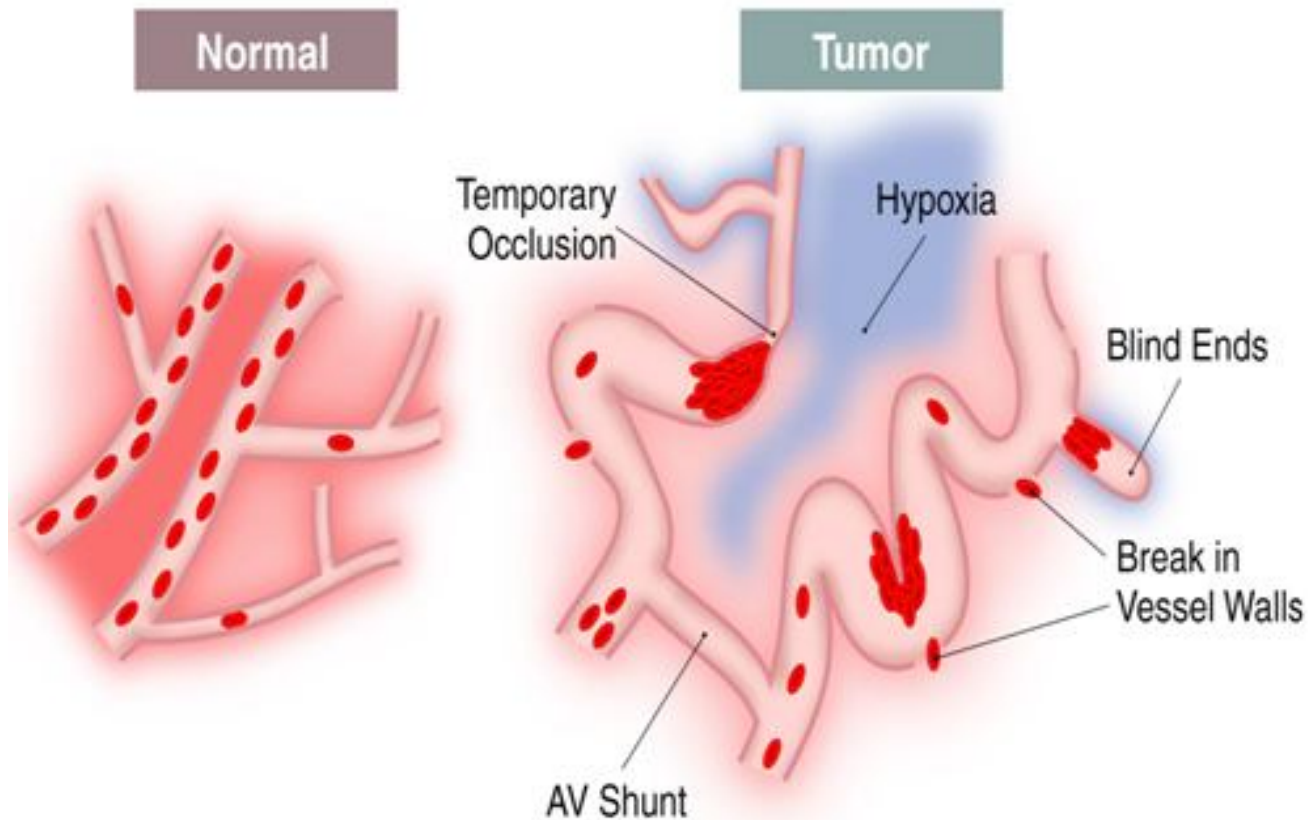
# Important of Low Oxygen in Cancer



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# Hypoxic Tumor Cells



- Many solid cancers receive less blood, causing hypoxic environment
- Hypoxic tumor often more resistant to cancer treatments and are more likely to become invasive and spread to other parts of the body

From Brown and Giaccia, Cancer Res., 58: 1408-16 (1998)



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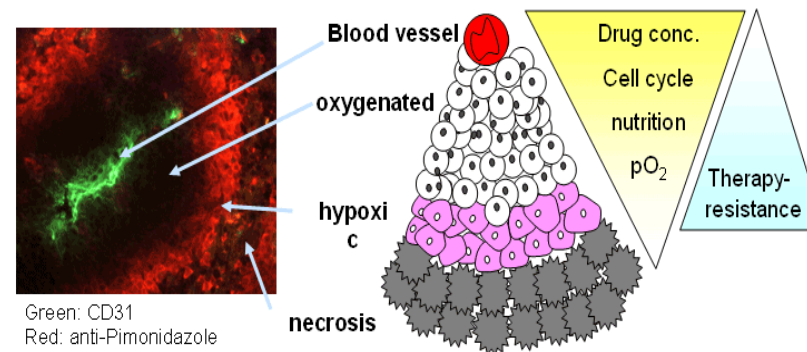
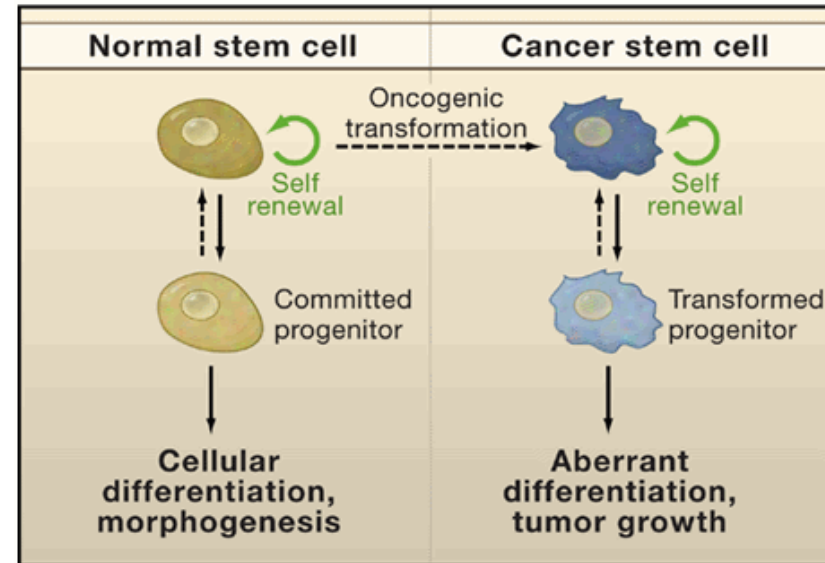
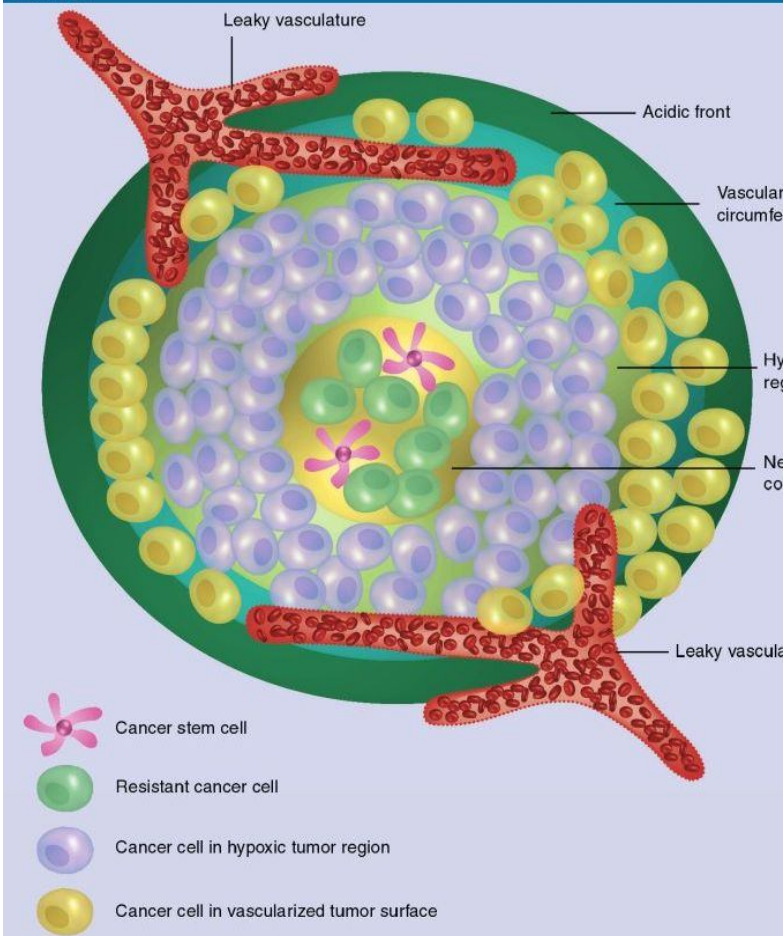
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# Cancer Research Tumour microenvironment

Medscape



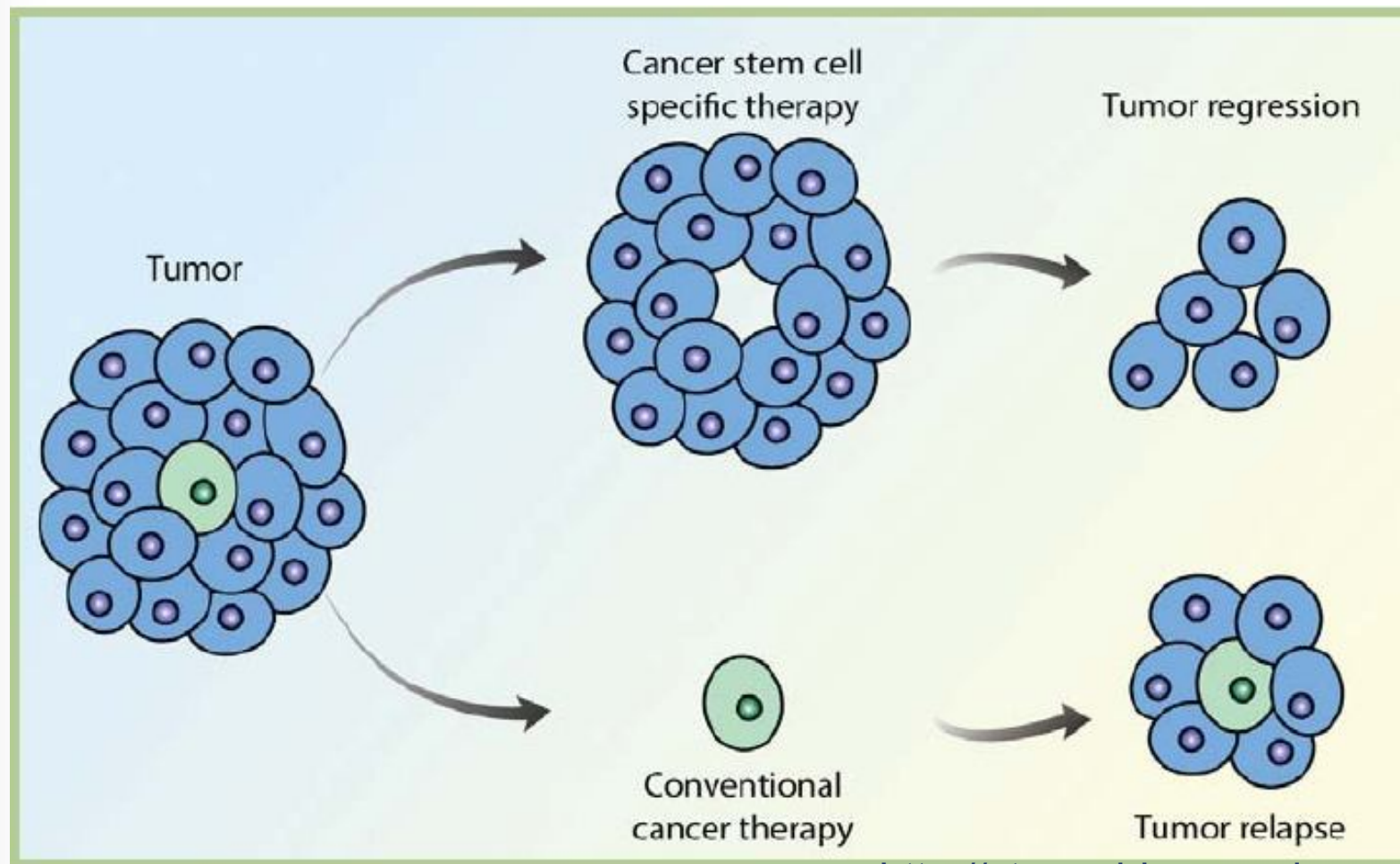
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# Post Chemotherapy Stem Cells Treatment For Cancer



<http://stemrxblog.wordpress.com/>



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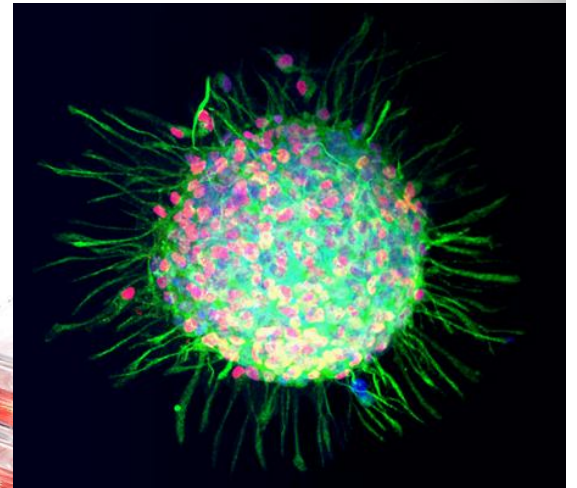
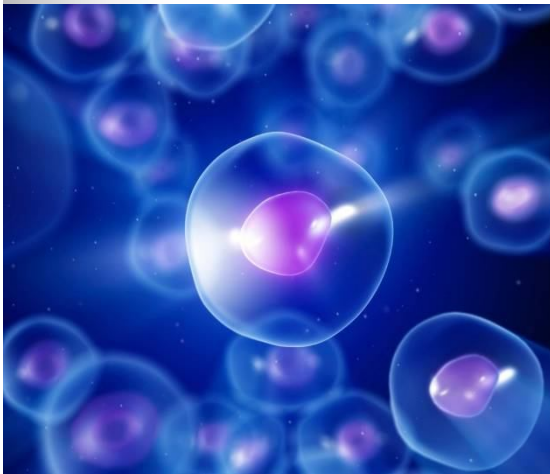


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# Important of Low Oxygen in Stem Cell



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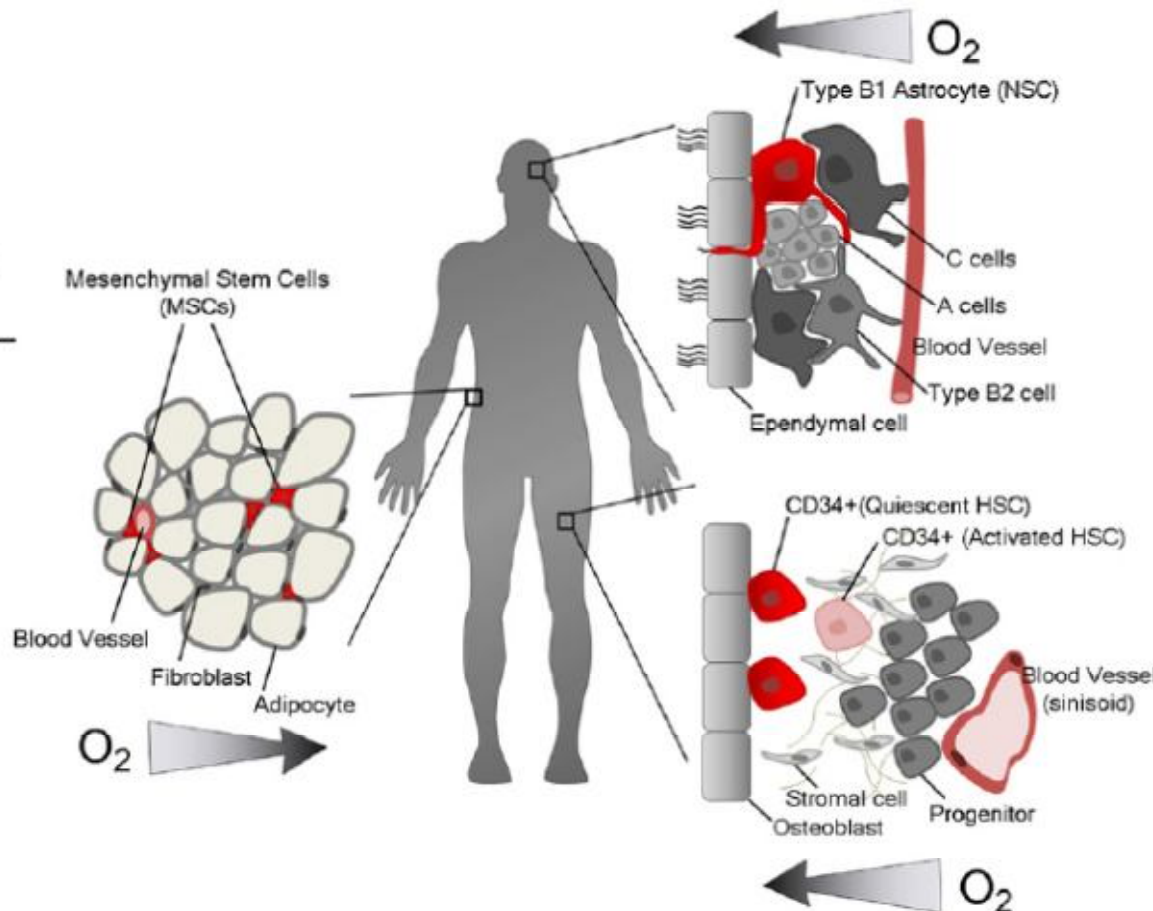
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# In Stem Cell Research

## The Mesenchymal Stem Cell Niche

**2-8% O<sub>2</sub>**

Kofoed et. al., 1985  
Harrison et. al., 2002  
Matsumoto et. al., 2005  
Pasarics et. al., 2009



## The Neural Stem Cell Niche

**<1-8% O<sub>2</sub>**

Dings et. al., 1998  
Erecinska and Silver, 2001  
Panshion, 2009

## The Hematopoietic Stem Cell Niche

**1-6% O<sub>2</sub>**

Grant and Root, 1947  
Cipolleschi et. al., 1993  
Chow et al., 2010  
Eliasson and Jonsson, 2010



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# Summary

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1. More representative of *in vivo* physiology
2. Faster growth rate of cell cultures
3. More representative of tumor microenvironment
4. Maintenance of pluripotency when expanding Stem Cells



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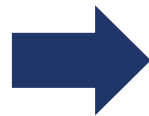


# Today Challenges in the Tissue Laboratory



However, there are changes in....

1. Temperature
2. Oxidative Stress
3. Humidity
4. pH



**Leading to cell stress**



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- To mimic the physiological *in vivo* cellular process on an *in vitro* level ...



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# Ruskinn Hypoxia Workstations:

## SCI-tive Workstations

### Stem Cell Investigations Total In Vitro Environment

1. O<sub>2</sub>: 0.0% to **23.0%**, in 0.1% increments
2. CO<sub>2</sub>: 0.0% to 30.0%, in 0.1% increments
3. Temperature Control: from ambient +5C to 45 C
4. Humidity Control: ambient to 85% RH
5. Pre-programmable cycling
6. Auto Calibration of O<sub>2</sub> sensor
7. Hepa-filtered Air: Class 5/Class 100
8. Larger Workstation (1.1m internal width) and Interlock
9. Ability to accept different stereo and inverted microscopes



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# Ruskin Hypoxia Workstations:

## Sci-tive Workstations: 2 Models

Sci-tive



1650mm

Dual Sci-tive



2610mm

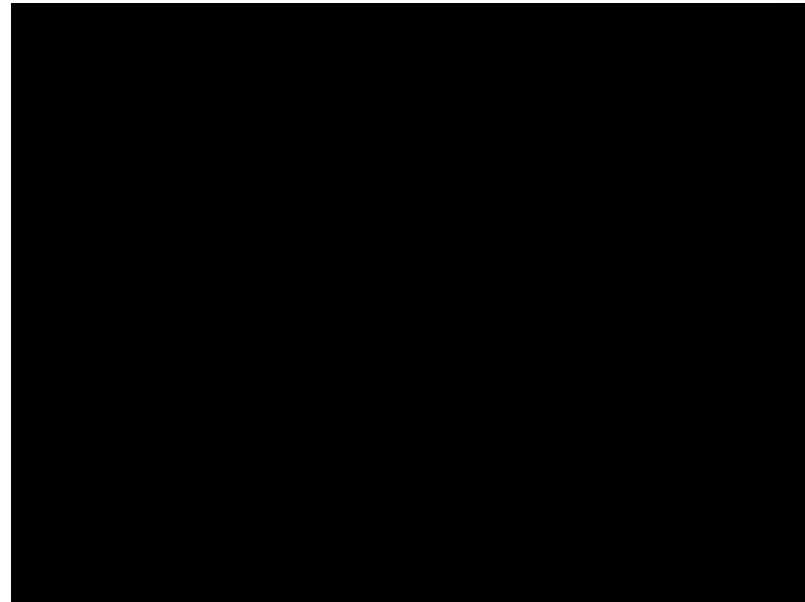
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# Cell/Tissue Culture Challenge:

**SCI-tive**

1. Quick direct-hand access into Workstation:  
Ezee Plug (not Gas/Vac)
2. Main Chamber atmosphere is not compromised

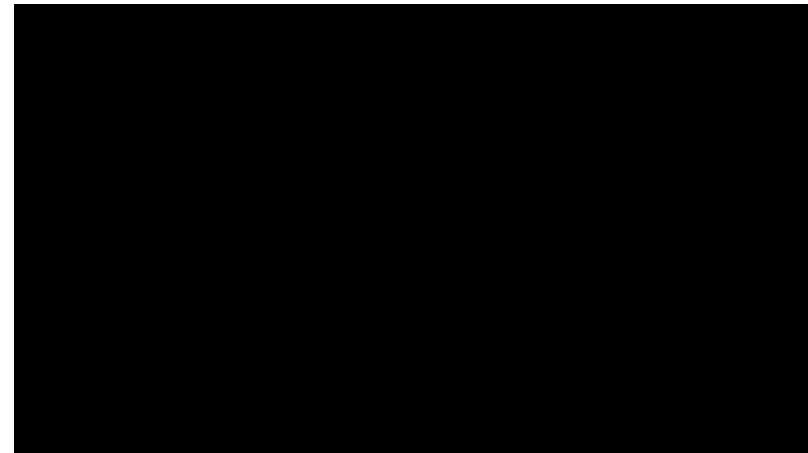
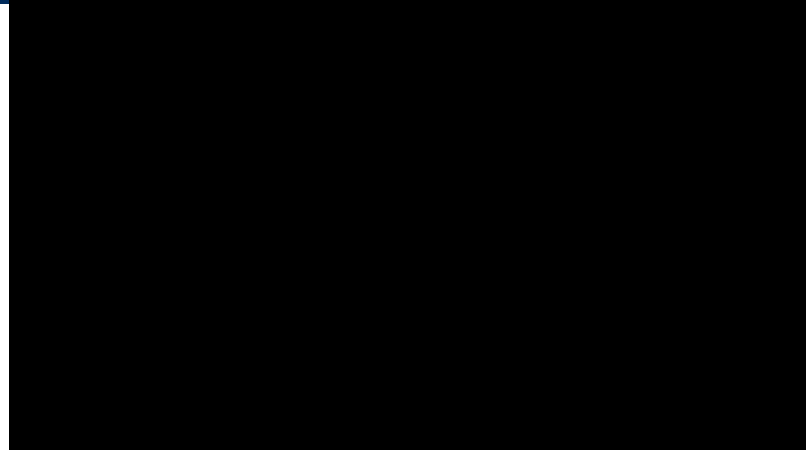




# Cell/Tissue Culture Challenge:

**SCI-tive**

1. Very fast transfer of samples into and out of the workstation via an Interlock
2. **Main Chamber atmosphere is not compromised**



# Ruskinn Hypoxia Workstations: SCI-tive Workstations

Option of HEPA-filtration for enhanced internal atmosphere quality



Integrated HEPA filtration controls air in Chamber and interlock

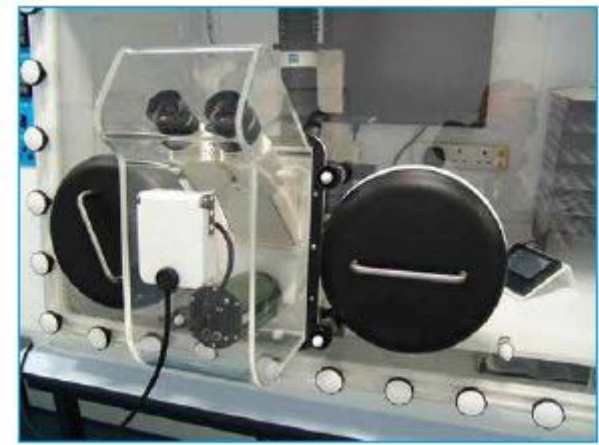
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# Sci-tive- Brings more benefits



Easily accommodates analytical tools



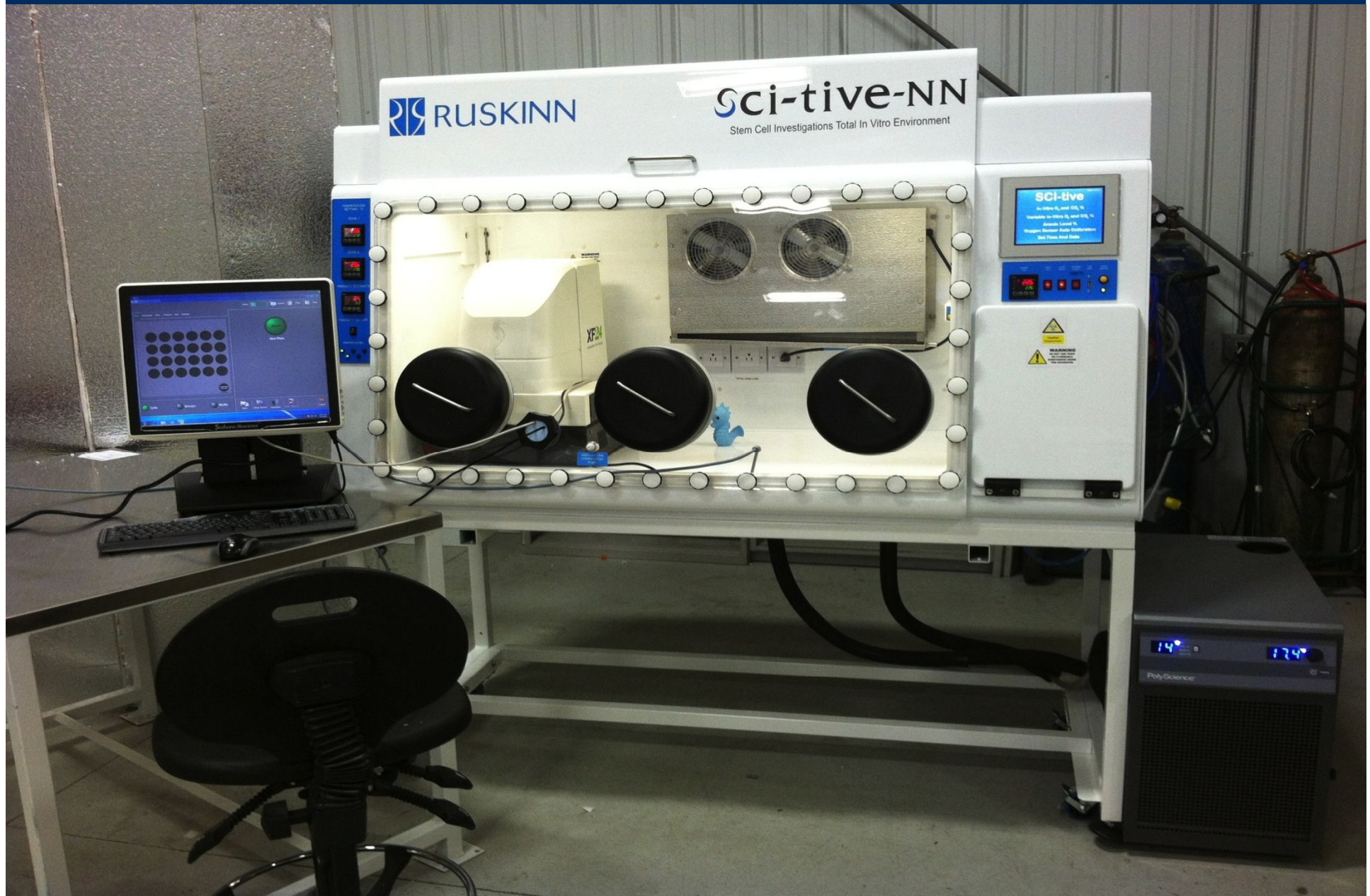
Microscope with oculars protruding through front cover



Quick access



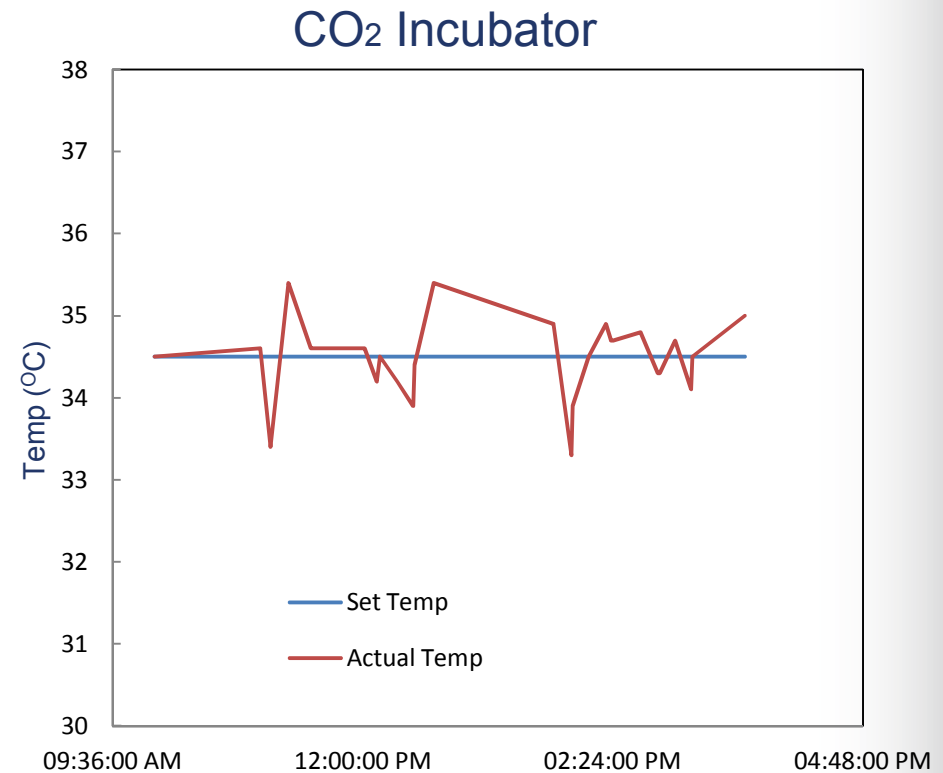
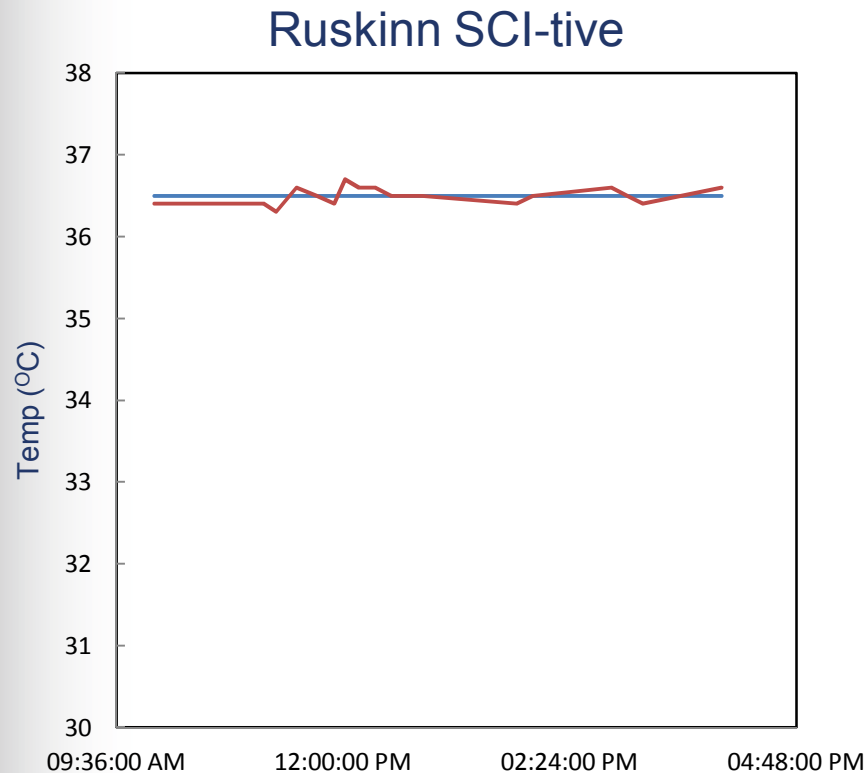
# Ruskin Hypoxia Workstations: **SCI-tive** Workstations





# Environmental Control Comparison: Temperature

## CO<sub>2</sub> incubator vs Closed Cell Culture System



Environmental fluctuations during access to experiments e.g.  
MEA plate set ups and administration of drugs



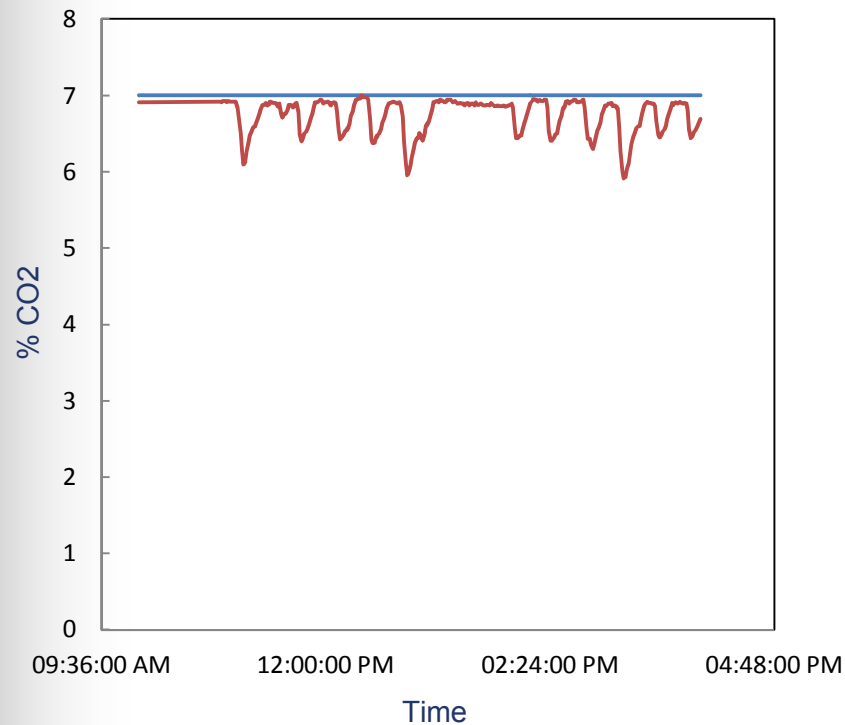
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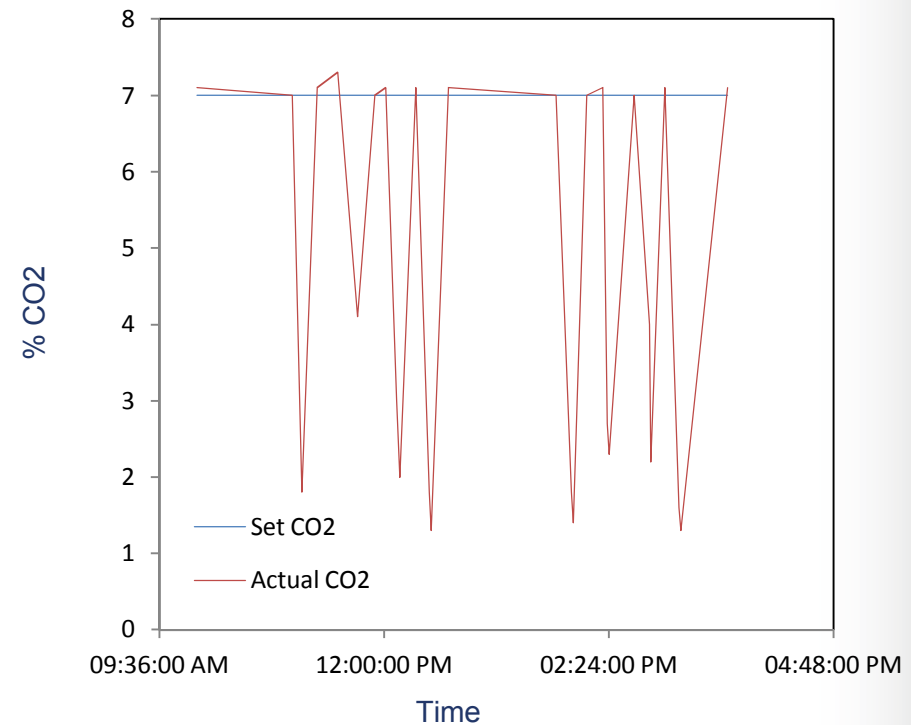
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# Environmental Control Comparison: **CO<sub>2</sub> levels** (CO<sub>2</sub> incubator vs Closed Cell Culture System)

Ruskinn SCI-tive



CO2 Incubator



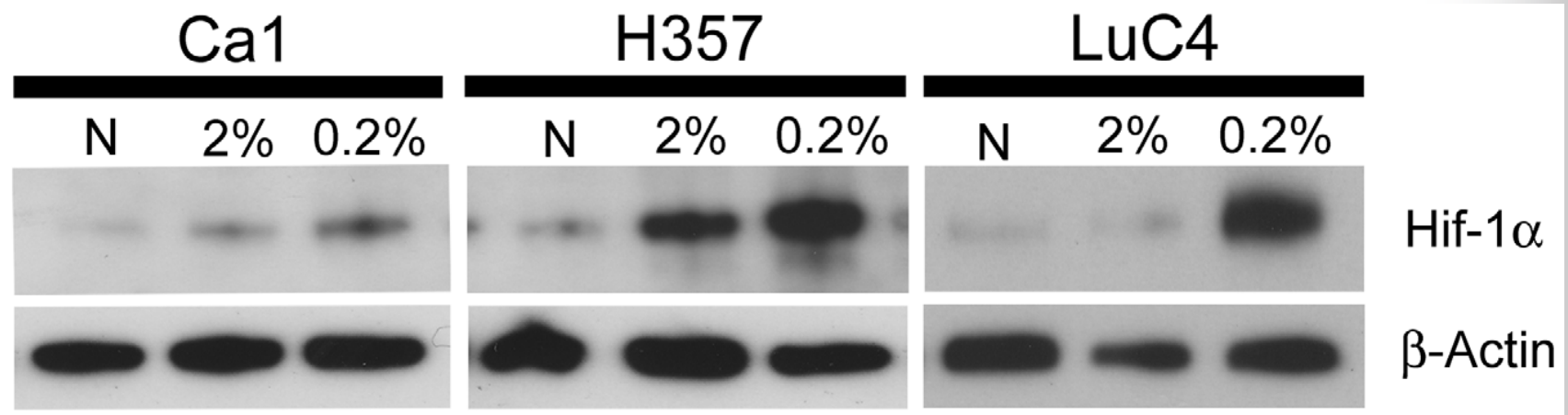
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# Experimental Results: HIF

**HNSCC cell lines express increased HIF-1 $\alpha$  at lower oxygen concentrations.**



**Western blot of protein lysates of Ca1, H357 and LuC4 cell lines after culture under normoxia (N), 2% and 0.2% oxygen.**

Luke Gammon<sup>1,2</sup>, Adrian Biddle<sup>1</sup>, Hannah K. Heywood<sup>3</sup>, Anne C. Johannessen<sup>2</sup>, Ian C. Mackenzie<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Blizard Institute, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, London, United Kingdom, <sup>2</sup> The Gade Institute, University of

Bergen, Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway, <sup>3</sup> School of Engineering and Materials Science, Queen Mary University of London, London, United Kingdom



Thanks for your listening



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