

PÉTER HEGYI



Hungarian research physician

Péter Hegyi has pioneered the understanding of the physiological and pathophysiological function of pancreatic duct cells. He is credited with the discovery of the trypsin-mediated vicious circle that causes chronic pancreatitis.

CAREER

Péter Hegyi was born in Szeged in 1972. He graduated at the Szent-Györgyi Albert University of Medicine (SZOTE) in 1996. He obtained his PhD degree in 2002 at the University Of Szeged, as well. He defended his academic doctoral thesis at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 2011. After obtaining his general medical degree, he qualified as an internist (2002), gastroenterologist (2013) and clinical pharmacologist (2018).

His main research interest is the physiological and pathophysiological function of pancreatic duct cells. His work is highlighted by the discovery of the trypsin-mediated vicious circle that causes chronic pancreatitis, which opens up new therapeutic targets in the treatment of pancreatitis. He was the first to demonstrate that pancreatitis-inducing toxic factors severely inhibit the activity of the CFTR channel, a process that plays a major role in the development of pancreatitis.

Péter Hegyi is the initiator of the establishment of Translational Medicine in Hungary. Under his leadership, Hungary's first Institute of Translational Medicine was established at the Faculty of General Medicine of the University of Pécs in 2016, and then the Institute of Translational Medicine of Semmelweis University in Budapest. He is the Program Director of the National Academy of Scientist Education, which is a multigenerational talent school.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2009 - Organization of the 41st Conference of the European Pancreatic Club
- 2011 - Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- 2012 - Organization of the Conference and Commemorative Meeting on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of Albert Szent-Györgyi's Nobel Prize in 2012 in Szeged
- 2013 - Program Director of the Szeged Scientists Academy (now: National Academy of Science)
- 2016 - Head Professor of the Institute of Translational Medicine at the University of Pécs
- 2016 - Professor at the Szent-Györgyi Albert Faculty of Medicine of Szeged
- 2018 - Member of the European Academy of Sciences (AE)
- 2019 - Vice President of the Clinical Department of the AE 2019
- 2021 - Director of the Centre for Translational Medicine at Semmelweis University