PROJECT RESUME

The irregular connective tissue fibroblasts are cells that surround and are embedded within forming muscle tissue. In the adult they form the fascia that provides structural integrity to muscle tissues and is an integral part of muscle tissue architecture.

Although it is well established that these connective tissue fibroblasts have an important function in normal development and repair of muscle tissues and are disrupted in some congenital limb defects very little is understood about how and when they are acting to control these processes.

We are undertaking experiments that test the function of irregular connective tissue in limb muscle development and in muscle repair following injury and that will reveal the mechanisms by which connective tissue fibroblasts muscle formation and repair.