

Short Biography-David Naor

Professor David Naor is an emeritus professor of immunology in the Hebrew University, faculty of Medicine and was the head of Milton Winograd Chair of Cancer Studies. He received his Ph.D from the Hebrew University. He served as visiting professor in leading universities (e.g., UCLA, Harvard) and recently (2019) he has been entitled as Scholar Visiting Professor in New York University). He published 155 articles, including in leading journals like Nature, PNAS, J Clin Invest, J Immunol and J Exp Med. He published one book entitled "Immunosuppression and human malignancy". Humana Press, New Jersey, 1988. He has been a member in editorial boards of several international scientific journals, including journal of Autoimmunity and Frontiers in Immunology, and he is on the scientific board of International Congress on Autoimmunity.

His research has been focused on the role of CD44, other hyaluronan-binding molecules and CD44-derived peptides, in autoimmune, neurodegenerative and cancer diseases. Currently, his efforts are focused on translation of academic bench CD44-derived anti-inflammatory, anti-neurodegenerative peptide to a clinical product via Nasdaq-affiliated Israeli company. In this last project he showed that a synthetic 5-MER peptide (MTADV), recognizing Serum Amyloid A (SAA), alleviates chronic inflammation models, of Rheumatoid Arthritis, Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) and Multiple sclerosis, which their pathology is associated with Serum Amyloid A (SAA). The peptide therapeutic effect was demonstrated by both injection and oral delivery. To this end, new potential drug (MTADV) and new target (SAA) may be used in chronic inflammations. Among many other research projects, the recent CD44 research project yielded 34 articles, which were cited many times in the scientific literatures. He was invited to speak at 8 plenary sessions of international conferences.

His research was supported by grants from many institutions and foundations, including NIH, USA-Israel binational foundation, German Cancer Foundation, German-Israel foundation, Israel science foundation, and Teva. In 2018 Prof Naor received a competitive award from the USA National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS) for his work on the Multiple Sclerosis. He received awards from Johnson & Johnson "In recognition of outstanding research towards the advances of science and technology in health care" and from the Hebrew University Faculty of Medicine for his "outstanding achievements in research and teaching".