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AGING, INFLAMMATION, & IMMUNITY

Bonnie B. Blomberg, PhD

Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Thursday, January 24, 2019 3:00 - 4:00pm

Biomedical Research Building

University of Pennsylvania 421 Curie Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19104

This event is free and open to the public, but registration is requested.



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Bonnie B. Blomberg, PhD

Bonnie Blomberg earned her BA in Biology and PhD in Immunology from the University of California, San Diego, then completed postdoctoral fellowships at the Basel Institute for Technology in Switzerland and Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Center for Cancer Research before joining the faculty of the University of Miami in 1983. She is currently a Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

Dr. Blomberg's area of expertise is cellular and molecular immunology, with a particular focus on B lymphocytes and aging. Her laboratory has developed molecular biomarkers for optimal B lymphocyte function, which decrease with age in mice and humans. These include the transcription factor E47, AID (activation induced cytidine deaminase), and IgG class switch recombination (CSR). Her lab found these to correlate with an optimal influenza vaccine immune response in humans and to be decreased in the elderly. They have also shown that inflammation systemically (serum) and in unstimulated B cells increases with age in mice and humans and negatively affects their function. Dr. Blomberg has recently extended studies to contributors to inflammation including obesity and mechanisms for antibody and B cell function generated therein.

Dr. Blomberg has been a frequent advisor to the World Health Organization on aging, the immune system, and vaccine response, received an NIH Merit Award in 2005, is a member of and active in the American Association of Immunologists (AAI), and the Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies (FOCIS), has served on numerous grant review boards, and serves on the editorial board of Aging Cell.

