

Matrix Biology Europe conference report

Attending the Matrix Biology Europe Conference has significantly contributed to my research on extracellular matrix (ECM) dynamics in fibrotic lung disease, particularly lung fibrosis. One key takeaway was a presentation highlighted that labelled collagen type I in lung fibroblasts from both healthy controls and patients with lung fibrosis. It was discovered that control fibroblasts took up ~30% of collagen-I, while fibrotic fibroblasts absorbed ~70% after one hour. Additionally, collagen retention decreased to ~9% in control fibroblasts and ~4% in fibrotic ones after 18 hours. This study introduced a novel labelling method, providing new insights into ECM remodelling in fibrotic lung diseases. Moreover, participating in the MBE Young Researcher's Program enriched my networking skills, offering opportunities to engage with leading experts in the field. Discussions in this session helped me refine my research direction, particularly in the context of ECM's role in fibrosis. Overall, this conference provided valuable knowledge and innovative approaches that will benefit my future work

