



**Patrick Lajoie**

Associate Professor  
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology  
Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry  
Western University

**Genomic approaches to antifungal resistance  
in the fungal pathogen *Candida albicans***

Fungal infections represent a major public health concern with over a billion infections each year resulting in over 1.5 million deaths. Members of the *Candida* genus, including *Candida albicans*, are opportunistic pathogens that can cause a wide range of severe infections in susceptible populations such as immunocompromised individuals. *Candida* infection (candidiasis) treatment is unfortunately limited to a few classes of antifungal drugs and emergence of resistant strains is a major concern. In this presentation, I will discuss our work on the transcriptional response to cellular stress in *C. albicans* and how this response is regulated by the unfolded protein response (UPR) and histone acetyltransferase complexes.

I will present our work on two important aspects of transcriptional response to cellular stress, the Unfolded Protein Response (UPR) and the control of gene expression by components of the yeast histone acetyltransferase complexes.