

Prof Alan H Handyside MA PhD (Cantab)

First degree and PhD studies at the University of Cambridge, under the supervision of Prof Martin Johnson. Early research focussed on cell lineages in the mouse preimplantation embryo and involvement in the first attempts to isolate embryonic stem cells directly from mouse blastocysts with Prof Matt Kaufman and Prof Sir Martin Evans (Nobel Laureate). Developed the first transgenic mouse knockout of the HPRT gene using embryonic stem cells as a model of the human X-linked inherited disease, Lesch-Nyhan Syndrome. Subsequently joined Prof Lord Robert Winston at Hammersmith Hospital, London and in 1990 achieved the first pregnancies worldwide following in vitro fertilisation (IVF) and preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) of inherited disease. First chairman of the European Society for Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE) Special Interest Group in Reproductive Genetics and co-founder and first chairman of the ESHRE PGD Consortium. Currently a consultant in preimplantation genetics at the Bridge Centre, London, Principal Scientist, Illumina, Cambridge, Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Biological Sciences, University of Leeds, Leeds and Honorary Professor at the School of Biosciences, University of Kent in Canterbury, UK