

Scipio Bioscience exploits a proprietary technology for barcoding that allows the preparation of samples for single-cell profiling. Based on a novel combination of established biochemical and biophysical approaches, the Scipio technology achieves single-cell barcoding in a test tube format. The technology was developed by Professor Stuart Edelstein, a world-renouned biophysicist: a foreign associate of the French Academy of Science, his academic experience includes professorships in leading universities including Cornell (USA), Geneva (Switzerland) and the Collège de France. Stuart also has start-up experience as co-founder of a publicly listed biotech company. Operations of Scipio Bioscience are led by Pierre Walrafen, Ph.D., an Ecole Polytechnique alumni and qualified European Patent Attorney, whose experience in biotech covers all stages of product development and positions as alliance manager for a strategic industrial partnership in DNA-based diagnostics and consultant for biotechnology clients in an IP firm.

The initial target of Scipio Bioscience is to provide a sample preparation solution for single-cell transcriptomics, freed of the substantial investment and running costs of existing technologies, while attaining the flexibility and scalability required in state-of-the-art research. The burgeoning applications in single-cell transcriptomics have revealed the importance of characterizing the diversity of cell profiles in normal tissues and cancerous tumors. In order to achieve optimal results, numbers of cells in the range of thousands to tens of thousands must be analyzed simultaneously by RNA-sequencing procedures. The costs and constraints of available methods for sample preparation have hampered widespread adoption of this approach. Scipio Bioscience overcomes these hurdles by providing a test-tube solution readily accessible to laboratories in all fields of biological research, both fundamental and applied. The Scipio solution is a simplified kit-based technology to prepare thousands of cells for transcriptome profiling in a test tube setup.

Scipio is housed in the iPEPS-ICM incubator of the Brain and Spine Institute (ICM), located in the celebrated Parisian Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital. The ICM offers cutting edge core facilities, including the bioinformatics and biostatistics platforms. which offer access to the latest technologies for sequencing and analysis. Scipio is putting together a dynamic team of scientific experts to focus on its core developments, and setting up collaborations with ICM labs and other leading European research institutions to secure access to samples and user feedback.