

CYTOPLASMIC NANODOMAINS AND CALCIUM SIGNALLING

GUEST LECTURE by



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Site- and function-specific targeting of calcium pumps and release channels within nano junctions of the SR provides for effective signal demarcation

The mechanisms by which calcium signals underpin both contraction and relaxation control smooth muscle cell function, while at the same time coordinating stimulus-transcription coupling remain obscure. The general consensus is that cytoplasmic calcium transients may propagate across the cell in a manner that provides for comparable registration at the plasma membrane and even the nucleus, albeit with the support of direct calcium release into the nucleus from the nucleoplasmic reticulum. However, when considering the array of processes modulated by cytoplasmic calcium signals this model seems wholly inadequate. An attractive alternative would be to consider the possibility that cells segregate calcium signals on the nanoscale.



Ca^{2*} buffered Ca^{2*} TPC2 SERCA2a RyR3 3D software reproduction of a lysosome closely apposed to a oortion of SR, thereby forming an ~20nm wide L-SR nanojunction. Fameli et al. (2014) F1000Research3:93

