**Wellington V. Cardoso, MD, PhD**,

Dr. Cardoso’s research focuses on the mechanisms that regulate lung development, regeneration-repair and the developmental basis of pulmonary disease. For nearly two decades his laboratory has been making relevant contributions for the understanding of how signals, such as retinoic acid, Fgf, Hippo-Yap and Notch control lung progenitor cell fate, morphogenesis and differentiation. He investigates how these signals are integrated to control stemness and differentiation of the lung stem cell compartment and the mechanisms that result in aberrant cell behaviors in conditions, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF). Dr. Cardoso’s lab has been funded largely by the National Institute of Health (NIH) and is internationally recognized for the track record in research and training. Dr. Cardoso received his MD degree and his residency training in Pathology from the University of Brasilia, and his PhD from the University of Sao Paulo (Brazil). After concluding his postdoctoral studies at the University of British Columbia (Canada) and Boston University (MA), he became a faculty member and later served as the Associate Director of the Pulmonary Center and Director of the Program in Lung Development and Progenitor Cell Biology at Boston University School of Medicine.

Over the course of his career as a Principal Investigator he has received multiple awards, including NIH-NHLBI RO1s, Program Project (PO1) and Outstanding Investigator (R35) grants, and recently the Irene and Arthur Fishberg Prize, Columbia University. He has served as Chair and reviewer in many NIH study section committees and workshops and has been invited as a speaker in scientific research conferences over Asia, Europe and the Americas. Dr. Cardoso is a tenured Professor at the Departments of Medicine and Genetics & Development at Columbia University and is the Director of the Columbia Center for Human Development (CCHD), Department of Medicine.