

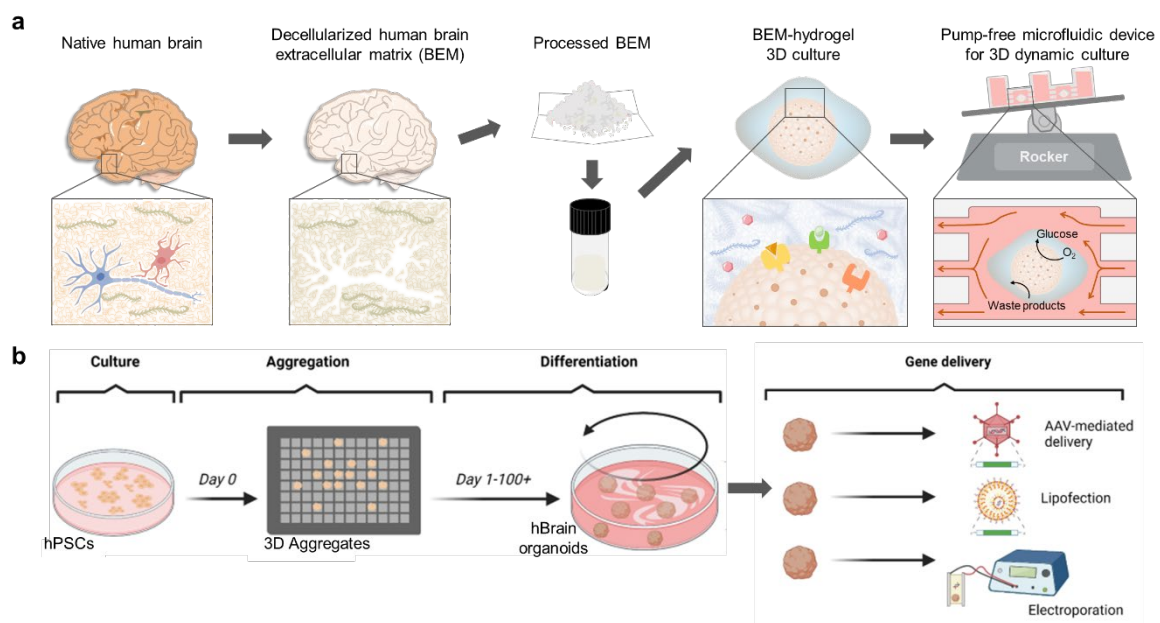
# Bioengineered human brain; *in vitro* model for personalized neurodegenerative disease and drug screening

Ann-Na Cho

13A Research Park Drive  
Macquarie Medical School, Macquarie University  
NSW 2109 Australia

[annna.cho@mq.edu.au](mailto:annna.cho@mq.edu.au)

The talk will present novel results relating to the pioneering work of bioengineered 3D brain organoids to generate sophisticated *in vitro* model and genetic engineering for the personalized model platform. The recent breakthrough of 3 dimensional (3D), self-organizing Brain organoids created from human pluripotent stem cells (hPSCs) enables the recapitulation of the endogenous cellular composition, organ-specific structure, phenotype and functionality of human physiology and development including aging. To generate a reliable and feasible model to recapitulate the individual human brain as a first-in-kind, I have applied the bioengineering tools on hPSCs-derived brain organoids<sup>1</sup>. The development of a brain microenvironment-mimicking platform has produced sophisticated brain organoids generation and has shown less variability of the organoid production quality to be raised as a reproducible *in vitro* model. The state-of-the-art bioengineering approaches merged to resemble the brain-specific niche by combining the brain-mimetic 3D matrix and the dynamic microfluidic devices reminiscing the cerebrospinal fluid. Furthermore, to construct the brain organoid as a personalized model for the neurodegenerative disease model (i.e., Dementia, Motor neuron disease, Epilepsy), I have developed novel gene delivery tools for brain organoid<sup>2</sup>. This technique can target the diverse cell types and brain organoids which ultimately aims for translating the research findings to clinical usage.



**Figure 1:** Schematic illustration of (a) Bioengineered<sup>1</sup> and (b) Genetically engineered brain organoids<sup>2</sup>.

## References

<sup>1</sup> Cho, AN. *Nature communications* **2021**, 12, 1, 1-23.

<sup>2</sup> Cho, AN. *Cells* **2022**, 11, 20, 3194.