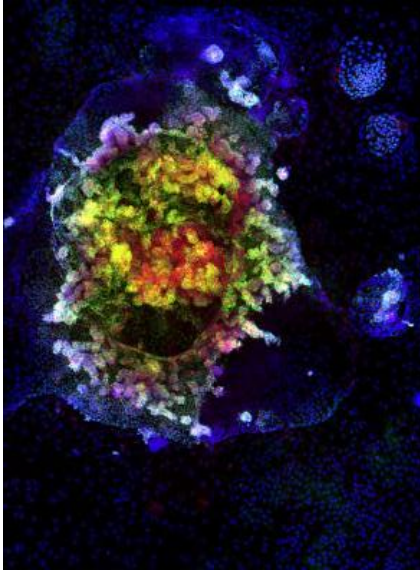


New insight into the regulation of neuronal differentiation by Wnt proteins



Researchers from the Cell Biology and Stem Cells Unit and the Genome Analysis Group at CIC bioGUNE have discovered novel functions for two members of the Wnt protein family during neural differentiation of stem cells. The study shows that Wnt-4 promotes early neuronal differentiation while Wnt-11 maintains a population of neuronal progenitors and can prevent further differentiation. The results provide a possible explanation for the increase in Wnt-11 expression in some types of cancer, including prostate cancer, where Wnt-11 plays a role in neuroendocrine-like differentiation (Uysal-Onganer et al., 2010). The new study, by Elizalde et al., is published in the journal *Stem Cells*. Further details can be found here:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/stem.562/abstract;jsessionid=3A3ADDF33A8A7DC71D262305621EED88.d03t01>