

## INVITATION

Conférence donnée dans le cadre de la procédure d'appel en  
*Biologie - Cell or develop Biology - succ. Schwaller*

**Dr. KREBS Philippe**

Institute of Pathology, University of Bern, Bern CH

**Tuesday 01 June 2021, à 09h15**

**Présence grande auditoire de Chimie et Online via MS Teams**  
Faculté des Sciences et de Médecine de l'Université de Fribourg

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### **Keep calm: the mucosal barrier at the interface of peace and war**

Epithelia act as barriers to protect the inner part of the body. Disruption of the epithelial layer leads to the recruitment of immune cells, which need to be tightly controlled to avoid excessive inflammation and allow tissue repair. If such epithelial defects persist or upon immune dysregulation, a chronic inflammatory condition becomes established, which may eventually promote immunopathology or tumor development in the mucosa.

While the current therapies target perturbations present in overt mucosal disorder, less is known about the disease-initiating mechanisms. My laboratory uses mouse models and patient-derived samples to investigate the contribution of specific communication pathways between the epithelium and players of the immune system. We aim to better understand how early deregulation of the crosstalk between these different cell types paves the way to a pathological condition in the mucosa, and thereby identify strategies to restore the epithelial barrier.

Fribourg, le 27 Avril 2021

Prof. Gregor Rainer, Doyen et  
Président de la Commission d'appel