

Dr. James D. Lauderdale
Curriculum Vitae

Jim received his B.S. in both Biology and Chemistry from Alma College (Alma, Michigan USA) in 1986 and his doctorate in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology from Purdue University (West Lafayette, Indiana USA) in 1992.

He began his work on brain development as a postdoctoral researcher under the direction of Dr. John Y. Kuwada in the Department of Biology at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan; 1992-1995) and his work on the *PAX6* gene and aniridia under the direction of Dr. Tom Glaser in the Departments of Internal Medicine and Human Genetics at the University of Michigan Medical School (1995-2000).

Jim joined the faculty in the Department of Cellular Biology at the University of Georgia (Athens, Georgia USA) in 2000.

Jim's research is focused on understanding the effects of mutations in the *PAX6* transcription factor, especially those that give rise to the human genetic disorder known as aniridia, and in developing approaches that can be used to better treat this disorder. His research group is currently working on understanding the cellular basis of aniridia keratopathy and have been working to develop a cell-based approach for its treatment.

In addition to serving as a member of the Scientific Committee for Aniridia Europe, Jim works closely with Dr. David Walton and the Children's Glaucoma Foundation and serves as co-chair for the Scientific Advisory Board of Aniridia Foundation International. He has organized international meetings that bring together physicians, researchers and those with, or affected by, aniridia, and participates in efforts to guide aniridia research and clinical efforts world-wide.