

Mark A. McNiven, Ph.D.

Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology



Mark A. McNiven, Ph.D., is a consultant in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Department of Internal Medicine, with a joint appointment in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Mayo Clinic. He is director for the Gastrointestinal Cancer Program at Mayo Clinic Cancer Center and director of the Mayo Center for Biomedical Discovery. Dr. McNiven has been named the George M. Eisenberg Professor and holds the rank of professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. He joined the staff of Mayo Clinic in 1989 and chaired this department from 2000-2011.

Dr. McNiven attended State University of New York for his undergraduate degree and the University of Colorado for his graduate studies. He earned his Ph.D. degree at the University of Maryland, where he also completed postdoctoral studies in cell biology. He further completed postdoctoral training in the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

His laboratory focuses on the molecular basis by which tumor cells grow unchecked and migrate from the primary organ to invade and metastasize into distal sites. In addition, his program studies the cellular basis by which cells of the liver can become laden with fat leading to steatohepatitis, metabolic diseases and cancer.

His research is funded by the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. His work has been published in prominent peer-reviewed journals, including the Journal of Cell Biology, Developmental Cell, Nature Cell Biology, Hepatology, Nature Genetics, Trends in Cellular Biology, Molecular Biology of the Cell, Gastroenterology, Cancer Research, and Science.

In recognition of his work, Dr. McNiven has received numerous awards and honors, including the Dean's Recognition Award, conferred by Mayo Clinic; and the NIH Merit Award, conferred by National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health.

Dr. McNiven is active in teaching and mentoring and holds full faculty privileges in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Neurosciences at Mayo Graduate School, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. He serves on many national and international advisory boards and committees.