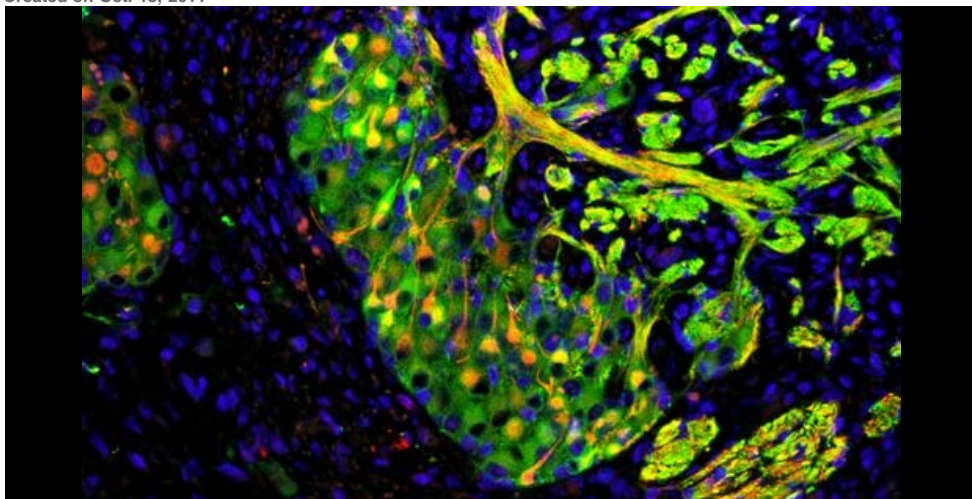


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## Salk: Life through a microscope

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By Juan Carlos Izpisua Belmonte/Salk Institute

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Salk researchers extensively work with so-called induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS), which are adult cells that can be genetically programmed to behave, in many ways, like embryonic stem cells. The process does not involve destroying an embryo.

There's a touching, and sometimes misleading, beauty to the tiny worlds observed through microscopes at the Salk Institute in La Jolla. Here is a sample of images that show everything from stem cells to tiny pieces of a fruit fly, one of the most important subjects used in biomedical research.