

## C. elegans genetics

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### Organisation

**Name of the organisation** Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

**Department** ULB Institute for Neuroscience

**Country** Belgium

**Geographical Area** Brussels Region

## SCOPE OF THE METHOD

<b>The Method relates to</b>	Animal health, Human health
<b>The Method is situated in</b>	Basic Research
<b>Type of method</b>	In vivo
<b>Used species</b>	Caenorhabditis elegans
<b>Targeted organ system or type of research</b>	Neuromuscular system, hypoderm, longevity.

## DESCRIPTION

### Method keywords

invertebrate

C. elegans

genetic screen

pharmacological screen

Genetics

calcium imaging

### **Scientific area keywords**

neuroscience

ageing

parasitology

### **Method description**

The lab routinely use *C. elegans* culture as genetic model. We explore the development and the ageing of the neuromuscular system. The methods used regularly in our lab include molecular biology, generation of transgenic animals or mutants, crossings, genetic screen, calcium imaging, fluorescence imaging, comprehensive quantification of the worm locomotion in response to specific cues, survival curves, molecular biology.

### **Method status**

Internally validated

Published in peer reviewed journal

## **PROS, CONS & FUTURE POTENTIAL**

### **Advantages**

Many genes for the nervous system development and function are conserved.

Genetic of ageing is established in *C. elegans* or *Drosophila*.

*C. elegans* genetics is well established, genetic manipulation is quick and easy, and many mutants are available.

Culture is simple and lead to isogenic cohorts.

### **Challenges**

The brain structure has nothing to do with mamalian systems.

*C. elegans* lifespan is <1 month.

*C. elegans* is an invertebrate, many organs are not conserved.

## REFERENCES, ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

### Links

[Lab website](#)

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