

PRESS RELEASE

Organoid Global Ecosystem Convenes in Korea for the First Time

ODC26 to Be Held in Pangyo This September — Official MOU Signed with iMPSS, Academic Partnerships Confirmed with the Korean Society for Stem Cell Research, KRIBB, and Other Global Institutions

Event Name	ODC26 Mirrors : The Reflective Turn
Date	September 17 (Thu) – 18 (Fri), 2026
Venue	CHA Biocomplex, 335 Pangyo-ro, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do
Admission	On-site attendance and livestreaming
Official Website	odc.network
Contact	info@odc.network

Seongnam, 2026 —

Researchers, industry leaders, and regulatory experts from the organoid field — recognized worldwide as a cornerstone of next-generation biological models — will gather in Korea for the first time this year. Co-hosted by Organoid Sciences and the Animal-Free Initiative (AFI), 'ODC26: Mirrors' will take place September 17–18 at CHA Biocomplex, located at 335 Pangyo-ro, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do.

Founded in Korea in 2018, ODC (Organoid Developer Conference) has grown into a global platform involving more than 1,000 institutions worldwide. This year's event welcomes key global academic partners across the organoid and biohealth fields, including Organoids Are Us, the K-Organoid Consortium, the Korean Society for Stem Cell Research (KSSCR), the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology (KRIBB), and the Korea Biomedicine Industry Association (KoBIA).

Notably, ODC has signed an official Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) this year with the International MPS Society (iMPSS), the leading global academic body representing the field of microphysiological systems (MPS). This marks the first time the organoid and MPS fields have established a structured collaborative framework, including joint sessions and reciprocal awards.

The MOU between ODC and iMPSS marks the first time the organoid and microphysiological systems (MPS) fields come together within a single collaborative framework. Substantive discussions toward the standardization, industrialization, and clinical application of next-generation biological models begin here in Pangyo.

■ Theme: Mirrors — The Reflective Turn

ODC 2026's theme, 'Mirrors: The Reflective Turn,' symbolizes a shift in organoids and other next-generation biological model technologies — from tools that merely observe life to technologies that reveal, from within, how the human body works. Under this theme, the conference will explore scientific discovery and technological innovation alongside their broader

implications for society.

■ Key Program Themes

ODC 2026 will center its research and industry discourse on the following core areas:

- **Evolution of Organoid Systems and Platforms** — Surveying the latest developments expanding into diverse tissue types and complex model systems
- **NAMs and Pathways to Adoption** — Exploring the growing commercialization and clinical application of New Approach Methodologies (NAMs)
- **Convergence Technologies** — Organ-on-Chip, artificial organs, and next-generation bioengineering systems
- **Bio-AI and Data-Driven Life Sciences** — New paradigms in AI-powered drug discovery and predictive modeling
- **Animal-Free Initiative (AFI)** — Regulatory and industrial adoption of animal-free technologies and their ethical implications

In the meantime, ODC's former Culture Room exhibition and bio-art fusion programs will be reorganized under a separate event, ODCf (ODC Festival), with further details to be announced separately.

The speaker lineup and detailed programming will be announced at a later date. The Call for Poster (academic abstract submission) is currently open.

■ Poster Sessions and Awards

ODC26 will host a large-scale poster session. Researchers in the organoid field and related areas are welcome to submit abstracts, which will be reviewed by ODC's academic partners — including iMPSS, Organoids Are Us, and the Korean Society for Stem Cell Research — offering an opportunity to present at leading global societies and research institutions. Outstanding research presented on-site will be recognized with Travel, Oral, and Poster Awards. The abstract submission deadline and further details will be announced at odc.network.

■ Registration: Online Registration Introduced Across All Categories

ODC 2026 is open to all through online pre-registration on the official website. Registration is available in three types:

- **A. On-Site Attendance** — Includes access to the main conference and general access to Virtual ODC
- **B. Livestreaming** — Includes general access to Virtual ODC plus livestreaming access to the main conference
- **C. Full Access** — Includes on-site attendance, livestreaming, lunch on both event days, and an invitation to the Day 1 networking dinner

Registration and further details are available at odc.network.

■ Venue: CHA Biocomplex

ODC26 will be held at CHA Biocomplex, located at 335 Pangyo-ro, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do. The venue features a main conference hall, expert session rooms, and poster and sponsor booth spaces, offering facilities optimized for hosting large-scale conferences in the organoid and NAMs fields.

About ODC

ODC (Organoid Developer Conference) is a global platform connecting research, industry, and

regulatory affairs in the organoid and biohealth fields. Founded in Korea in 2018, it now brings together more than 1,000 institutions worldwide, serving as a venue for substantive collaboration that bridges basic research with industrial application and regulatory adoption. Held annually, ODC spans next-generation technologies including organoids, Organ-on-Chip, NAMs, and Bio-AI, building an ecosystem oriented toward standardization, commercialization, and clinical application.

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Hosted by: Animal-Free Initiative (AFI) · ORGANOIDSCIENCES

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About ODC (Organoid Developer Conference)

ODC (Organoid Developer Conference) is a global platform that organically connects research, industry, and regulatory affairs in the organoid and broader biotech fields. Founded in Korea in 2018, ODC has grown into an international conference involving more than 1,000 institutions worldwide, establishing itself as a venue for substantive collaboration that connects basic research outcomes with industrial application and regulatory adoption.

ODC is more than a single academic event — it is a platform that redefines how the life sciences intersect with technology, industry, and society. Spanning next-generation technologies including organoids, Organ-on-Chip, NAMs (New Approach Methodologies), and Bio-AI, it builds an actionable ecosystem oriented toward standardization, commercialization, and clinical application.

Beginning with ODC 2026, the conference will be reorganized as a large-scale academic and industry conference dedicated specifically to organoids and NAMs. ODC's former Culture Room exhibition and bio-art fusion programs will continue on under a separate event, ODCf (ODC Festival).