

Prof. Ayal Hendel is a leading researcher in genome editing and gene therapy at Bar Ilan University in Ramat Gan, Israel. He earned his PhD from the Weizmann Institute of Science and completed postdoctoral work at Stanford University, where he contributed to early advances in CRISPR genome editing. His research focuses on developing innovative CRISPR-based strategies for targeted therapies, particularly in the realm of primary immunodeficiencies (PIDs) such as severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID). By optimizing the efficiency and safety of CRISPR technologies—through approaches like chemically modified guide RNAs and precise homology-directed repair—Prof. Hendel's work aims to enable the correction of genetic defects in hematopoietic stem cells. Additionally, Prof. Hendel is the Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) of Cassidy Bio, a company focused on advancing genome editing therapeutics.