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Robert Barouki is a Professor of Biochemist and Molecular Biology at the University Paris Descartes and head of the Inserm unit "Toxicology Pharmacology and Cellular Signaling". He also heads the clinical metabolomics and proteomic biochemistry lab at the Necker Enfants malades hospital.

During the last twenty years he studied the impact of environmental contaminants on human health and the mechanisms of action involved in those effects. In particular, he has studied the biological consequences following the activation of the dioxin receptor AhR by different ligands and delineated the mechanisms of toxicity using "omics" technologies. He has also studied the effects of combinations of different contaminants and integrated those studies in the larger scope of the exposome concept and approaches and exposure and effect biomarkers.

As head of the clinical metabolic biochemistry department, he developed multiplex targeted proteomic and metabolomic assays, notably in the field of metabolic diseases and in toxicodynamics.

In a more general perspective, he has been involved in the networking of French and European research in the field of environment and health and he has a keen interest in communicating scientific concepts and data to a large audience.

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