Cancer Science Institute of Singapore

Seminar Announcement

Dr Derrick Ong, PhD

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, USA



Aberrant Stem/Progenitor Cell Behavior During Aging and Cancer

Date: **Thursday 15 September 2016**

Time: **11am - 12pm**

Venue: **CeLS Level 1 Auditorium**
28 Medical Drive, Centre for Life Sciences, Singapore 117456

Host: **Prof. Chng Wee Joo**

Abstract:

Adult stem cells, with the unique property of performing self-renewal and multi-lineage differentiation, are essential for maintaining homeostasis and function of various organs in our body. Aberrant stem cell behaviour leads to disease as evidenced during aging and cancer, underscoring the importance of understanding the molecular pathways and processes governing whether stem cells pursue a path of cellular death/senescence hence aging versus one of deregulated growth and immortalization hence cancer. In this talk, Dr Ong will present two stories that attempt to provide mechanistic insights underlying aberrant stem/progenitor cell behaviour during aging and cancer, and the associated therapeutic implications.

Biography:

Derrick earned his B.Sc. (1st class Honours) and M.Sc. in Biology from the National University of Singapore. He received his graduate training under Prof Jeffery Kelly in the field of proteostasis at The Scripps Research Institute (CA), USA. Subsequently, Derrick joined the laboratory of Prof Ronald DePinho, an expert in telomerase, aging and cancer, at Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard Medical School, USA, for his postdoctoral training before the laboratory relocated to the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Derrick's work is focused on elucidating the mechanisms of aberrant stem/progenitor cell behaviour during aging and cancer.