

CANCER SCIENCE INSTITUTE OF SINGAPORE

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Understanding mechanisms of Wnt signal transduction: How does Wnt signaling stabilize b-catenin?

Date: Thursday, 16 May 2013
Time: 11am – 12pm
Venue: LT 35, Centre for Translational Medicine, Level 1
 (14 Medical Drive, Singapore 117599)
Chair: Prof. Fu Xin-Yuan

Abstract:

How Wnt stimulation stabilizes transcription coactivator b-catenin is a central but contentious issue in Wnt signal transduction. I will discuss our data demonstrating that inhibition of b-catenin phosphorylation is at the core of Wnt signal transduction, and is achieved through phosphorylation-regulated dynamic Wnt receptor-scaffold assembly and disassembly (Kim et al., 2013, *SCIENCE*, online publication). I will also discuss the implication of our study to the function and regulation of signaling scaffolds.

Biography:

Xi He, PhD, is an Endowed Research Chair and professor at F. M. Kirby Neurobiology Center and the Stem Cell Program at Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He received a bachelor's degree at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China, and a Ph.D. under the supervision of Dr. Michael G. Rosenfeld at University of California, San Diego (UCSD). Dr. He did his postdoctoral training at National Cancer Institute (NCI) with Dr. Harold Varmus, who won Nobel Prize in 1989 for the discovery of the first oncogene. Dr. He became an assistant professor in 1997 and was promoted to professor with tenure in 2007. He was a Pew Scholar in Biomedical Sciences, Klingenstein Fellow in Neuroscience, a W. M. Keck Distinguished Young Scholar in Medical Research, and a Scholar of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Dr. He received the Young Investigator Award from the Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America (SCBA), and holds a Chang Jiang Guest Professorship at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China, inducted by the Ministry of Education of China in 2008. Dr. He is an Elected Fellow of American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), USA, and has served on many review and advisory boards in academia and biopharmaceutical industry in the USA, Canada, European Union, UK, and China.