SIgN Immunology Seminar

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Current Concepts of HIV Immunopathogenesis: From the Bench to the Bedside

Host
Dr John Connolly
Singapore Immunology Network, A*Star

Date
Friday,
12 April 2013

Time
11am – 12pm

Venue
SIgN Seminar Room
Immunos Building
Level 4
Biopolis

We are now over 30 years into the HIV epidemic from the first clinical description of HIV in 1981 when we first recognized the importance of the immune system in this disease. Early in the HIV epidemic mono or dual anti HIV therapy resulted in suboptimal immune reconstitution. It wasn't until 1995 with the introduction of HAART that we saw a tremendous impact on immune reconstitution and reduced mortality and morbidity among HIV+ subjects. This talk will focus on the current concept of approaches to restore immunity especially in patients who are viral responders and CD4 non responders with the use of Interleukin 7. In addition we now find that in patients with good viral control there is persistent immune activation and inflammation that leads to non HIV co morbidities including cardiovascular and bone disease, neurocognitive decline and cancer. We now recognize there are multiple mechanisms that may drive this ongoing immune activation/inflammation including low level HIV replication, interferon alpha, microbial translocation and co infections including CMV and HCV. The presentation will highlight the pathogenic significance of each area and propose innovative therapeutic approaches for enhancing the lives of HIV+ patients.