

# Seminar Talk on "Using Novel Tools to Control Dengue Transmission"

By Assoc Prof Ng Lee Ching (NEA)

## Introduction:

Dengue is a vector-borne disease causing illness in more than 50 million people each year. Globally, the dengue situation is worsening and currently there are no effective treatments apart from preventive measures targeting the mosquito vector. However there are several emerging vector control technologies available for dengue. The Environmental Health Institute (EHI) - the public health research institute of the National Environment Agency (NEA), and a WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research of Arbovirus and their Associated Vectors – conducts research, surveillance and evidence-based risk assessment on vector-borne diseases and other environment-related infectious diseases. EHI is carrying out risk assessment and research on these different novel *Aedes* mosquito control tools – i.e. *Wolbachia* (a naturally occurring bacterium found in many insect species, which results in the mosquito being unable to transmit dengue) and the genetic approach of RIDL (Release of Insects carrying a Dominant Lethal).

## About the Speaker:



Assoc Prof Ng graduated with a PhD from the Department of Microbiology, National University of Singapore and obtained further post-doctoral research training at the Umeå University, Sweden. With keen interest in translational research on infectious diseases, she spent the last 15 years enhancing laboratory capabilities for Singapore's public health, understanding disease risk and transmission, and developing tools and strategies for mitigation of risks. Her effort has emphasised on the amalgamation of laboratory tools with field investigation and studies, and the translation of research output into operational strategies and policies. She has led teams that dealt with the anthrax scare in Singapore in 2001; contributed to the battles against SARS in 2003 and dengue outbreak in 2005; and played major roles in the detection and control of chikungunya transmission in 2008.

## Seminar Programme:

Time	Programme
10.30am	Audience to be seated
10.35am-10.45am	Introductory address by Prof Peter Preiser (NTU)
10.45am-11.45am	Presentation by Assoc Prof Ng Lee Ching (NEA) on "Using Novel Tools to Control Dengue Transmission"
11.45am -12.15pm	Q&A and survey
12.15pm	End of seminar

Date of the seminar: 02 Jul 2013

Venue: NTU School of Biological Sciences Classroom 1 (SBS-01N-33)

Host: Professor Peter Preiser (Acting Chair, SBS)