

SIgN Immunology Seminar



Host Dr Alessandra Nardin Singapore Immunology Network, A*Star

Date Thursday, 24 October 2013

Time 11am – 12pm

Venue SIgN Seminar Room Immunos Building Level 4 Biopolis

Prof Ronald P Taylor

Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics University of Virginia School of Medicine

Cytotoxic Mechanisms of Immunotherapy: Harnessing Effector Functions of anti-Tumor Monoclonal Antibodies

Compelling evidence indicates that Type I CD20 mAbs rituximab and ofatumumab can only kill tumor cells when they utilize immune effector functions, which require Fc recognition of cell-bound mAbs. The opsonized cells can be killed via ADCC or phagocytosis by effector cells; alternatively, the bind C1g and opsonized cells can activate complement, promoting C3b deposition followed by downstream lysis via the membrane attack complex. We and others have found that saturation/exhaustion of these killing mechanisms at high tumor burdens can severely compromise therapies. These findings may have profound and general implications for the use of unmodified mAbs in cancer immunotherapy.