

NCCS – DUKE–NUS JOINT SEMINAR

Cancer therapeutics CRC (CTx)– Cancer Drug Discovery

The Cancer Therapeutics Cooperative Research Centre (CTx) is a leading Australian cancer drug discovery organisation. CTx develops novel first-in-class anti-cancer small molecules across a range of targets in priority areas including immuno-oncology and chromatin & RNA biology. Since its inception in 2007, CTx has delivered multiple successes including license deals with Merck (PRMT5 inhibitors) and Pfizer (inhibitors against two chromatin modifying targets) over the last 3 year period worth a combined ~\$40 million in upfront payments and >\$1 billion in potential milestone payments, plus royalties. Key to the success of CTx is the unique collaborative model, bringing together leading Research Institutes, Universities and Industry to translate innovative medical research discoveries into new cancer drugs ready for clinical development. CTx possesses integrated and broad industry-like drug discovery capabilities including recombinant protein production, structural biology, high throughput screening, fragment screening, medicinal chemistry, DMPK/ADME, and animal models/translational cancer biology. I will present an overview of CTx and the CTx drug discovery pipeline, and describe the development of potent and efficacious STING small molecule agonists, designed to activate the innate and adaptive immune systems to promote an anti-tumour response.

SPEAKER : Dr. Brendon Monahan
Chief Scientific Officer, Cancer Therapeutics CRC/CTx CRC

HOST : Professor Kanaga Sabapathy
Head, Cellular & Molecular Research
National Cancer Centre Singapore

Date : Monday, 22nd April 2019 at 4.00–5.00pm

Venue : Duke–NUS Meeting Room 7C



Brendon has over 20 years research experience in molecular genetics and drug discovery, with particular interests in gene regulation and epigenetics. Following the completion of his PhD at the University of Melbourne, and post-doctoral positions at Massey University (New Zealand), and Harvard Medical School (Boston, USA), Brendon joined CSIRO in 2008 and was first involved with CTx in 2010 as a project and team leader. In December 2014 Brendon moved to the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute (WEHI) as the Director of Discovery Biology for CTx. Brendon was appointed to Deputy Chief Scientific Officer In August 2017 and commenced the role of Chief Scientific Officer in November 2018. Brendon is responsible for the scientific function, capability, partnerships, and direction of CTx.