DukeNUS Medical School

Joint Seminar by

Programme in Emerging Diseases &
Programme in Cancer and Stem Cell Biology

"Kinase inhibitors in the era of immuno-oncology – still of interest?"

By **Alex Matter, M.D.**
Founder & CEO, AtumRa Therapeutics Pte Ltd
Adjunct Professor, Programme in Emerging Diseases
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Abstract:
After the breakthrough in 2001 of imatinib in Chronic Myelogenous Leukaemia (CML) and many other indications, dozens of tyrosine kinase inhibitors, as well as serine/threonine kinase inhibitors were discovered and developed, with remarkable clinical success. About a decade ago, several immune-oncology agents emerged with astounding clinical success in as yet untreatable conditions such as advanced melanoma. This new generation of anti-cancer agents commanded the overriding interest of oncologists, overshadowing targeted anti-cancer agents. This seminar wants to illustrate three points: a) kinase inhibitors are still producing new and attractive agents against mutated or wild-type targets, b) kinase inhibitors can play an important role in combating resistance against immuno-oncological agents, and c) kinase inhibitors can be effective partners in synthetic lethality screens that translate into clinically useful treatment algorithms.

Hosts:

Professor Subhash Vasudevan, Programme in Emerging Infectious Diseases

and

Associate Professor Ong Sin Tiong, Programme in Cancer and Stem Cell Biology

Details

Date : Thursday, 3 October 2019
Time : 4pm – 5pm
Venue : Amphitheatre, Level 2

About the Speaker:



Alex Matter, M.D. is founder and CEO of the newly created start up "AtumRa Therapeutics Pte Ltd." in Singapore (March 2019), working in the field of lysosomal storage diseases, and Adjunct Professor at Duke-NUS Medical School (August 2019).

Before these new ventures, Alex Matter was CEO of the Experimental Therapeutics Centre from April 2009 until September 2018, and from January 2012 until September 2018 CEO of the D3 development platform, A*STAR, Singapore. Previously, he had spent five and a half years as Director of the Novartis Institute for Tropical Diseases (NITD), from October 2003 to February 2009. Prior to this role, Alex Matter was Global Head of Oncology Research for Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation. He played an important role in the success of several anticancer drugs, including *Gleevec/Glivec*® and more recently, *Tasigna*®, *Farydak*® and *Rydapt*®, building and leading the teams that discovered these and several other anticancer drugs as well as one HIV protease inhibitor (*Reyataz*®) that is marketed by another company.