Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology
IMCB

SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

We would like to invite you to attend this virtual seminar hosted by A/Prof Frederic Bard:

Date: **Tuesday, 12 May 2020**
Time: **2:00PM – 3:00PM**

Zoom link
https://zoom.us/j/93255524236?pwd=OFd1SXNhMkx5dStJR3F4L1laL0NFZz09

Meeting ID: 932 5552 4236
Password: 657363

Drugging the Wnt Pathway – Where it helps, where it hurts, and what we're learning



Prof David Virshup
Director, Programme in Cancer and Stem Cell Biology (CSCB)

Professor, Duke-NUS Medical School

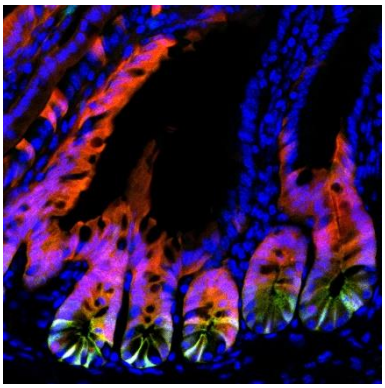
Professor of Paediatrics, Duke University

Abstract

Wnt are secreted lipoproteins that travel short distances to regulate cell fate and stem cell decisions. Dysregulated Wnt signaling caused by specific genetic mutations underlies a subset of diseases including pancreatic and colorectal cancer. These mutations increase the sensitivity of cells to secreted Wnt ligands. Secretion of all Wnt ligands can be inhibited by drugs that target the enzyme PORCN. Our PORCN inhibitor ETC-159 has activity in multiple genetically defined preclinical models and continues in clinical trials in humans. PORCN inhibitors are also powerful tools to understand the role of Wnt signaling in health and disease. I will present recent data on what we have learned from PORCN inhibitors, including how Wnts regulate cell proliferation, differentiation, and repair.

Biography

David M. Virshup, MD, is Professor and Director of the Program in Cancer and Stem Cell Biology at the Duke-NUS Medical School, and Professor of Pediatrics at Duke University in the USA. His research focuses on signal transduction with a special interest in Wnt signaling and circadian rhythms. Virshup received his B.A. from Beloit College and his M.D. from Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Maryland, where he also received his specialty training in Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. He established his research laboratory at the University of Utah in 1990 and moved to Singapore in 2007 to join the newly established Duke-NUS Medical School. Virshup is a member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



Meeting capacity limited to 280 participants