DukeNUS Medical School

Signature Seminar Series

Pushing The Boundaries Of Genomics For Public Health Benefit: Lessons Learned From COVID-19

ABOUT THE LECTURE

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the implementation of whole genome sequencing (WGS) of pathogens for public health benefit. The response to the pandemic, involving multiple disciplines and agencies, has pushed the boundaries of what was possible and made WGS a routine surveillance tool worldwide for monitoring the spread and evolution of SARS-CoV-2. The value of the genomic intelligence provided by WGS to identify variants and mutations has led to its integration into routine public health practice and governmental policy making. This talk will describe the Scottish experience of establishing a SARS-CoV-2 genome sequencing service in the NHS and its use in public health response. The lessons learned will be discussed, along with the strategies for building on the legacy of SARS-CoV-2 genomics for current and emerging threats.

Speaker: **Prof Matthew Holden**
Professor of Pathogen Genomics
University of St Andrews

Host: **Prof Paul Pronyk**
Director
Centre for Outbreak Preparedness
Duke-NUS Medical School



Date: **Tuesday, 28 March 2023**

Time: **12.00 PM - 1.00 PM**
(Light refreshment will be served at 11.30AM)

Venue: **Duke-NUS Medical School**
Amphitheatre, Level 2

Contact Person: **Ms Serene Wie (serene.wie@duke-nus.edu.sg)**
Duke-NUS Research Affairs Department

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Matthew Holden is Professor of Pathogen Genomics at the University of St Andrews. His work focuses on genomics as a research tool to investigate the evolution and success of antibiotic resistant pathogens, and also as a clinical tool to identify outbreaks and trace the spread of infectious diseases. He is Head of Genomics at Public Health Scotland and has been responsible for establishing the Scottish SARS-CoV-2 sequencing service and integrating genomics into the public health response.

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