DukeNUS Medical School

Signature Seminar Series

Heterogeneous Outcomes of Epstein-Barr Virus Infection

ABOUT THE LECTURE

Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) is a common herpesvirus that infects nearly all adults worldwide. The infectious cycle involves salivary transmission, amplification in oral epithelium, and latency establishment in B lymphocytes from which reactivation also occurs periodically. This cycle is kept in check by the adaptive immune response, but loss of control can enable EBV to promote cancer. In vitro, EBV immortalizes primary human B cells into lymphoblastoid cell lines. Our laboratory studies the virus/host interactions required for this process and, in recent years, our focus has been on the heterogeneity of infection outcomes at the single cell level. In this talk, I will discuss new host factors that regulate EBV infection and also how our high resolution studies implicate a newly appreciated B cell subset associated with multiple sclerosis.

Speaker: **Prof Micah Luftig**
Vice Chair, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology
Duke University School of Medicine



Host: **Prof David Virshup**
Director
Cancer & Stem Cell Biology Programme
Duke-NUS Medical School

Date: **Tuesday, 19 March 2024**

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

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

Contact Person: **Ms Kathleen Chan (kathleen.chan@duke-nus.edu.sg)**
Duke-NUS Research Affairs Department

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

B.S. in Microbiology 1994-1998, Louisiana State University
Ph.D. in Virology 1998-2003, Harvard University
Postdoctoral Fellow in Biochemistry 2003-2007, Merck Research Laboratories
Assistant Professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology,
Duke University School of Medicine 2007-2015
Associate Professor of MGM with Tenure 2015-2023
Vice Chair of MGM since 2017
Professor of MGM since 2023

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