

Department of Biomedical Sciences Presents a seminar

The comparison study of lung cancer genomics between Chinese and European populations

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Abstract: The development of lung cancer is a result of both genetic and environmental factors. To date, a number of genetic susceptibility loci have been reported in Chinese and European populations. In consistent with the differences of epidemiological characteristics, we have demonstrated the considerable differences of lung cancer genetic susceptibility loci (such as 15q25.1) between Chinese and European populations. Recently, we built a polygenic risk score for lung cancer and proved its application value in identifying high risk populations with a large-scale cohort, for the first time, in Chinese population. However, it remains unclear whether the polygenic risk score is effective in European populations. Here, we further constructed a polygenic risk score of lung cancer in European populations, and then explore the following two aspects: (1) The differences between PRS of Chinese and that in European descent population; (2) The interaction between PRS and smoking in Chinese and European populations.

About the speaker: Prof. Shen, academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering, earned his Bachelor's Degree in preventive medicine in 1986 and Master's Degree in epidemiology in 1989 from Nanjing Medical University. He got his Ph.D. in epidemiology in 1999 from Shanghai Medical University (currently Fudan University) School of Public Health. He joined in the Department of Epidemiology of U.T. M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, USA, as a visiting scientist on molecular epidemiology from 1999 to 2002. He is now the president of Nanjing Medical University, the chairman of the Cancer Epidemiology Committee of China Anti-Cancer Association, and the member of Science & Technology Committee of China Ministry of Education.



Prof. Shen's research interest is mainly focused on the genetic susceptibility of cancer development and prognosis, especially on the genetic and environmental risk factors and determinants for lung cancer in Chinese populations. As the Principal Investigator, he carried out a large-scale molecular epidemiological study of lung cancer in Chinese population and identified novel genetic susceptibility genes (loci) of lung cancer. In addition, his group has also investigated the links between genetic polymorphisms and risk of cancers of the gastric, liver and esophagus etc. Prof. Shen is also a co-PI of two NIH grants to study genetic variants of lung cancer development and prognosis in both Chinese and Caucasian populations. He serves as a member of International Lung Cancer Consortium (ILCCO). He has published more than 400 papers in international peer reviewed journals, including Nat Genet, Lancet Oncol, Lancet Respir Med, JCI, JCO, etc., which have been cited more than 12,000 times. He has been continuously selected (2014-2018) by Elsevier as one of the highly cited Chinese scholars in Medical field with H index of 57.

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