City University of Hong Kong
Department of Biomedical Sciences
presents a seminar

"Targeting Leukemia on Multiple Fronts - from Zebrafish to Human Leukemia"

by

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Date : 2 September 2016
Time: 2.30pm to 4.00pm
Venue: Meeting room 2-130, 1/F, Block 2, To Yuen Building, CityU

Abstract

Acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) is a group of heterogeneous diseases with distinct clinicopathologic, cytogenetic and genetic features, sharing in common an abnormal increase in blood and bone marrow (BM) myeloblasts. Current treatment for AML comprises high dose induction and consolidation chemotherapy and allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) and targets AML based on their chemo-sensitivity. However, for most patients, the diseases are intrinsically resistant to chemotherapy and their outcome has remained dismal. There is an unmet clinical need to develop better therapeutic approach for these patients.

Our laboratory focuses on the pathogenesis as well as development of novel biomarkers and therapies for AML. Using zebrafish model, follistatin has emerged as a novel player in the pathogenesis as well as clinical biomarker for a subtype of AML carrying specific genetic mutation. Furthermore, in vitro drug screening of primary AML samples has also identified a protein translation inhibitor homoharringtonine as an effective adjunct for this AML subtype. In this seminar, new data arising from these projects will be presented. The observations will be of scientific and clinical significance in AML.

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All are welcome