

WEBINAR SERIES

RECENT TRENDS IN ONCOLOGY RESEARCH

AGENDA

Utilization of next generation sequencing for the application of precision oncology in Saudi Arabia

Sunday, June 6, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Translating neurodegeneration: New horizon for gene-based therapeutics

Monday, June 7, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Mechanisms of resistance to targeted agents in lymphomas

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

The use of patient-derived xenografts for preclinical development of anti-cancer molecules

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

The use of patient-derived xenografts (PDX) for preclinical development of anti-cancer molecules

Thursday, June 10, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Colorectal cancer patient-derived xenografts and organoids as tools to model cancer disease, therapy and resistance

Thursday, June 10, 2021

1:00 - 1:45 p.m.

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Utilization of next generation sequencing for the application of precision oncology in Saudi Arabia

Sunday, June 6, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Speaker: [Prof. Ashraf Dallol](#)

Cofounder of the Center of Innovation in Personalized Medicine and Coordinator of the Diagnostic Genomic Services of the Royal Specialized Medical Laboratories; Associate Professor at the Center of Excellence in Genomic Medicine Research, King Abdulaziz University, KSA

Abstract:

Through recent developments in post-genomic tools that can help clinicians make sense of the torrent of data obtained through high-throughput genomic and epigenomic screenings, the search for genetic and epigenetic aberrations underlying individual's cancers is finally achievable. In this talk, the speaker will present the infrastructure set up for high-throughput screening tools in a unique collaboration exercise between scientists and clinicians. Some examples of the utilization of these tools on patients from the western region of Saudi Arabia to apply "Precision Oncology" in the Kingdom will also be discussed.

CONTACT: adallol@kau.edu.sa



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Translating neurodegeneration: New horizon for gene-based therapeutics

Monday, June 7, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Speaker: Prof. Mimoun Azzouz

Chair of Translational Neuroscience and Director of Research & Innovation at the University of Sheffield, UK; Director of the Gene Therapy Innovation & Manufacturing Centre in Sheffield.

Abstract:

In this talk, the speaker will deliver an overview of the use of viral vectors for disease modelling and gene therapy in animal models of human diseases, in particular neurodegeneration and brain cancers. Mechanistic pathways and therapy development, using viral vectors and experimental models of disease, will also be discussed. Steps to translate gene therapy approaches into human clinical trials will be highlighted.

[Read more](#)

CONTACT: m.azzouz@sheffield.ac.uk



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Mechanisms of resistance to targeted agents in lymphomas

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Speaker: Prof. Francesco Bertoni

Head of the Lymphoma Genomics group and Deputy Director at Institute of Oncology Research; Professor at the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.

Abstract:

Lymphomas are among the ten most common cancers. Despite the big improvements achieved during the years, still too many patients die due to a primary refractory disease or to relapses after initial clinical responses. To improve this situation our group is performing combination studies to increase the success rate of available therapies and had developed models of resistance to currently approved FDA drugs to understand the biology of it and to identify modalities to overcome it. The seminar will provide a general overview of resistance to targeted agents in lymphomas and data from our lab.

CONTACT: frbertoni@mac.com



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The use of patient-derived xenografts for preclinical development of anti-cancer molecules

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Speaker: Prof. Moustapha Hassan

Director of the Preclinical Laboratory at the Karolinska University Hospital–Huddinge; Professor of Transplantation Research at the Karolinska Institutet, Sweden.

Abstract:

Multifunctional nanoparticles (NPs) are promising candidates for cancer's diagnosis and treatment i.e. theranostics. These agents can carry therapeutic payloads and are designed to selectively target specific cells or organs. Theranostics nanoparticles can be utilized for diagnostics, as drug delivery carriers, and to follow up the treatment efficacy in individual patients. Such personalized therapy may offer higher treatment efficacy, less adverse effects and hence better life quality. In this talk, the speaker will present data of recently developed theranostic tools with multifunctional NPs carrying chemotherapeutic and imaging contrast agents.

CONTACT: moustapha.hassan@ki.se



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The use of patient-derived xenografts (PDX) for preclinical development of anti-cancer molecules

Thursday, June 10, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Sabine Gorynia

Managing Director of the Discovery Services at Charles River Laboratories, Germany.

Abstract:

Patient tumor explants implanted and passaged in immunodeficient mice (patient-derived tumor xenografts, PDXs) to retain important molecular characteristics of the original patient tumor, including drug sensitivity. PDXs are valuable assets for drug discovery and PDX-bearing immunodeficient mice can be used to screen large panel of PDXs, or to explore several treatment options for a single patient in a preclinical setting. These results can also be applied to predict response rates in the clinic, and to identify biomarkers of response. In this talk, the speaker will discuss the feasibility of using PDX models for these purposes using different modalities targeting the tumor and the immune system.

CONTACT: Sabine.Gorynia@crl.com



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Colorectal cancer patient-derived xenografts and organoids as tools to model cancer disease, therapy and resistance

Thursday, June 10, 2021

1:00 - 1:45 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Andrea Bertotti

Head of the Laboratory of Translational Cancer Medicine at the Candiolo Cancer Institute; Assistant professor at the Department of Oncology, University of Torino School of Medicine, Italy.

Abstract:

In this talk, the speaker will present how a large collection of patient-derived tumor xenografts and organoids, obtained from reliable preclinical models, can increase the success rate of clinical trials through systematic molecular and functional annotation of large cancer cohorts.

CONTACT: andrea.bertotti@ircc.it