

1st Pasteur-Asia Immunology Course

A seminar entitled

‘Structural Mechanism of RNA Recognition by the RIG-I-like receptors’

will be given by

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Date: Friday, 24 October 2008
Time: 14:00 pm to 15:00 pm
Venue: Mrs Chen Yang Foo Oi Telemedicine Centre
2/F, William MW Mong Block, Faculty of Medicine Building
23 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong
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Abstract:

Cytoplasmic non-self RNA such as those generated by invading viruses are recognized by a family of sensor molecules termed RIG-I-like Receptor (RLR). Here I discuss the mechanism of sensing non-self RNA by the RLRs. Biochemical and structural studies have shown that one of the RLR, RIG-I, specifically recognizes distinct features of non-self RNA: 5'ppp-RNA and short double stranded-RNA. In addition, a domain at the C-terminus with basic concave surface is involved in recognition of these substrate RNA. Specific RLR, RIG-I and MDA5 show distinct specificity such as preference of 5'-phosphate group or length of RNA. These findings define three functional domains of RLR and provide insights on how it functions as a molecular switch through interaction with virus-specific RNA ligands.