Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Biomedicine Discovery Seminar

Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute in conjunction with Monash Partners Comprehensive Cancer Consortium

RNA Biology and Cancer

Tuesday 22 November 2016

2.30 – 3.30 pm

Level 3 Seminar Room
15 Innovation Walk
Clayton campus

Presenter

Dr Vihandha Wickramasinghe

PhD

Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

Abstract

Dr Wickramasinghe talk will be focused on the characterization of novel mechanisms regulating gene expression via selective mRNA transport. These studies have the potential to provide new insights into the identification of novel therapeutic targets for the treatment of cancer.

About the presenter

Dr Wickramasinghe is Head of the RNA Biology and Cancer Laboratory at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

His research interests lie in understanding the molecular basis of how messenger RNA (mRNA) is selectively processed and exported from the nucleus into the cytoplasm and how deregulation of these processes contributes to human cancer. Dr Wickramasinghe was awarded a prestigious Melbourne National Scholarship to undertake his undergraduate and honours degrees in Biomedical Science at the University of Melbourne. Following this, he was awarded a Medical Research Council pre-doctoral fellowship to undertake his PhD studies at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.

During his subsequent post-doctoral studies at the MRC Cancer Unit in Cambridge, he was the first to demonstrate that selective mRNA export from the nucleus can regulate a fundamental biological process, namely DNA repair.

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