

DDC RESEARCH FORUM



"HES1-loss in Colon Shapes an Immunosuppressive and Pro-tumorigenic Niche BD and Colorectal Cancer "

About this seminar: Dr. Zhou will describe that loss of HES1 expression is frequently found in human sessile serrated adenoma/polyps (SSA/p), ulcerative colitis (UC) and IBD-associated colorectal cancers (CRC). HES1-loss in KRAS mutant CRCs suppresses proliferation but promotes EMT and M2 macrophage polarization. By using a mouse model that resembles human HES1-negative UC and CRC, her lab investigated how colonic epithelium with disabled Notch/HES1 promotes inflammation and tumorigenesis by affecting gut mucosal integrity, influencing gut microflora, and impacting dendritic cell immunity. I will then describe that altered HES1 and ATOH1 dynamics is a prominent feature of UC. By using GEMM targeting *Atoh1* in the colonic epithelium of the colitic mice, they investigated how *Atoh1* influences inflammation and promotes tumorigenesis by disrupting tight junction and enhancing IL1-mediated transformation. .



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Reference(s):

- Wang Y, Huang D, et al. Fucosylation-deficiency in Mice Leads to Colitis and Adenocarcinoma. *Gastroenterology*. 2017 Jan; 152(1):193-205.e10. PMID: PMC5164974
- Wang L, Yu S, et al. Notch-regulated Dendritic Cells Restrain Inflammation-associated Carcinogenesis. *Cancer Immunology Research* 2021 Mar;9(3):348-361. PMID: PMC7925430
- Wang L, Gu W, Zou B, et al. Loss of HES1 expression is associated with extracellular matrix remodeling and tumor immune suppression in KRAS mutant colon adenocarcinomas. *Sci Reports* 2023 (13): 15999. PMID: PMC9949260



**Baylor Main Campus
DeBakey Building
Auditorium M112**

Refreshments provided.

Special raffle for in-person attendees who scan QR code to confirm attendance



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**MAR 7
4:00 PM**

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