

External Seminar - Wnt signalling in pancreatic cancer - clues from BCL9L

Locations	S104 Cancer Sciences
Date(s)	Tuesday 15th October 2013 (13:00-14:00)
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Wnt signalling in pancreatic cancer - clues from BCL9L

Dr Christian Schmees
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Biography

Christian Schmees graduated from the Eberhard-Karls-University of Tuebingen, Germany with a MSc in Biochemistry in 2002. From 2002 to 2006, he received his predoctoral training in Biochemistry under supervision of Dr. Michael Schemann at the Technical University of Munich, Germany. The thesis focused on the characterization of T lymphocyte specific immune evasion mechanisms of *Helicobacter pylori* during persistent infection of the human gastric mucosa and resulted in the identification of gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase (GGT) as the major factor for this response. In 2006 he started as a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Carl-Henrik Heldin at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research (LICR) in Uppsala, Sweden. He received postdoctoral fellowships from the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the LICR to support his research on differential regulation of intracellular PDGF α and β receptor trafficking. The work demonstrated that specific sorting of PDGF beta receptors (PDGFRbeta) on early endosomes is regulated by sequential activation of PKCalpha and Rab4a and implicated this sorting step as a point of cross-talk with other receptors. Additionally, his work showed for the first time that fibroblast transformation by oncogenic Ras induces the internalization of PDGFRbeta by macropinocytosis, enhancing its signalling activity and increasing anchorage-independent proliferation.

Schmees C, Villaseñor R, Zheng W, Ma H, Zerial M, Heldin CH, Hellberg C. Macropinocytosis of the PDGF β receptor promotes fibroblast transformation by H-RasG12V. *Mol Biol Cell*. 2012 Jul;23(13):2571-82.

Hellberg C, Schmees C, Karlsson S, Ahgren A, Heldin CH. Activation of protein kinase C alpha is necessary for sorting the PDGF beta receptor to Rab4a-dependent recycling. *Mol Biol Cell*. 2009 Jun;20(12):2856-63.

Schmees C, Prinz C, Treptau T, Rad R, Hengst L, Volland P, Bauer S, Brenner L, Schmid RM, Gerhard M. Inhibition of T cell proliferation by *Helicobacter pylori* gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase. *Gastroenterology*. 2007 May;132(5):1820-33.

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