

INSTITUTIONAL SEMINAR SERIES



Institute
of Experimental
Medicine, CAS

6th May 2021 / 14:00 / MS Teams

Dear colleagues, it's our pleasure to invite you to the online seminar

Role of telomeres in solid cancers

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Telomeric regions are the protective chromosome end caps formed by hexanucleotide tandem repeats and associated shelterin protein subunits, that play a critical role in maintaining genomic integrity. Genomic instability, driven by dysfunctional telomeres is a known mechanism in tumorigenesis. The system of telomere regulation is also vital in tumors to counter-balance the critical telomere shortening and thus ensure the limitless replicative potential of cancer cells and their virtual immortalization.

About the Department

In the department of Molecular Biology of Cancer, we investigate the telomere length and its association with therapy outcomes and clinicopathological features in various solid cancers, such as colorectal, breast, ovarian, and liver cancer. Our research goal is to find new tumor biomarkers, either telomere length or telomere homeostasis-related factors and mechanisms, useful for early cancer diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment response prediction. Our latest evidence shows that in colorectal cancer patients, lymphocyte telomere length may be affected by adjuvant therapy treatment. In the past, anticancer drugs were shown to perturb lymphocyte telomere length in some studies conducted on breast, ovarian, and mixed samples of different solid tumors, but not in colorectal cancer to date.

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