

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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NEWS & ACHIEVEMENTS



Congratulations to Prof. Chng Wee Joo for being the First Asian Recipient of the Prestigious 2020 Brian G.M Durie Outstanding Achievement Award!

Warmest congratulations to CSI Deputy Director and Senior Principal Investigator, Prof. Chng Wee Joo for being awarded the 2020 Brian G.M Durie Outstanding Achievement Award! Prof. Chng is the first Asian to receive this prestigious award, which aims to honour outstanding individual who has demonstrated excellence in multiple myeloma research and whose work has significantly improved the lives of patients. The award was given on August 26, 2020 during the 11th Annual International Myeloma Working Group (IMWG) Summit.

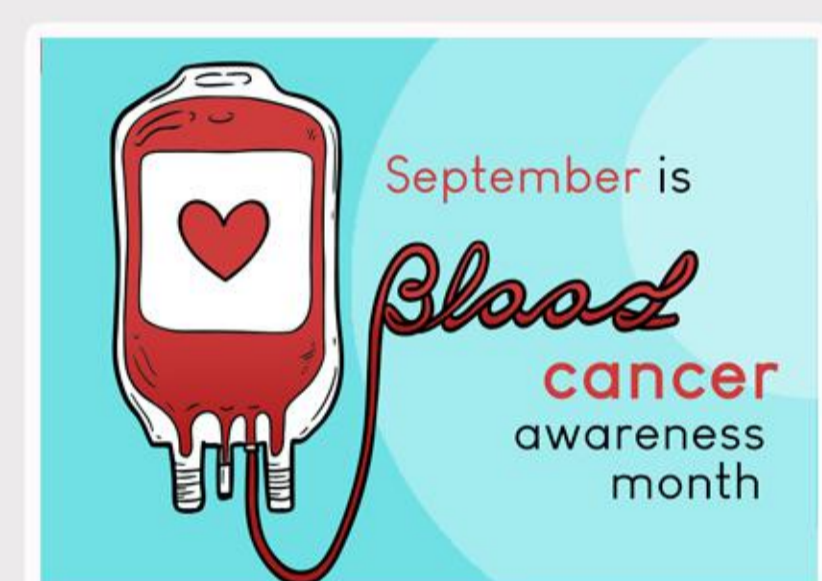
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Team CSI Joins the Race to Save Lives and Advocate Cancer Cause!

CSI Singapore is proud to have a total of 23 staff and students representing the institute in The Singtel-Singapore Cancer Society Race Against Cancer (RAC) virtual run. Over a span of 1 week, our runners had the opportunity to explore and rediscover new routes around Singapore. Team CSI achieved a grand total of 390KM through a combination of running, walking and even roller skiing!

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September is Blood Cancer Awareness Month: 5 Questions with A/Prof Takaomi Sanda

September is Blood Cancer Awareness month! CSI Principal Investigator, A/Prof Takaomi Sanda shares with us his journey as a researcher in hematology and oncology, as well as the motivation behind his research work on Blood Cancer.

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Novel Carfilzomib-Based Combinations as Potential Therapeutic Strategies for Liposarcomas. (*Cell Mol Life Sci*, Aug 2020)

In this study on liposarcomas (LPS), research team helmed by Prof. H. Phillip Koeffler assessed the use of carfilzomib, a proteasome inhibitor, in LPS. Results suggest that carfilzomib alone is sufficient to reduce the viability of LPS cells, and highlight an additional mechanistic synergy between carfilzomib and selinexor, an inhibitor of XPO1-mediated nuclear export. Through high-throughput drug screening, the team identified further combinational options and uncovered novel drug interactions with carfilzomib, underscoring the therapeutic merits of carfilzomib and its combinations.



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Profiling of Gastric Cancer Cell-Surface Markers to Achieve Tumour-Normal Discrimination. (*BMJ Open Gastroentero*, Aug 2020)

This fascinating study conducted by Dr. Anand Jeyasekharan's group lends support to previous studies which have established individual genes upregulated in gastric cancer (GC). Their research describes a pan-transcriptomic comparison of the relative performance of markets for robust differentiation of tumour and normal tissues. This proof-of-concept study provides a combination of GC markers to increase the diagnostic precision of tumour-normal discrimination in a variety of potential applications.



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Core Transcriptional Regulatory Circuitries in Cancer. (*Oncogene*, Sep 2020)

Transcription factors (TFs) orchestrate gene-expression patterns in various cell types and growth conditions. The transcriptional regulatory circuitry (CRC), which comprises of core TFs and their regulatory loops, plays a critical role in the establishment and reinforcing of the cell-type specific gene-expression program. In this outstanding review, Prof H. Phillip Koeffler and his team summarized recent efforts to identify, characterize, and target CRCs across various human cancers, and emphasized key insights that have emerged from these seminal studies. Furthermore, the group delved into the genetic basis and therapeutic vulnerability of CRC, and highlighted new frontiers and future efforts for the study of CRC in cancer.



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