



Garvan Institute of Medical Research

Leaders in Science



Professor Ralph Küppers

Institute of Cell Biology (Cancer Research)
Faculty of Medicine, University of Duisburg-Essen

“Generation & function of human memory B cells & aspects of CLL pathogenesis”

Monday 14th July, 2014 | 12PM, NAB AUDITORIUM

Host: A/Professor Stuart Tangye

Professor Küppers completed his PhD in 1995 followed by a Postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Cologne. He is currently Professor for Molecular Genetics at the University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany. Professor Küppers trained with Professor Nikolaus Rajewsky and discovered that CD27 is expressed on human memory B cells. In 2000, Professor Küppers took a 6-month sabbatical at the Institute for Cancer Genetics, Columbia University, New York, in the Department of Professor R. Dalla-Favera. Professor Küppers' research focuses on normal B cell differentiation in the human and the pathogenesis of human B and T cell lymphomas. His current work on normal B cells is focused on the genetic and functional characterization of human CD5-positive and memory B cell subsets. His group study the clonal composition of the memory B cell compartment and distinct functions of IgM and IgG memory B cells. His group's current work on lymphoma pathogenesis encompasses studies on Hodgkin lymphoma, CLL, and T cell lymphomas. They perform genetic studies, including next generation sequencing, to identify genetic lesions in lymphomas. They perform genechip studies comparing lymphoma cells to their normal counterparts for the identification of the cell of origin and deregulated genes. They test selected genes in functional studies with lymphoma cell lines for their pathobiological relevance and study the impact of hepatitis C virus on B cell transformation.