The Centre for Blood Research CBR

Wednesday, February 6th, 2013
12pm – 1pm
LSC 3 - 2350 Health Sciences Mall

Dr. Calvin Roskelley

Professor, Department of Cellular and Physiological Sciences

"Mode Switching In Tumor Invasion, The Role of The Small Mucin Podocalyxin"

Tumor cell invasion is a critical feature of cancer metastasis. Recently, much attention attention has been focused on the mesenchymal mode of invasion whereby single, elongated cells move through the surrounding stroma as a means of escaping from the primary lesion. However, in many epithelially-derived solid tumors, whose metastatic progression is responsible for the overwhelming majority of adult cancer deaths, collective tumor cell invasion is also a prominent feature. We have identified the small mucin podocalyxin, which normally acts to demarcate the free, apical surface of epithelial tissues undergoing tubular morphogenesis, as a putative regulator of this collective invasion. Importantly, podocalyxin overexpression has been correlated with the metastatic progression of a number of solid tumor types. Therefore, podocalyxin, and the mode of invasion it facilitates may prove to be a novel thereapeutic target.

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Host: Dr. Ed Conway, CBR Director, Professor of Medicine, UBC

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Refreshments will be served 10 minutes before the seminar
Seminar information: 604 822 7407

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