



PLRC – Weekly Update

January 3, 2019

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Upcoming Seminars

PLRC Seminar Series

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

12:00-1:00 p.m.

S123 BST

Samira Kiani, MD

Assistant Professor

School of Biological and Health Systems Engineering

Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

Arizona State University

"CRISPR Tools for Controllable Gene Therapies *in Vivo*"

This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit. #6242 Liver Center Seminars.

Pizza will be provided.

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Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6607572696840938499>

For those viewing thru the webinar, please follow the directions below:

- Please Register for the live Webinar ASAP
- After registering, you will receive the confirmation email
- You will be prompt to download the CitrixOnline application and install on your PC or Laptop

Please contact your local PC Support if you need help installing the application

- Feel free to email Ishtiaque Ahmed (ahmedi@upmc.edu) if you have any questions

NOTE Webinar attendees -- use Telephone/Speakerphone and dial-in instead of using desktop/laptop speakers for better audio quality.

Telephone/Speakerphone Audio option is shown right at the Click to Join Webinar prompt.

PLRC Seminar Series

Tuesday, January 22, 2019

12:00-1:00 p.m.

S123 BST

[Allison Formal, MBA](#), Director, Coulter Program

"Implementing the Coulter Translational Research Model for Success"

&

[Philip Brooks, MS, MBA](#), Entrepreneur in Residence, Innovation Institute

"Inspiring Innovators in Translating their Research to the Marketplace"

This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit. #6242 Liver Center Seminars.

Pizza will be provided.

PLRC Seminar Series

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

12:00-1:00 p.m.

S123 BST

[Yanqiao Zhang, MD](#)

Professor of Integrative Medical Sciences

Northeast Ohio Medical University

"NAFLD: Novel Pathogenic Mechanisms and Potential Therapeutics"

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Liver Seminar

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

12:00-1:00 p.m.

1104 Scaife

[Chandrashekhar R. Gandhi, Ph.D., FAASLD](#)

Professor of Integrative Medical Sciences

Northeast Ohio Medical University

"NAFLD: Novel Pathogenic Mechanisms and Potential Therapeutics"

PLRC SIG - Tumorigenesis

Tuesday, February 5, 2019

12:00-1:00 p.m.

S123 BST

[Dr. Sarangarajan Ranganathan](#) - Histology and Molecular Classification of Hepatoblastoma

[Dr. Edward Prochownik](#) - Predicting Hepatoblastoma Phenotypes

Pizza will be provided.

For a complete list of upcoming PLRC events, please visit our website: www.livercenter.pitt.edu/events

Recent Faculty Publications

Chen L, Liu Q, Tang Q, Kuang J, Li H, Pu S, Wu T, Yang X, Li R, Zhang J, Zhang Z, Huang Y, Li Y, Zou M, Jiang W, Li T, Gong M, Zhang L, Wang H, Qu A, **Xie W**, He J. [Hepatocyte-specific Sirt6 deficiency impairs ketogenesis](#). J Biol Chem 2018 Dec 10 [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 30530497.

ABSTRACT

Sirt6 is nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺)-dependent deacetylase with a critical role of hepatic lipid metabolism. Ketogenesis is controlled by a signaling network of hepatic lipid metabolism. However, how Sirt6 functions in ketogenesis remains unclear. Here, we demonstrated that Sirt6 functions as a mediator of ketogenesis in response to a fasting and ketogenic diet (KD). The KD-fed hepatocyte-specific Sirt6 deficiency (HKO) mice exhibited impaired ketogenesis, which was due to enhanced fat-specific induction of protein 27 (Fsp27), a protein known to regulate lipid metabolism. In contrast, overexpression of Sirt6 in mouse primary hepatocytes promoted ketogenesis. Mechanistically, Sirt6 repressed Fsp27 β expression by interacting with cyclic-AMP response-element binding protein H (Crebh) and preventing its recruitment to the Fsp27 β gene promoter. The KD-fed HKO mice also showed exacerbated hepatic steatosis and inflammation. Finally, Fsp27 silencing rescued hypoketolemia and other metabolic phenotypes in KD-fed HKO mice. Our data suggest that the Sirt6-Crebh-Fsp27 axis is pivotal for hepatic lipid metabolism and inflammation. Sirt6 may be a pharmacological target to remedy metabolic diseases.

For full text, please [click here](#).

Faculty Appointments

Dr. Naudia Jonassaint has been selected as the first Vice Chair for Diversity in the School of Medicine. [The press release is available here](#). Congratulations to Dr. Jonassaint!

Dr. David Geller has agreed to serve as co-director of the PLRC's Bio-specimen Repository and Processing Core (<http://www.livercenter.pitt.edu/biospecimen-repository-and-processing-core>), along with Dr. Aatur Singhi. Our thanks to Dr. Geller for accepting this role!



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