



Department of Biological Sciences Seminar Announcement

Parkinson's disease (PD) is the most common neurodegenerative movement disorder affecting 1-2% of the elderly population worldwide. Although a subject of intense research, the etiology of PD remains poorly understood and no current treatments can stop the neuronal death in PD. The recent linkage of genetic mutations in the *parkin* gene to familial PD and the seminal discovery that parkin functions as an ubiquitin ligase associated with the ubiquitin-proteasome system (UPS) have generated widespread interest among PD researchers directed at linking UPS derangements with PD pathogenesis. Within a few years, we and others have elucidated a number of substrates for parkin that resulted in significant insights into the biology and pathobiology of parkin. Our collective findings point towards defective protein handling as an underlying mechanism of neuronal death in parkin-related PD, and possibly also in idiopathic PD. I will discuss these findings, as well as some of our ongoing investigations on parkin function, in this talk.

PARKIN AND PARKINSON'S DISEASE

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Date: 13 Jun 2003, Friday

Time: 4 pm

Venue: LT 20

Host: A/P Lim Tit Meng

All are welcome