



ON-SITE BIOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

Friday, 30 Jan 2026 | 4 pm | S3 05-02 Conference Room 1

Hosted by Assistant Prof Hu Chunyi

[Map to Block S3](#)



DNA and RNA Editing – From Biology to Applications

By Tan Meng How

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About the Speaker

Meng How Tan is a tenured associate professor in the School of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology (CCEB) at Nanyang Technological University (NTU). He received his bachelor's degrees in mechanical engineering and economics from University of California Berkeley, his master's degrees in aeronautics and biomedical engineering from California Institute of Technology and NTU respectively, and his PhD in developmental biology from Stanford University. After postdoctoral training in Stanford, he returned to Singapore to set up his independent laboratory, focusing on the basic biology and translational applications of DNA and RNA editing. To date, he has published corresponding authored papers in top academic journals, including *Nature*, *Nature Biotechnology*, *Nature Methods*, *Nature Chemical Biology*, and *Nature Communications*. He received the Outstanding Young Principal Investigator Award from AIChE-SLS in 2019 and was named an EMBO Global Investigator in 2020.

The genome is said to represent the blueprint of life. However, it is highly dynamic, and the encoded instructions can be modified either permanently in the DNA or transiently in the RNA. For example, deaminases like ADARs can install single-base changes in these instructions. Moreover, the emergence of CRISPR technologies has ushered in a new era in cell engineering. Today, many biomedical and biotechnological applications, including gene therapy, are enabled by the ease at which CRISPR-Cas systems can be programmed to target any specific site in the genome or transcriptome. In this talk, I will outline how the field has evolved over the years and share some of our work on the development and application of new CRISPR- and ADAR-based tools to manipulate DNA and RNA *in vitro* and in living cells.