

TWINCORE - Seminar

Monday June 19th, 2017, 5 p.m.
TWINCORE Lecture Hall 0.020

New insights into the molecular biology of hepatitis E and delta viruses



Alexander Ploss, Ph.D.

More than 500 million people are infected with one or more of the five known human hepatitis viruses - A, B, C, delta and E. HAV and HEV both cause acute, self-limiting infections while HCV, HBV, and HDV (in the presence of HBV co-infection) predominantly cause chronic infections which frequently lead to severe liver disease. A major limitation in treating and preventing these burdensome and frequently fatal diseases is that we do not completely understand the host-virus interactions governing hepatitis infections. Here, I will discuss our recent work on aspects of HEV replication and assembly as well as new insights into HDV host range restrictions.

Who is Alexander Ploss?

- Assistant Professor, Department of Molecular Biology, Princeton University.
- Faculty member, Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

Alexander Ploss' research focuses on immune responses and pathogenesis to human infectious diseases, including hepatitis viruses, related flaviviruses, and malaria. His group combines tissue engineering, molecular virology/pathogenesis, and animal construction, to create and apply innovative technologies including humanized mouse models for the study and intervention of human hepatotropic infections. In recognition of his work he received a number of awards including the Astellas Young Investigator Award of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the Liver Scholar Award from the American Liver Foundation, the Löffler-Frosch-Prize of the Germany Society for Virology, Merck Irving S. Sigal Memorial Award of the American Society of Microbiology, American Cancer Society Research Scholar Award and a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Investigator in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease Award. Professor Ploss is also member of the Genomic Instability and Tumor Progression Program at the Cancer Institute of NJ.

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