



DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

AIDS Institute and Department of Microbiology
Hong Kong Society for Immunology



Speaker:

Prof. Sir Andrew McMichael

Title:

HLA-E revisited

Time and Venue:

11:00 a.m., June 2, 2017

**Mrs Chen Yang Foo Oi Telemedicine Centre,
2/F, Room A2-08, William M.W. Mong Block,
21 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam**

Andrew McMichael qualified in Medicine from the University of Cambridge in 1968 and studied for a PhD in Immunology at the MRC National Institute of Medical Research with Dr Ita Askonas, 1971-74. After a fellowship with Dr Hugh McDevitt at Stanford University he returned to Oxford in 1977 where he has worked since.

In 1977, he first showed that human cytotoxic T lymphocyte (CTL) responses to influenza virus were HLA restricted and in 1986, with Alain Townsend, showed that class I HLA molecules present peptides to CTL. Applying this to HIV-1 he identified the first epitopes seen by CTL in this infection. He went on to show that virus could escape from CTL by mutation, and later showed that this happens with all epitopes, undermining T cell control of the infection. In 1996, with Mark Davis and John Altman, he first introduced HLA tetramers into the study of human infections. Also, he and Cesar Milstein discovered CD1 and later, with Veronique Broad, he first identified the ligand for the NK cell receptor NKG2/CD94 as a specific peptide bound HLA-E. Currently he is working on HIV - 1 vaccine development, harnessing CTL specific for highly conserved epitopes to control and possibly eradicate early infection.

Andrew McMichael is a Fellow of the Royal Society and of the Academy of Medical Sciences. He is also an EMBO member. He was knighted for services to medical science in 2008.

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