

learn, connect & collaborate
MEET MY LAB

VACCINE RESEARCH

22 SEPTEMBER 2020, 3PM - 4PM (GMT+8)



**Dr Ruklanthi (Rukie)
de Alwis**

DUKE-NUS, SINGAPORE



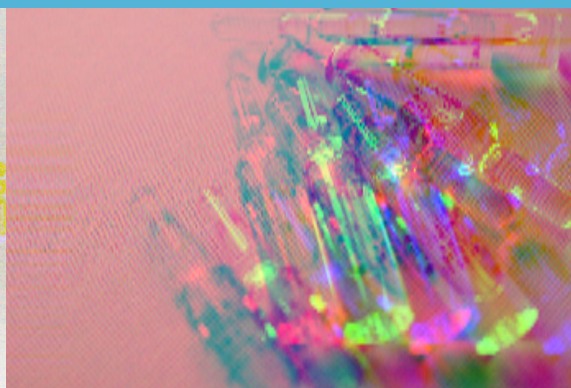
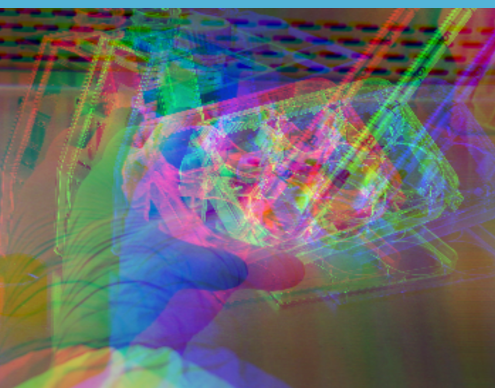
Dr Jibby Frantz

INSTITUT PASTEUR, FRANCE



Dr Eugenia Ong

DUKE-NUS, SINGAPORE



MEET MY LAB: VACCINE RESEARCH

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WHAT IS THIS?

Learn, Connect & Collaborate.

This series is intended to provide a **virtual meeting point** for researchers around the globe to **learn** from, **connect** & **collaborate** with each other. Each session profiles two research teams working in the same field to share their research work and present opportunities for collaboration. Audience members can ask questions and engage with the presenters and with each other.

WHO CAN JOIN?

Open to the world.

'Meet my Lab' is open to **researchers at all career stages** and of **all nationalities**. Participants need to be actively involved in the **same discipline** that is being covered in the 'Meet my Lab' session they intend to join. They should have an **interest in international research collaboration**. To ensure maximum interaction, each session will be **limited to 80 participants**. Participation is free of charge. Seats will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

HOW DO I JOIN?

Virtual meeting point.

'Meet my Lab' sessions are virtual meetings hosted by EURAXESS ASEAN on the Zoom platform. Interaction between the presenter(s) and the audience will be two-way (video and audio). Participants agree to fully comply with appropriate etiquette of virtual meetings.

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)

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THE TOPIC

The creation of an efficacious, safe vaccine involves a large team of scientists, medical experts and industry partners from around the world and across multiple disciplines.

This process typically requires 10 to 15 years of research and development before a vaccine can be made available to the public.

During this ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there is intense public interest in vaccine research as part of the global race to find a long-term solution to combat this outbreak.

In this 'Meet My Lab' session, we have invited vaccine researchers from Duke-NUS (Singapore) and Institut Pasteur (France) who work at the intersection of academic research and industry partnerships

We will learn about their research progress on SARS-CoV-2 vaccine candidates, experience working with industry partners, and explore opportunities for collaboration.

Topics covered will include the following:

- Role of academic research in pandemic response
- Respective technology platforms that accelerate the development of safe, efficacious vaccines
- First-hand experience in establishing, managing industry, regulatory partnerships
- Challenges of vaccine development during a pandemic

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AGENDA

3.00pm - Introduction of 'Meet my Lab' series and speakers

3:15pm - Speaker presentations on their research platform in accelerating development of COVID-19 vaccines (10 min each)

3:25pm - Panel discussion

3:45pm - Q&A from audience

4.00pm - End of session



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SPEAKERS



DR RUKLANTHI (RUKIE) DE ALWIS

*Senior Research Fellow, Emerging Infectious Diseases Programme,
Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore*

Ruklanthi (Rukie) completed her PhD training in Microbiology and Immunology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA, where she investigated the human antibody responses to Dengue virus. Further, she acquired training in Epidemiology (MPH) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and worked as an epidemiologist at the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit (OUCRU) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. She then joined the ViREMICS team, where she is currently pursuing projects looking at human antibody responses to viruses both at a mechanistic and population level. Her research interests include antibody responses to flaviviruses, immuno-epidemiology of antibody responses to natural infections, pre-clinical and clinical vaccine development, and antibody responses as a tool for surveillance of infectious disease.

Email: rukie.dealwis@duke-nus.edu.sg



DR EUGENIA ONG

*Research Fellow, Emerging Infectious Diseases Programme,
Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore*

Eugenia Ong is a Research Fellow with the Emerging Infectious Diseases Programme at Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore. Eugenia completed her PhD training in Integrated Biology and Medicine at Duke-NUS Medical School under the supervision of Prof. Eng Eong Ooi. Her PhD thesis focused on investigating Fc-gamma receptor signaling during antibody-enhanced dengue virus infection. She is exploring how assay development and design of pre-clinical studies can be tailored for adaptive clinical trial design for infectious diseases. Her research interests include antibody-dependent enhancement, host-pathogen interactions, and pre-clinical development & adaptive trial design for therapeutics and vaccines.

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SPEAKERS



DR PHANRAMPHOEI FRANTZ AKA DR. JIBBY

Postdoctoral researcher with the Innovation Lab Vaccines, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France

Dr. Jibby is a postdoctoral researcher with the Innovation Lab Vaccines at Institut Pasteur in Paris, France. Jibby received her PhD from Wayne State University, School of Medicine in microbial pathogenesis with the support of a Thai Government Scholarship. After receiving her PhD, she returned to Thailand to work as a research scientist at BIOTEC (www.biotec.or.th/en/) in the field of virology and vaccine development. In 2011, Jibby started to study the pathogenesis of the porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV). She was a part of the team which was the first group to succeed in creating an infectious cDNA clone of PEDV. In 2014, she began to work at the Institut Pasteur in France with funding from a Franco-Thai Fellowship to develop a measles-vector based dengue vaccine. This subsequently created the first collaboration between Institut Pasteur and BIOTEC to develop a vaccine against PEDV. The following year, she successfully applied for an MSCA Individual Fellowship to continue her work on the pig vaccine project at Institut Pasteur.

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DR WEIJIE POH

Global Project Manager - Healint, Singapore

Dr Poh Weijie is Global Project Manager at Healint in Singapore and is active in the Boston and Singapore biotech ecosystem. Prior to this, Weijie was an Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the Centre for Technology and Development (CTeD) at Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore focusing on commercializing vaccine technologies. He received his PhD from the Johns Hopkins University, where he cofounded a universal HPV vaccine startup, and completed postdoctoral training at the Dana-Farber Cancer Research Institute in Boston.

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EURAXESS ASEAN

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