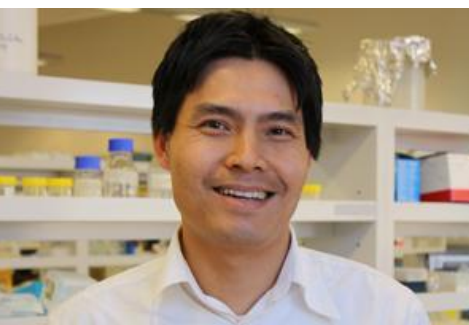


BioISI Research Seminar

Understanding the role of microRNAs in head and neck cancer



Nham Tran, PhD

School of Biomedical Engineering & Centre for Health Technologies
University of Technology Sydney

Host: Margarida Gama-Carvalho (GER-BioISI)

When: Thursday January 18 - 14h00

Where: Building C1, Room 1.3.33A

Head and neck cancer is the sixth most common cancer in the world. Despite its global health impact, we know very little about the exact mechanisms driving this disease. Further to this, the majority of patients present with late stage disease. More recently, small RNAs such as microRNAs have been shown to have important roles in gene regulation.

My laboratory is interested in using microRNAs as 1) biomarkers for oral cancer detection and 2) to understand the role of these microRNAs in cancer. We have discovered several serum miRNAs which may have the potential for early diagnostic markers.

To explore a mechanistic role, we show that specific miRNAs may partake in co-regulation of certain tumour suppressor genes such as PDCD4.