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À HONG KONG

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Deciphering the Vascular Tree

by

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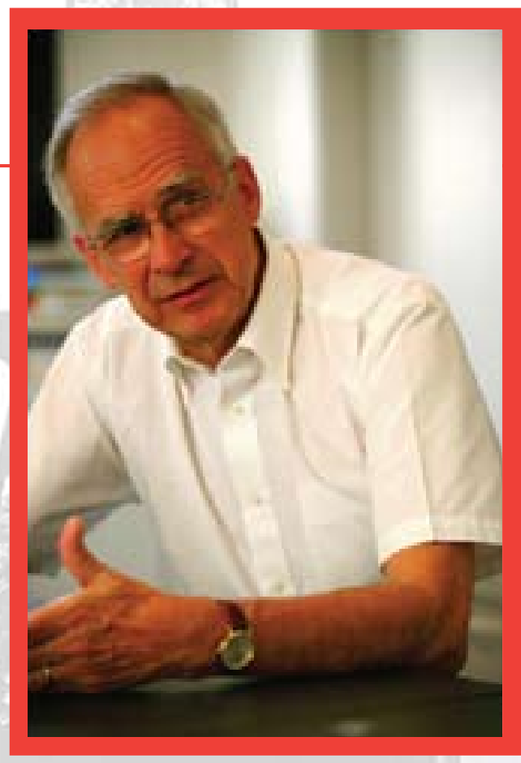

Abstract:

Angiogenesis (the growth of new blood vessels) is a rapidly growing field. In a few years, most of the main vascular growth factors involved during development have been identified, as well as factors responsible for the differentiation of arteries, veins and lymphatic vessels. The role of angiogenesis in tumoral growth, in exsudative retinopathies and in some inflammatory diseases has been established in animal models and human pathologies.

Angiogenesis allows to deliver oxygen and nutriments to tissues. Hypoxia is a main determinant of angiogenesis. During adult life, the vascular network is remarkably stable and there is no active angiogenesis. Endothelium is quiescent, except in some physiological circumstances such as female reproduction cycle and muscular exercise. The same molecular and cellular mechanisms which are operating during embryonic angiogenesis are involved in physiological and pathological neoangiogenesis. Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF) plays a major role in these different types of angiogenesis. VEGF inhibition is a promising therapy in tumoral and ocular pathologies.

Date : May 7, 2009 (Thursday)
Time : 4:30 pm
Venue : SCOPE Lecture Theatre (SLT),
Lower Ground Floor,
Academic Exchange Building,
City University of Hong Kong

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This lecture is part of the celebration programmes of CityU's 25th Anniversary

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