

School of Optometry

School Seminar

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Discover new drugs for retinal degeneration by zebrafish research

- Date** : Wednesday 20 July 2016
- Time** : 12:15pm – 1:15pm
- Venue** : Room V312, 3/F, Jockey Club Innovation Tower
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- Credit Hour** : 1

Abstract:

Retinal degeneration is often progressive. This feature has provided a therapeutic window for intervention that may extend functional vision in patients. Nonetheless, promising drug candidates are scarce. The scarcity of new drugs has motivated us to discover novel compounds through zebrafish research. In this talk, I will highlight our recent effort in developing a new platform for drug screening based on a visual behaviour of zebrafish. We used the platform to evaluate drug effect on zebrafish models of retinal degeneration, and discovered a compound extracted from traditional Chinese medicine exerted a potential visual benefit on retinal degeneration. Our platform therefore may expedite the discovery of new drugs for treating retinal-degeneration patients.

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