

Agilent, Korean Univ study sugars to combat cancer

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Singapore: Agilent Technologies and Korea's Chungnam National University have taken initiatives to further research in glycomics, which is the study of complex sugars, in order to develop biomarkers and new therapeutic antibodies to combat diseases such as cancer.

Building on an earlier collaboration, Agilent and the university's Graduate School of Analytical Science and Technology (GRAST) will establish the Asia Glycomics Education Center to support collaborative university-industry education and cross-training. The university will develop and administer training programs for various methods of glycan analysis, which will be made available without charge to scientists and researchers endorsed by Agilent in South Korea and the South Asia Pacific region.

Sang-Chul Jung, president, Chungnam National University, Korea, said that, "Since we first started collaborating with Agilent in 2011, our university has enjoyed access to the latest analytical and scientific technologies for research in glycomics. Our highly talented team at GRAST, led by professor Hyun-Joo An, has made a number of significant findings, which have been shared with the global scientific community through papers and speaking engagements. This lives up to our university's motto-'Creativity, development, and service to the community'-and we are pleased to further this collaboration with Agilent."

Mr Rod Minett, general manager, Agilent's Life Sciences Group, South Korea and the South Asia Pacific, said that, "In science, discovery is a long and arduous road dependent on the best people, process and technology. For this collaboration with Chungnam National University, we are going into the next phase of our journey to develop and enhance the biosimilars industry, which will help scientists develop new treatments to cure or prevent diseases."

Professor An, who heads the Asia Glycomics Education Center, will continue to work with Dr Rudolf Grimm, Agilent's director of science and technology and manager of collaborations for the Asia Pacific region. "This is an important next-step for both Agilent and Chungnam National University as we continue to build talent and drive innovations and discoveries in the field of glycomics using industry-leading analytical solutions," said Dr Grimm.