

Ian Dangerfield Lecture

The story of antibody: A scientific journey from vaccines to blockbuster new therapies

Prof. Phil Hodgkin 7pm, Friday October 4th 2013



Immunity against infection was recognised by the Ancient Greeks but uncovering the mechanism and exploiting it rationally for vaccine development has been a modern scientific triumph. At the very heart of immunity is the formation of a protein, antibody, that circulates in the blood and enters the tissues after infection. Antibody protects against a seemingly limitless number of different infectious agents by exploiting a Darwinian process that includes molecular roulette and competition between millions of individual white blood cells. Today molecular engineering methods have led to a new generation of therapies that turn antibody inward to regulate the complex immune process itself. As a result methods for using antibody to treat non-infectious diseases such as multiple sclerosis, arthritis and cancer are showing great promise. In this lecture Phil Hodgkin will tour this history and review the astonishing future potential of antibody in the clinic.

Venue: Seminar Room, Hamilton Institute, Rye Hall, NUI Maynooth

Time: 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Travel directions are available at www.hamilton.ie