Seminar Series Speaker
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CANCER RESEARCH DAY
Seminar Speaker
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“Origin and evolution of metastatic traits in breast cancer”
Origin and evolution of metastatic traits in breast cancer

Metastasis represents the most devastating stage of cancer progression and is responsible for most of cancer-related death. How and when breast cancer cells acquire metastatic traits is a topic of intense investigation and debate in the field. It has become clear that the development of metastatic capability in cancer cells is a continuous process that is shaped by the tissue of origin of the primary tumor, early oncogenic events, as well as the stresses tumor cells endure when they encounter different microenvironments and therapeutic treatments. Many genes play multiple functions during primary tumorigenesis and metastatic progression, and may represent ideal targets for therapeutic intervention. In this lecture, I will discuss some latest findings in our understanding of the origin and evolution of metastasis traits in breast cancer, with emphasis on the connection of metastasis genes to early events of tumor initiation.