

Xisong Ke, Ph.D, Professor



Dr. Ke obtained his Ph.D degree in Peking Union Medical Collage in China. After being a postdoc (2006-2009) and a researcher (2010 to 2016) in University of Bergen, Norway, he moved back to China for a professor position in Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (SHUTCM), a university has been selected in the National Initiative for Developing Top-notch Programs. Since 2017, Dr. Ke is a director of the Center for Chemical Biology and a leader of Top Research Team in SHUTCM.

Dr. Ke is focusing on chemical biology study of anti-cancer drugs with emphasis on target identification of small molecules. He reported small molecule-induced asymmetric division in cancer cells, and discovered the first agonist of peptidylarginine deiminase and a new type of post-translational modification (citrullination) of β -catenin, as well as several novel inhibitors of Wnt/ β -catenin signaling pathway for cancer therapy. Dr. Ke has published a number of research and review articles in prestigious journals, and obtained grants from Helse Vest of Norway, Bergen Medical Research foundation, National Nature Science Foundation of China, Shanghai Science and Technology Committee, Shanghai Education Commission, etc.

Selected publications:

1. Qu Y, Olsen JR, Yuan X, Cheng PF, Levesque MP, Brokstad KA, Hoffman PS, Oyan AM, Zhang W*, Kalland KH*, **Ke X***, Small molecule promotes β -catenin citrullination and inhibits Wnt signaling in cancer. *Nat. Chem. Biol.* 2018; 14: 94-101
2. Cui C, Zhou X, Zhang W, Qu Y*, **Ke X***. Is β -Catenin a Druggable Target for Cancer Therapy? *Trends Biochemical. Sci.* 2018; 43: 623-634
3. Wang B, Tian T, Kalland KH, **Ke X***, Qu Y*. Targeting Wnt/ β -Catenin Signaling for Cancer Immunotherapy. *Trends Pharmacol. Sci.* 2018; 39: 648-658
4. Huang P, Yan R, Zhang X, Wang L, **Ke X***, Qu Y*. Activating Wnt/ β -catenin signaling pathway for disease therapy: Challenges and opportunities. *Pharmacol Ther.* 2018. pii: S0163-7258(18)30211-0.
5. Qu Y, Gharbi N, Yuan X, Olsen JR, Blicher P, Dalhus B, Brokstad KA, Lin B, Øyan AM, Zhang W, Kalland KH*, **Ke X***. Axitinib blocks Wnt/ β -catenin signaling and directs asymmetric cell division in cancer. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2016; 113: 9339-44
6. Qu Y, Oyan AM, Liu R, Hua Y, Zhang J, Hovland R, Popa M, Liu X, Brokstad KA, Simon R, Molven A, Lin B, Zhang WD, McCormack E, Kalland KH*, **Ke XS***. Generation of prostate tumor-initiating cells is associated with elevation of reactive oxygen species and IL-6/STAT3 signaling. *Cancer Res.* 2013 ;73(23):7090-100.

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