



Dr. Wai-Hong Tham

Doctor

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Associate Professor Wai-Hong Tham is a Howard Hughes-Wellcome Trust International Research Scholar and a laboratory head in the Infection and Immunity Division at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. She obtained her PhD from Princeton University. The Tham laboratory is focused on deciphering new host-pathogen interactions that govern successful malaria infection. They study parasite adhesins that are required for entry into human red cells and parasite surface proteins that bind to human complement proteins for immune evasion. The overarching aim is to rationally design and generate new inhibitors or antibodies that block these interactions and hence, recurrent malaria infection in humans. Her work involves collaborations with structural biologists, immuno-epidemiologists and molecular parasitologists. For her contribution to understanding malaria parasite invasion, she was part of a team that was awarded the inaugural Eureka Prize for Infectious Diseases Research in 2011.