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- 講 題:利用微流體技術進行細胞相關研究
- 主 持 人: 趙聖德教授
- 時 間: 108年9月30日(星期一)下午2時20分開始
- 地 點: 台灣大學應用力學研究所國際會議廳

☆☆ 歡迎聽講,敬請張貼 ☆☆

Microfluidic biochip technology for biological cell research

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Abstract

Microfluidic technology is an emerging area that couples multidisciplinary fields encompassing physics, chemistry, engineering and biotechnology and that manipulates tiny (e.g. 10^{-9} to 10^{-18} liters) amounts of fluids and/or biological entities, using microchannels with dimensions of tens to hundreds of micrometers. It allows the integration of various chemical and biochemical processes into fast and automatic micro-scale analytical systems. Microfluidic devices have been progressively used as versatile research tools in different fields, including chemical engineering, biotechnology, pharmaceutics, and medicine. The real value of miniaturized analytical devices is that they lead to many benefits, particularly decreased analysis timescales, reduced consumption of experimental resources, enhanced performances, and increased portability. Among the various applications, microfluidic devices are especially suitable for biological applications particularly at the cellular level, because the scale of microchannels corresponds well with the native cellular microenvironment. This paves the way to create a more bio-mimetic condition in vitro that is particularly meaningful for a faithful biological cell research. Due to the small dimensions in typical microfluidic systems, moreover, a microfluidic-based biological cell research consumes relatively less research resources, making high throughput biological cell researches feasible. Furthermore, microfluidic devices also hold promising to provide a stable, and well-defined culture condition for a more precise biological cell research because of the continuous culture medium perfusion and miniaturized scale cell culture format. All above technical features are currently impossible using the conventional techniques or devices for biological cell researches. The presentation will discuss the microfluidic-based cell culture systems, the microfluidic system for tissue engineering, and the microfluidic system for circulating tumor cells (CTCs) isolation.