

## SCIENTIFIC ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **A\*STAR's SIgN receives Shared Infrastructure Support (SIS) grant to enhance its Immunomonitoring (IM) Platform capabilities to accelerate research in Singapore**

**Singapore** – The National Research Foundation (NRF) has awarded SIgN a Shared Infrastructure Support (SIS) grant in March 2019 for five years. The grant will be used to enhance SIgN's core capabilities in the areas of Flow Cytometry, Multiple Analysis of Proteins (MAP) and Bioinformatics, as well as develop talent to be well-versed with cutting-edge technologies and contribute to impactful scientific research. With this grant, SIgN will be even better-equipped to develop novel assays to expand its repertoire of cutting-edge technologies for higher throughput, greater quality assurance and increased scientific excellence.

SIgN is a leading research institute in the field of immunology in Singapore and its IM Platform houses state-of the art technologies and world-leading experts that support multi-disciplinary research. The SIgN IM Platform actively engages in immune profiling, biomarker discovery, target identification, vaccine assessment, patient treatment stratification, clinical trials monitoring and cohort studies with more than 130 successful academic, clinical and industry partnerships with both local and overseas collaborators, and a track record of 1,164 publications since 2007.

“Enhancing SIgN's cutting-edge capabilities such as the Flow Cytometry Platform will provide the scientific, industry and academic communities with greater access to world-class research infrastructure and help bring about greater scientific breakthroughs in the area of immunology.” commented Dr Anis Larbi, Head of Flow Cytometry at SIgN.

SIgN will also be conducting seminars and workshops to support outreach efforts and educate researchers on the latest technological developments. These workshops will be open to the Singapore R&D ecosystem. For collaborations or to be notified about upcoming seminars/workshops, please contact [SIgN\\_IMP@immunol.a-star.edu.sg](mailto:SIgN_IMP@immunol.a-star.edu.sg).

“This is a new phase in SIgN's growth, and we are excited to play an even greater part in Singapore's R&D ecosystem,” said Professor Laurent Renia, Executive Director of SIgN. “With our enhanced platform capabilities, we are confident that our future collaborations will result in greater healthcare and economic outcomes for Singapore.”

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**About the Singapore Immunology Network (SIgN)**

The Singapore Immunology Network (SIgN) was established in 2006 by the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR). SIgN's mission is to advance human immunology research, contribute scientific knowledge and make innovative discoveries to improve lives and further socio-economic growth. SIgN is committed to translate research findings into clinical and commercial applications, in partnership with clinics and industry.

SIgN is home to more than 202 national and international researchers and support staff led by 15 renowned Principal Investigators. The current SIgN research activities are broadly categorized into the areas of Infectious Diseases, Cancer and Immune Dysfunctions, and supported by a strong in-house cluster of cutting-edge technology platforms. For more information and recent updates on SIgN, visit <https://www.a-star.edu.sg/sign/>.

**About the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR)**

The Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR) is Singapore's lead public sector agency that spearheads economic oriented research to advance scientific discovery and develop innovative technology. Through open innovation, we collaborate with our partners in both the public and private sectors to benefit society.

As a Science and Technology Organisation, A\*STAR bridges the gap between academia and industry. Our research creates economic growth and jobs for Singapore, and enhances lives by contributing to societal benefits such as improving outcomes in healthcare, urban living, and sustainability.

We play a key role in nurturing and developing a diversity of talent and leaders in our Agency and research entities, the wider research community and industry. A\*STAR's R&D activities span biomedical sciences and physical sciences and engineering, with research entities primarily located in Biopolis and Fusionopolis. For ongoing news, visit [www.a-star.edu.sg](http://www.a-star.edu.sg).