



Chicago Section IFT the First Section



October 15, 2012 Guest Speaker



Dr. Fong Chee Wai
Head of R & D at Davos

Science-Driven Solutions with Tocotrienols (Natural Vitamin E)

Vitamin E: A Long Overdue Review

Vitamin E was discovered in 1922 by Herbert McLean Evans to be essential for human fertility. It consists of 2 main classes: tocopherol & tocotrienol & 4 isomers: alpha, beta, gamma & delta. Currently only the alpha-tocopherol is recognized by the US Food & Nutrition Board to be the only form of Vitamin E. The other isomers are not recognized due to their lower bioavailability.

However, recent scientific research clearly shows the various isomers of tocopherol & tocotrienol confer distinct & essential benefits to the well-being of our body despite their low doses in the body. In addition, there is emerging evidence that long term consumption of high doses of alpha-tocopherol is harmful as it likely suppresses the absorption of the other isomers. It is therefore high time that the consumers & authorities in the food & nutrition industry become aware of the need to incorporate a broad spectrum of Vitamin E to give a well-balanced diet for the general population.

Speaker Bio

Dr. Fong Chee Wai is the Head of Research & Development at Davos Life Science Pte Ltd, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad. Davos Life Science, in addition to being one of the world's largest producers of T3, is currently the only company that can purify isomers of tocotrienol from palm oil for use in clinical trials & supplements.

Prior to joining Davos Life Science, Dr Fong is a scientific consultant to Merck Millipore Malaysia & Taiwan and a Field Application Scientist for Millipore South East Asia. He obtained his Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) Honors at the National University of Singapore and PhD in Molecular Pharmacology from the University of Glasgow, United Kingdom.



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Dr Fong has many years of experience in drug discovery having worked at Glaxo Wellcome, and the Institute of Molecular & Cell Biology at A*STAR Singapore.

Dr Fong has published more than 20 international scientific journals like EMBO, Cancer Research, Cancer Letters, Molecular Pharmacology, Journal of Biological Chemistry, Molecular Cell Biology, and Neuroscience, etc.