## The Interview at Yushan Lake Park





As the number of deaths from malignant tumors continues to rise, our research into the development of malignant tumors in the elderly focuses on the differences between existing treatments and our products. We endeavor to extract substances from mulberry leaves that effectively kill tumor cells to replace the expensive targeted drugs.

In July 2021, we conducted interviews at Yushan Lake Park, Ma'anshan City, to determine how much the public knows about malignant tumors, tumor treatment, and tumor therapeutic drugs. Through investigation, we found that the public does not fully understand malignant tumors and their treatment, and there are many misunderstandings. For example, some people have partial faith or dependence on certain health products. In addition, some people fear that the more nutritious food they eat, the faster tumor cells grow. Furthermore, some people believe that tumors can be cured entirely after resection. Moreover, families that cannot afford treatments give up treating, believing that a tumor equals a terminal illness.

So we introduced people to the concept, the characteristics, and the formation conditions of a tumor. Primarily, we introduce the idea of extracting substances from mulberry leaves that effectively kill tumor cells, allowing more people to receive treatment instead of giving up the chance to heal because of expensive medical bills. Therefore, people will not fear tumors but face them bravely.

Our human practice (HP), Yushan Lake Park interview, is of great significance as it promotes the iGEM competition to the public and introduces the AHUT-China team. At the same time, it renders the public know of the malignant tumor.

## Our discussion with the AHUT Industrial Robotics Competition team





We discuss the guiding significance of industrial robots to automatic assembly line production to speed up the drug R & D cycle.

## Field investigation in the oncology department of Ma'anshan People's Hospital





In order to understand the specific treatment process and treatment drugs for malignant tumors, our team contacted the oncology staff of Ma'anshan People's Hospital in August. On the premise of personal protection and not interrupting the regular treatment of the medical staff, we witnessed how they work with tumors.

A malignant tumor is one of the primary diseases that harm human health. The treatment of tumors is the comprehensive application of surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, interventional therapy, and biological therapy.

Meanwhile, we understand that the side effects of cancer treatment can sometimes be more harmful to the body than cancer itself because when drugs are used, the side effects can cause significant damage to normal tissue cells. In addition, while the patient holds a low tolerance to the effects and an abnormal immune system due to the disease, the patient's immune function will further decline with the drug injury. So, the patient is confronting huge risks. The vast risks have been a huge inspiration for our team's research.

## Multi-channel propaganda (Wechat, friend circle, public account)

AHUT\_China upgraded its WeChat public account (Instagram and Twitter account) in 2021. During the implementation of the project this year, more than X original articles have been published since the establishment of the team. This year we actively carry out social practice through such external publicity platform to promote the iGEM contest and introduce our project.

After human practice, the AHUT-China team will promptly write a summary and translate it into English, published on its Wechat public account, Instagram account, and Twitter account.

The Anhui University of Technology's public account, iGEM, features three modules on Project Progress, Collaboration&Communication, and Popular Science Articles, which readers can consult.

The Project Progress module includes the promotion team, the experiment process, and the Logo display. Our articles are regularly reported and updated weekly. In addition, the team holds regular meetings, from the 2021-X-X weekly report to 2021-X-X.

More importantly, the Collaboration&Communication module is divided into two parts. First, HP pat has documented some human practices, such as an interview at Yushan Lake Park and a visit to Ma'anshan Fengyuan Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. Collaboration part describes our interactions with iGEM teams of other universities.

Popular Science Articles module focuses on synthetic biology popular science. It promotes the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition (iGEM), held annually by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) since 2005, and is the highest international academic competition in synthetic biology. Furthermore, all the information is relevant to our team's experiments.

The iGEM public account of Anhui University of Technology (AHUT) is aimed at schools and society, where Wechat users can access iGEM information. Thus, we can raise awareness of the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition (iGEM) and create a good image of the AHUT\_China team.

**5. Project publicity in kindergarten**

After taking protective measures, the AHUT-China team came to Hu Dong Road Primary School, aiming to introduce the prevention and characteristics of the malignancy to the children and teachers, and introduced to them that malignant tumor at any age, but the incidence rate increased with age. In childhood, the most common are leukemia, brain tumor, and malignant lymphatic cancer; Liver cancer and leukemia are common in young adults; Middle age and old age are mainly stomach, esophagus, cervix, lung, and lung cancer. Then we told the children about our team's project to extract effective substances from mulberry leaves to kill tumor cells in the iGEM competition this year. Malignant tumor diseases will develop significantly in the future. Therefore, malignant tumor diseases can not be ignored. We should encourage children to establish a correct attitude towards tumors from an early age.



**6. Project publicity in University.**

In recent years, the number of people suffering from malignant tumor diseases has been increasing. Therefore, to make everyone treat malignant tumors correctly, find tumor diseases in advance, and actively cooperate with hospital treatment to achieve the effect of cure, iGEM team members carried out relevant knowledge publicity at Anhui University of technology.

The publicity activities were carried out through offline meetings and seminars in the teaching building of AHUT, aiming to popularize the knowledge of synthetic biology among college students and awaken people's understanding of the importance of malignant tumors. The following is the specific content and process of one of the activities:

In September 2021, our team carried out a publicity activity with the theme of "characteristics, preventive measures, and therapeutic drugs of malignant tumors" at Anhui University of technology. Same day. Our team members arrived at the venue in advance for venue arrangement and publicity rehearsal. At the meeting, the team leader of iGEM spent one hour popularizing the basic knowledge of malignant tumors for the audience: normal human cells form new cells through growth and division. The cells will die after aging or damage to maintain the dynamic balance of the body. When the body cells divide and spread unrestricted to form new organisms, which are called tumors. The preventive measures for college students' malignant tumors mainly include strengthening cancer prevention health education, improving cognition and self-protection ability, paying attention to hygiene and changing lousy lifestyle, avoiding high-fat, low vitamin and low cellulose diet, etc. Taking this opportunity, we also publicized the project carried out by our team in the iGEM competition to extract substances that can effectively kill tumor cells from mulberry leaves to replace expensive targeted drugs. After the meeting, the audience all representatives expressed their heartfelt feelings, indicating that the content of the speech aroused the health awareness of the audience. Thus, the publicity activity has achieved great success, and the publicity scope covers the whole university campus and even off-campus.

**7. Social survey**

In September, our team conducted a social survey of "how much I know about malignant tumors" in several elderly activity centers.

The survey includes:

(1) At what age do you think malignant tumors will occur?

(2) What do you know about the treatment options for malignant tumors?

(3) Do you think the cure rate of malignant tumors treated with drugs is high at this stage?

(4) What preventive measures do you know about malignant tumors?

About 65% of people give all the answers, but most are unclear about the specific prevention and treatment of malignant tumors.

This also encourages us to carry out propaganda on malignant tumors actively, popularize preventive measures for malignant tumors, and reduce the incidence rate.









**8. Interview with Dr. XXX**

Many problems were encountered during the experiment.

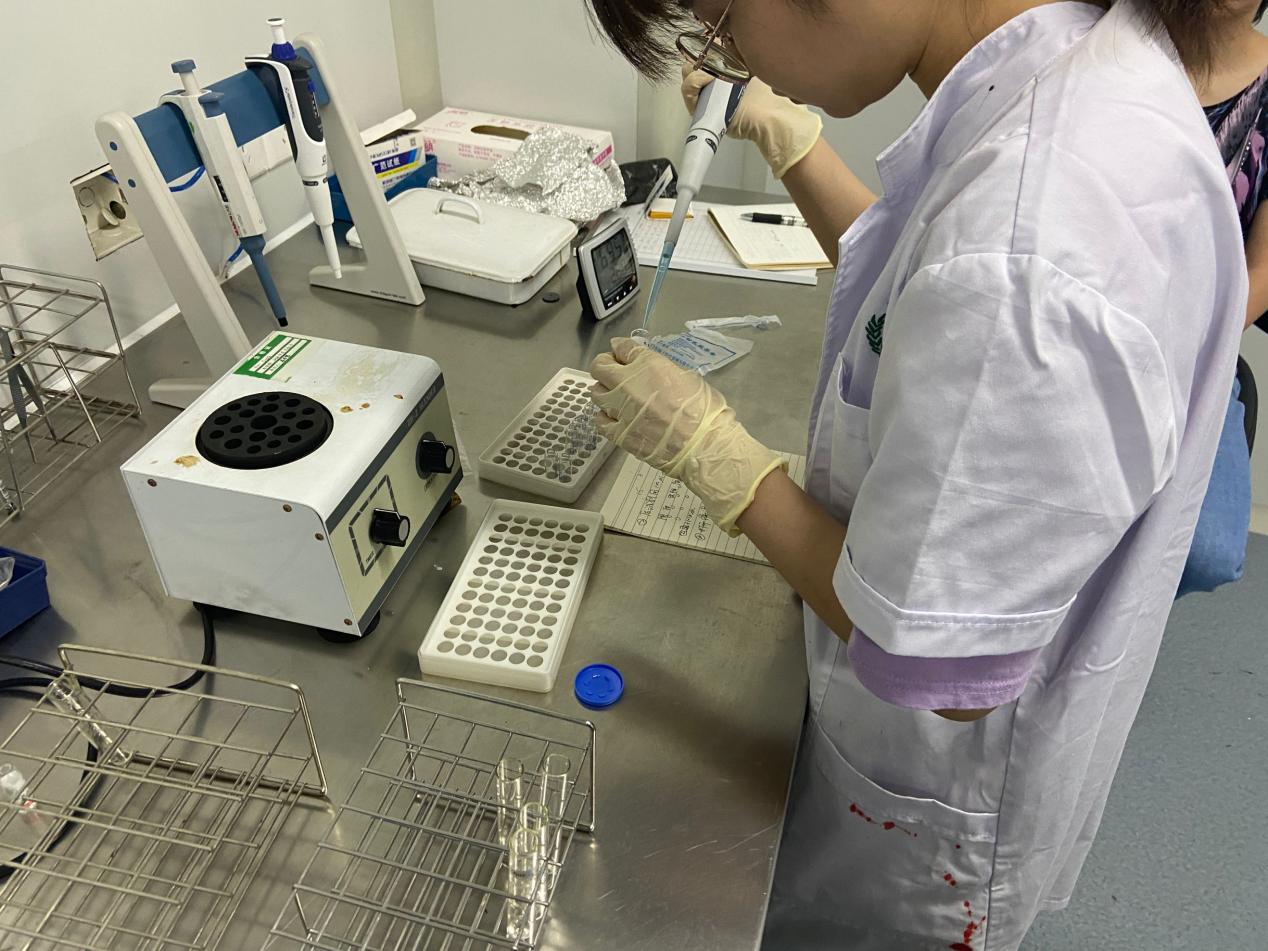
**9. Visit Ma'anshan Fengyuan Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd**

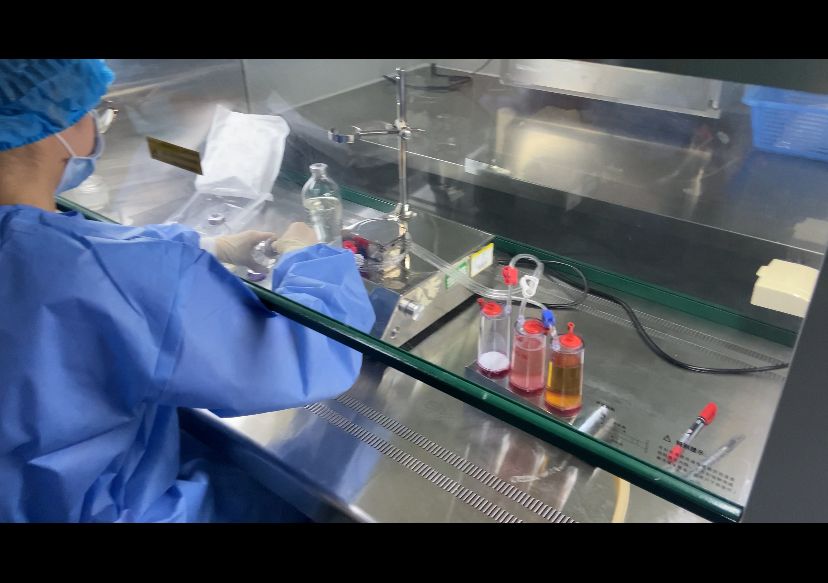
Our team visited the local pharmaceutical company in Ma'anshan. Considering that the drug has been developed, it needs mass production to be genuinely applied to medical treatment. Therefore, our team decided to visit the local pharmaceutical factory to investigate whether our manufacturing process could be applied to mass production. We chose to visit Ma'anshan Fengyuan Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. because of its exquisite pharmaceutical technology and complete equipment.

In September, after repeated solicitation, we contacted the company and followed a member of the company to visit the pharmaceutical technology of the company under the condition of ensuring hygiene.

During the visit, the commentator explained the use of the company's pharmaceutical equipment to us in detail and put forward helpful suggestions for the manufacturing process of their laboratory. In order to use the drugs developed by the laboratory for large-scale production, our team improved our drug development process to better meet the needs of mechanized social production. To this end, I would like to thank Ma'anshan Fengyuan pharmaceutical company for providing us with this opportunity.







**10. Host the presentation**

In order to propagate the iGEM competition and our project and make medical knowledge widely available, we invited representatives from each class to a presentation session held in the conference room.

In the meeting, our team presented the research project - novel targeted drugs against tumor cells, which has an excellent prospect for treating malignant tumors. At last, we explained the current common treatments for tumors and shared healthy diets. In daily life, students should live regularly, exercise moderately, and get enough sleep. More importantly, we should quit smoking and limit alcohol, avoid sugary drinks and limit the intake of high-quality and dense diets. The presentation allowed the students to understand more about tumors, not be afraid of them, and believe more in today's technology in scientific medical care.

After the meeting, many students asked some detailed questions about the characteristics of malignant tumors. We also had clear communication and discussion about the knowledge related to the novel targeted drugs developed by our team. Therefore, it proved to be a successful decision for us to hold the presentation.

**11. Love life and be optimistic**

The themes of National Cancer Awareness Week 2021 are "Healthy China, Healthy Home - Caring for Life, Scientific Cancer Prevention" and "Lighting the Way to Fight Cancer, Helping Healthy China." Because of malignant tumor diseases, many people lose their lives, which harms many families every year in China.

The mental health of tumor patients is essential. After being diagnosed with tumor disease, some patients are afraid of talking about "cancer" and are depressed and often worried about their condition. Therefore, it is essential to comfort patients psychologically, encourage them to fight against tumors for a long time, and actively cooperate with doctors for standard treatment.

We released the campaign "Care for tumor patients, starting from the heart" through our WeChat official account, encouraging tumor patients through letters, drawings and messages. Once the campaign was launched, it received an overwhelming response.

**12. Monthly meetings**

Why are we doing all of this?

Every team's project in iGEM is not perfect at the beginning. In order to keep improving the project, each team holds team meetings to discuss repeatedly, and The team members work better with each other. It was important for our whole team to have meetings on time for some discussions. Our college iGEM project members meet once a week to discuss how to solve the current problems and what to do next. Starting from X month X, iGEM members keep the habit of meeting once a month to discuss.

**February**

The meeting includes:

Division of labor among the members of this meeting

Members of the experimental group introduced our experimental project of extracting novel targeted drugs from mulberry leaves against tumor cells

Through the discussion in this meeting, the division of labor among our members was more clearly defined, and the efficiency among members was greatly improved. At the same time, there was a preliminary understanding of the project we will carry out next.

**March**

The meeting includes:

HP and Collaboration's task

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**April**

The meeting includes:

Experiments summarized fundamental expertise related to the competition

Preliminary summary of the HP and Collaboration program.

Interpretation of medal criteria

**May**

The meeting includes:

HP and Collaboration group should continue their related activities

Our group plans to visit tutoring institutions to teach students and answer questions.

And invited teachers to discuss with us

**June**

The meeting includes:

HP and Collaboration team members have completed their research on Collaboration

Through the discussion at this meeting, we plan to continue refining the wiki website design in the next phase

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**July**

The meeting includes:

Logo production was done by the art and layout team

Through this meeting, we plan to meet the next phase of experimental iGEM Gold Award requirements...

**August**

The meeting includes:

Strengthen the cooperation with the University of Science and Technology of China

Improve the logo

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**September**

The meeting includes:

The experimental group plans to complete our part

We voted on the wiki design

We plan to meet the iGEM Gold Award requirements for the next phase of the experiment with this meeting.