



HKU Med School of Clinical Medicine
Department of Medicine
香港大學內科學系

MEDICINE

NEWSLETTER



Inspiring Excellence in Medical Education

MAY 2025



<https://medic.hku.hk>

MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON

Welcome to the May 2025 issue of MEDICINE newsletter.

In today's fast-paced world, cultivating visionary and innovative minds is important for addressing medical challenges. Our mission is to empower individuals to unlock their full potential, encouraging them to embrace challenges, think critically, and lead with integrity.

This issue will highlight our resolute commitment to advancing medical education and demonstrate how our dynamic and supportive environment fosters professional growth of the faculty and student members, shaping them into leaders that the global community needs. Their dedication and accomplishments undoubtedly inspire and motivate all of us to reach new levels of excellence.

Thank you for your enduring support as we continue to inspire and nurture the future generation.



Professor Tse Hung-Fat

CONTENTS

02

Feature Stories



06

Staff News



07

Event Highlights



14

Awards & Honours



18

New Research Grant/ Fund Awarded



19

Selected Publications





Philip Li

Feature Story

ENHANCE GLOBAL ALLERGY EDUCATION WITH PASSION AND AN INNOVATIVE MIND



Professor Philip Li, Clinical Assistant Professor and Academic Chief of Rheumatology & Clinical Immunology Division, was awarded the **HKU Early Career Teaching Award** and **Faculty Teaching Medal** in 2024, underscoring his commitment to advancing student-led learning and leadership in global allergy education.

Break New Ground in the Medical Curriculum

Professor Li's academic journey has been marked by his dedication to pushing the boundaries of traditional medical education. Under the guidance of Professor Lau Chak-Sing, a pioneering rheumatologist in the Hong Kong public healthcare system, Professor Li became the first locally trained

immunologist and allergist, carving a path for the future of this highly specialized discipline. Since joining HKU in 2020, he introduced the first clinical immunology and allergy teaching in HKU medical curriculum, laying a foundation for future generations to excel in this emerging specialty. Reflecting on this transformation, Professor Li remarked, "Clinical immunology and allergy, especially in adults, are super niche in Hong Kong, and we really had to start from zero. Building on the groundwork laid by my mentors, I initiated this new effort to bridge the crucial gap in preparing students to tackle immunological and allergic disorders."



Professor Philip Li (centred) and medical students raise public awareness about voluntary blood donation.



Professor Philip Li received the 2024 Hong Kong Humanity Youth Power award from Hong Kong Red Cross.

Revitalizing the Master-Apprentice Approach

Drawing inspiration from his own study experiences at HKU, Professor Li, now the Director of Co-curricular Programmes at HKUMed, has diligently worked to modernize traditional master-apprentice approaches. He emphasizes holistic education and nurtures students' sense of belonging, stating, "Not all lessons can be confined to the classroom. I inspire students to become mentors themselves, guiding them towards lifelong learning, humanistic values, and social responsibility."

Leading by example, he collaborated with medical students to launch community outreach projects like "We Children Care", which promote teenage mental health and organize blood donation campaigns on the HKU campus. Professor Li's dedication to striving for equity in rare disease communities also serves as a role model for his students. In 2024, Hong Kong Red Cross honoured him with the **Hong Kong Humanity Youth Power** award for his contribution to enabling access to subsidized medication for Hereditary Angioedema (HAE) patients. This rare disease group in Hong Kong can now receive treatment at an affordable cost.

Global Impact, Local Roots

Beyond the confines of Hong Kong, Professor Li's passion for enhancing clinical allergy training resonates on a global scale. Recently, he initiated a certificate course, **Advances in Drug Allergy and Penicillin Testing (ADAPT)**, in collaboration with international experts. This course covers topics such as advanced testing methodologies and management strategies for drug allergies, effectively equipping non-specialists such as nurses and pharmacists to confidently address common drug allergy-related conditions.

With successful implementations in various countries/regions like China, Australia, and Sri Lanka, Professor Li plans to leverage artificial intelligence (AI) to make a lasting impact across borders and cultures. "Over the past decades, the field of drug allergy has rapidly grown in countries like China, largely due to extensive educational programmes. With the aid of AI advancements, we can now translate the course materials into multiple languages, enabling more healthcare professionals, particularly in developing countries, to receive specialized training."



Professor Philip Li (first row, eighth from left) delivered the "Advances in Drug Allergy and Penicillin Testing" certificate course at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka.



Li Yunhao

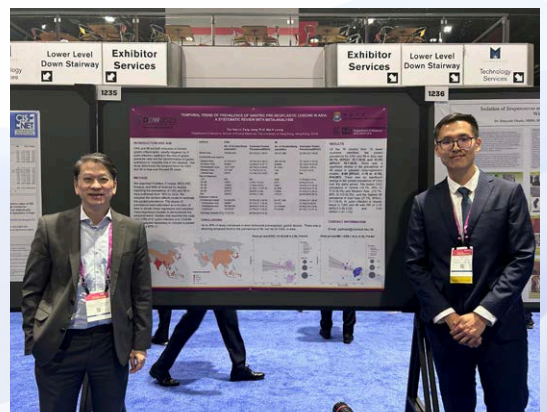
Feature Story

YOUNG RISING STAR EXCELS IN *HELICOBACTER PYLORI* RESEARCH

Mr Li Yunhao, a third-year PhD student who investigates the global burden and risk factors associated with *Helicobacter pylori* infection in benign and malignant gastrointestinal conditions, wins both the **HKU Foundation Publication Award for Research Postgraduate Students** and **Faculty Outstanding Research Output Award** in 2024. "I wish to express my appreciation for the guidance and support of my supervisors, Professors Leung Wai-Keung and Michael Cheung, who have been invaluable in helping me advance to new levels of achievement," he said.

World-Class Research Opportunities

Yunhao completed his bachelor's degree in clinical medicine at Zhongshan Medical College of Sun Yat-sen University while developing his interest in gastroenterology during residency training at Peking Union Medical College Hospital. Driven by a desire to broaden his knowledge, Yunhao set his sights on study abroad, despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In his search for such opportunities, Yunhao connected with Professor Leung Wai-Keung, who impressed him with his dedication to gastroenterology research, "Professor Leung is a world-renowned scholar in *Helicobacter pylori* infection and gastrointestinal diseases. I believe that under his supervision and within the research environment at HKU, I could achieve great things." In 2022, he secured admission to the HKU Presidential PhD Scholar Programme, with a prestigious scholarship that supports top candidates like him in pursuing full-time PhD studies at the university.



Mr Li Yunhao has participated in various international conferences, including the United European Gastroenterology Week (UEGW) 2023 in Copenhagen (top) and Digestive Disease Week (DDW) 2023 in Chicago (bottom).



Embracing New Horizons

Yunhao's research journey was not without challenges. Like other students, he was uncertain about the research direction when he began. "Gastroenterology is a big field with many interesting research topics. Thank Professor Leung for encouraging me to explore the global prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection using meta-analysis." Transitioning from an unfamiliar topic to having his research findings published in high-impact journals like *The Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology*, Yunhao overcame substantial obstacles through diligent effort and the support of his team. Considering his research endeavours, he confidently affirmed, "This choice is the most rewarding one I have ever made."

Nurturing Young Researchers

Reflecting on his PhD studies, Yunhao values international exposure and collaborations the most. "Being a world-renowned university, here we have experts in various fields with extensive connections to researchers worldwide," he stated. Yunhao particularly appreciates the diverse opportunities to present his research findings at international conferences and exchanges with researchers from all over the world. These experiences have empowered him to continue his impactful research.



Photo of Mr Li Yunhao (first from right) and his supervisors, Professors Michael Cheung (second from right) and Leung Wai-Keung (third from right), taken at DDW 2024 in Washington.

Advice for Future Students

With aspirations to resume clinical practice after completing his PhD, Yunhao remains committed to reducing the global burden of gastrointestinal diseases. To those considering a research postgraduate degree, he advises: "Embrace the opportunities provided by the Department – comprehensive research training, interdisciplinary collaborations, and global perspectives. Also, don't shy away from challenges or stepping outside your comfort zone. You never know your boundless potential without delving into exploration."

RESEARCH SEMINAR

The Department has regularly organized Research Seminars, with the aim of fostering a dynamic academic environment that encourages knowledge sharing and professional growth, and equipping postgraduate students with essential skills for research excellence.

During these seminars, final-year PhD students have the opportunity to conduct a mock thesis defense, receiving constructive feedback from faculty members and peers to refine their presentations. Junior students (MPhil and Year 1-3 PhDs) engage in critical analysis of research papers to enhance their understanding of diverse research fields.

Each year, the top 3 presenters of Research Seminars will receive the **Best Presenter Award** to acknowledge their outstanding performance.

Congratulations to the following 2024 awardees:

- Mr Li Renhao (PhD student)
- Miss Liu Jie (MPhil student)
- Miss Zhang Yin (MPhil student)

Know More About
Research@Department of Medicine



(From left) Professor Shirley Li (Coordinator of Research Seminars), Mr Li Renhao, Miss Zhang Yin, Miss Liu Jie and Professor Yuen Man-Fung (Deputy Department Chairperson).

NEW FACES

Professor Florence Chan Clinical Assistant Professor



Professor Florence Chan joined the Department of Medicine as Clinical Assistant Professor in May 2025. She obtained her MBBS degree and Doctor of Medicine from The University of Hong Kong in 2015 and 2025, respectively. Starting her career at the Hospital Authority, Professor Chan completed the Respiratory Medicine training in 2022 and was promoted to Associate Consultant in 2023. She has been appointed as a Young Fellow Member of the Specialty Board in Respiratory Medicine by the Hong Kong College of Physicians, effective from July 2025.

Professor Chan's research interests include respiratory infections, epidemiological studies and the impact of environmental and human behavioural changes on respiratory and infectious diseases. Her research during the COVID-19 pandemic in Hong Kong advocated for universal masking as a preventive measure for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) exacerbation, leading to the subsequent update of "Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD)" guideline in 2022. She has multiple publications relating to respiratory and infectious diseases in peer-reviewed journals including *Pneumonia*, *Annals of the American Thoracic Society* and *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*.

Professor Chan has been awarded funding from the Health and Medical Research Fund Research Fellowship Scheme 2023 and the Hong Kong Lung Foundation Research Grant 2024-2025. She was a recipient of the Assembly Education Award at the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology Congress in both 2023 and 2024.



Professor Becky Ma Clinical Assistant Professor

Professor Becky Ma joined the Department of Medicine as Clinical Assistant Professor in December 2024. She graduated from The University of Hong Kong in 2014 and completed her Nephrology and Internal Medicine training at Queen Mary Hospital. She received the Best Thesis Gold Award and was selected as a Distinguished Young Fellow by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

Professor Ma has a great interest in genetic kidney disease and undertook a postdoctoral research fellowship on precision medicine at the Columbia University Center for Precision Medicine and Genomics. She has been awarded the Health and Medical Research Fund Research Fellowship Grant and the Hong Kong College of Physicians-Hong Kong Genome Institute Training Grant for Excellence in Genomic Medicine. Professor Ma has been accredited as the First Genetics and Genomics Fellow in Hong Kong by the College of Physicians. She helped set up the Genetic Kidney Disease Clinics at Queen Mary Hospital, which aim to help patients with genetic kidney disease to achieve accurate molecular diagnosis and derive personalized prevention and treatment strategies. She has been selected as one of the Emerging Leaders by the International Society of Nephrology Emerging Leaders Program and has recently received the Early Career Researcher Award from Kidney International and International Society of Nephrology.

Welcome Back



**Professor
Bernard Cheung**
Clinical Professor



Professor Chan Koon-Ho
Henry G Leong Professor in
Neurology



Professor Eric Tse
S H Ho Professor in
Haematology and Oncology



Professor Yiu Kai-Hang
Sun Chieh Yeh Heart
Foundation Professor in
Cardiovascular Therapeutics

Endowed Professorship Appointments

Event Highlights

30TH MEDICAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Innovation and Technology Transfer

To celebrate its 30th anniversary, the Medical Research Conference (MRC) was hosted at the New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel on November 30, 2024. With the theme "Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Innovation and Technology Transfer", it highlighted the significance of cross-disciplinary collaboration, fostering innovation, and translating medical research into practical applications. The event brought together over 280 members from HKU and other institutions, as well as healthcare professionals in Hong Kong, for a rewarding day of knowledge sharing across various disciplines.



The conference featured two named lectures and presentations delivered by 11 distinguished speakers from the University Medical Center Groningen (Netherlands), Westlake University (China), Peking University Institute of Hematology (China), Angsana Health, HKU and City University of Hong Kong.



Professor Chan Tai-Kwong (left) presented a trophy of appreciation to Professor Huang Xiaojun, who delivered the AJS McFadzean Distinguished Lecture "The New Era of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation".



Professor Gary Lau
Chairman, Organizing Committee of 30th Medical Research Conference



Professor Sun Ren
Chair Professor & Director, Center for Infectious Disease Research, Westlake University, China



Professor Hiddo Lambers Heerspink
Professor of Clinical Trials and Personalized Medicine, University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands



Professor Rosie Young (second from right) presented a plaque of appreciation to Professor Paul Lee (first from right), who gave the Rosie Young Lecture "Towards Better Cardio-Kidney-Metabolic Health – The Key to Longevity".



Abstract Presentation

Researchers and students showcased their recent discoveries during the abstract presentations. Congratulations to the following Best Award recipients:



Professor Gary Lau (first from right) and the Chairs of Abstract Presentation presented certificates to the Best Abstract Award recipients.



Professor Tse Hung-Fat (first from right) and Professor Sydney Tang (first from left), Deputy Department Chairperson, presented certificates to the Best Poster Award recipients at the History Meeting.

Best Abstract Award

BASIC SCIENCE & TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

Miss Feng Yuchen

(PhD student, Department of Medicine)

Mr Yi Xinyao

(PhD student, Department of Medicine)

CLINICAL RESEARCH

Mr Gao Yide

(Trainee, The University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital)

Miss Tsui Sze-Pui

(PhD student, Department of Medicine)

Best Poster Award

Miss Li Xin

(MPhil student, Department of Medicine)

Miss Liu Dan

(PhD student, Department of Medicine)

Dr Rex Hui

(Resident, Department of Medicine, Queen Mary Hospital)

Miss Tsui Cheuk-Wun

(MBBS student)

"Award for Excellence" Presentation Ceremony

The Department also took the occasion to recognize faculty members for their research achievements in the "Award for Excellence" presentation ceremony.



Award for Excellence

- Professor Michael Cheung
- Professor Ivan Hung
- Professor David Lam
- Professor Paul Lee
- Professor Leung Wai-Keung
- Professor Anskar Leung
- Professor Philip Li
- Professor Shirley Li
- Professor Thomas Lui
- Professor David Lui
- Professor Loey Mak
- Professor Walter Seto
- Professor Sydney Tang
- Professor Xu Aimin
- Professor Desmond Yap
- Professor Yiu Kai-Hang
- Dr Peter Geng
- Dr Wang Baile
- Dr Man Cheuk-Him



Professor Lau Chak-Sing (right), Vice-President and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Health) (Interim) and Dean of Medicine, presented the Best Publication Award to Professor Yuen Man-Fung.

Event Highlights

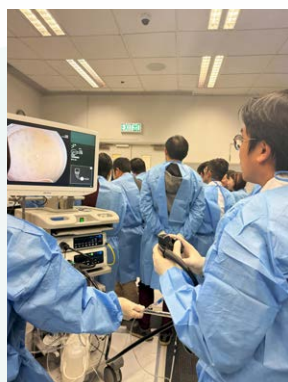
DEPARTMENTAL RETREAT

An annual gathering that we most look forward to - the Departmental Retreat, took place on December 1, 2024 at the New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel. It provided an engaging environment for information updates and idea exchanges crucial for the Department's future development. Discussion topics included clinical service development, financial and human resources planning, as well as support for knowledge exchange and research.

Our Clinical Assistant Professors were also given the opportunity to present their plans and reflect on the challenges they face. Looking back at the fruitful discussions, it shapes a clear path towards continued success and advancement for our faculty members and the Department.



Attendees had the opportunity to practice endoscopic techniques during the hands-on workshop.



Professor Thomas Lui demonstrated the Double Balloon Enteroscopy to participants.

DOUBLE BALLOON ENTEROSCOPY WORKSHOP

The Double Balloon Enteroscopy Workshop, co-organized by the Department of Medicine and HKU Endoscopy Centre on January 11, 2025, was a resounding success.

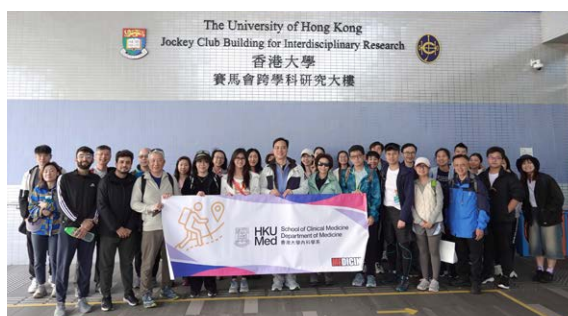
The workshop featured presentations and hands-on training from experts in the field, including Professors Leung Wai-Keung and Thomas Lui, Dr Cheng Ka-Shing (Tuen Mun Hospital), Drs Michael Ko and Elvis To (Queen Mary Hospital). This event attracted a diverse group of participants, including physicians, surgeons, nurses and nursing students, all enthusiastic about enhancing their endoscopic skills for visualizing the small bowel.



Event Highlights

NEW YEAR HIKING

On January 25, 2025, our staff and students joined a hiking event organized by the Social Committee, bringing us together for a memorable start to the new year. Cape D'Aguilar was a fresh pick for our destination, and we all embraced the breathtaking backdrop of the stunning coastal scenery there. As we navigated the paths and shared in the natural beauty, this trip fostered bonds among us and created lasting memories for all.



VISIT BY PROFESSOR ERIC SO

Professor Eric So (Professor and Chair in Leukaemia Biology, King's College London) visited the Department in April 2025. We were honoured to invite him to deliver two inspiring lectures during his visit.

The first lecture presented at the Grand Round, "From Bench to Bedside, and Back: The Epic Journey of Finding Cures for Acute Promyelocytic Leukaemia", focused on the clinical aspects of his work. The K.P. Stephen Chang Memorial Lecture, titled "From Mechanisms to Treatments: Leukaemia as a Model for the Development of Novel Cancer Therapeutics", not only showcased successful examples but also highlighted recent advancements and emerging therapeutic possibilities in the realm of leukaemia.



Professor Anskar Leung (left), Deputy Department Chairperson, presented a trophy of appreciation to Professor Eric So.



Group photo of the officiating guests and Organizing Committee of the 29th Hong Kong Medical Forum.

Event Highlights

29TH HONG KONG MEDICAL FORUM Enhancing Medical Care through Collaboration and Innovation

Thousands of healthcare professionals, academics and researchers gathered at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on May 3-4, 2025 to exchange views on the latest advances and development in enhancing medical care.

We were honoured to have Dr Peter Wong (Council Chairman), Professor Gong Peng (Acting President and Vice-Chancellor) and Professor Lau Chak-Sing officiating at the Opening Ceremony.

Dr Peter Wong said in his opening remarks, "The theme of this year's forum highlights the transformative power of teamwork and cutting-edge ideas. These twin pillars—collaboration and innovation—are not just eye-catching words; they are the foundation upon which we can build a more effective, efficient, and equitable healthcare system."



Dr Peter Wong (Council Chairman)

In the special remarks of Professor Zhang Xiang (President and Vice-Chancellor), he expressed his appreciation to the Department of Medicine for their commitment to promoting medical advancement. He said, "This annual flagship event was launched almost 30 years ago to bridge HKU with the global community to foster medical excellence. I am delighted to see that the event has blossomed over the years and brought together many leading experts and academics from all over the world."

At the forum, 27 leaders and experts from Australia, Switzerland, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States, Japan, China, Taiwan and Hong Kong delivered keynote lectures and presentations, inspiring attendees to stay at the forefront of medicine. A special poster session introduced this year promotes the sharing of clinical experience and recent achievements in healthcare-related research.

We look forward to the 30th Hong Kong Medical Forum chaired by Professor Desmond Yap!



Professor David Lam
Chairman, Organizing Committee of the 29th Hong Kong Medical Forum



Professor Zhang Xiang delivered a pre-recorded special remarks at the Opening Ceremony.



Professor Lau Chak-Sing (right) presented a plaque of appreciation to Professor Anskar Leung, who delivered the David Todd Distinguished Lecture "At the Crossroads of Discovery in Myeloid Malignancies".



Professor Richard Yu (right) presented a medal of appreciation to Professor Dennis Lo, Vice-Chancellor and President & Li Ka Shing Professor of Medicine from CUHK, who delivered the Richard Yu Lecture "Creating Paradigm Shifts in Molecular Diagnostics".



Professor David Lam (first from left) presented certificates to recipients of the Best Poster Presentation Award (from right):

- Dr Choi Ming-Hong (Queen Mary Hospital)
- Dr Wong Tsz-King (Queen Mary Hospital)
- Mr Li Qiang (PhD student, Department of Medicine)
- Dr Yvonne Qian (Queen Mary Hospital)



(From left) Professor Anskar Leung, Professor Tse Hung-Fat, Professor Lau Chak-Sing, Professor Gong Peng, Dr Peter Wong, Professor Dennis Lo, Professor David Lam, Professor Yuen Man-Fung, Professor Eric Tse (Associate Dean (Research), HKUMed) and Professor Desmond Yap (Deputy Department Chairperson).





Event Highlights

ADVANCED RHEUMATOLOGY WORKSHOP ON SYSTEMIC SCLEROSIS

To equip healthcare professionals for better care of patients with systemic sclerosis, the Rheumatology & Clinical Immunology Division organized a new "Advanced Rheumatology Workshop on Systemic Sclerosis" on May 17, 2025 at HKUMed campus. Led by Professors Iris Tang and Shirley Chan, Drs Carmen Ho and Teresa Li (Queen Mary Hospital), Dr Cheryl Ng (Queen Elizabeth Hospital) and Ms Crystal Kwok (Grantham Hospital), the workshop covered essential skills for the comprehensive management of systemic sclerosis. It combined theoretical knowledge with practical expertise on various screening and prediction models, such as nailfold capillaroscopy, lung ultrasonography, and skin assessment using modified Rodnan skin score (mRSS).



Participants employed nailfold capillaroscopy for the diagnosis of systemic sclerosis.

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES



Professor Eric Tse (right)



Professor Will Chan



Professor Loey Mak

Awards and Honours

WE SHINE BRIGHT AT THE 50TH INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF INVENTIONS GENEVA!

The International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva is the largest global stage for showcasing ground-breaking inventions. This year, the event was held from April 9 to 13, with participants from 38 countries and regions.

Innovative projects led by our researchers shone brightly at the exhibition, winning a total of 6 awards, including two Gold Medals with Congratulations of the Jury, one Gold Medal, two Silver Medals, and one Bronze Medal. Congratulations to all!





Gold Medals with Congratulations of the Jury



Professors Paul Lee, Karen Lam & Xu Aimin
Circulating Thrombospondin-2 (TSP2) - A Novel Fibrosis Biomarker for Patients with Type 2 Diabetes and Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease



Professor Desmond Yap
A Multimodal Medical Screening and Disease Monitoring Platform to Serve Healthcare Professionals, Patients, and Families in Primary Health Settings with Clinical Standard Readout, Environmental Versatility, and Accessibility




Silver Medal

Professor Xu Aimin
Secreted CDCP1 as a Novel Blood-borne Biomarker for Noninvasive Diagnosis and Precision Treatment of Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH)

Bronze Medal

Professor Walter Seto
Recurr-NET: A Multimodal Pre-operative Image-based Deep-learning Model for Predicting Hepatocellular Carcinoma Outcomes

Collaborative Project with InnoHK@HKU



Gold Medal

Professor Anskar Leung
3D Biomimetic Personalized Drug Screening Platform for Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

Silver Medal

Professors Lau Chak-Sing & Philip Li
A Stem Cell Platform for Personalized Treatment and Drug Discovery for Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases (PIDs)



Awards and Honours

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

Clarivate Analytics	Stanford University
Highly Cited Researchers 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor Ivan Hung Dr Anthony Tam* 	World's Top 2% Scientists 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor Henry Chan* Professor Daniel Chan Professor Bernard Cheung Professor Raymond Cheung Professor James Chim* Professor Chu Leung-Wing* Dr James Fung Yan-Yue* Professor Ivan Hung Professor Mary Ip* Professor Kwong Yok-Lam Professor Annie Kung* Professor Lai Ching-Lung* Professor Lai Kar-Neng* Professor Karen Lam*
World's Top 1% Scholars 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor Daniel Chan Professor Ivan Hung Professor Lai Ching-Lung* Professor Leung Wai-Keung Professor Walter Seto Professor Sydney Tang Professor Tse Hung-Fat Professor Xu Aimin Professor Yuen Man-Fung 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor Lau Chak-Sing Professor Lau Chu-Pak* Professor Lee Sum-Ping* Professor Leung Wai-Keung Professor Raymond Liang* Professor Walter Seto Professor David Siu* Professor Kathryn Tan Professor Sydney Tang Professor Tse Hung-Fat Professor Benjamin Wong* Professor Xu Aimin Professor Yuen Man-Fung
*Honorary Professoriate	*Honorary Professoriate

FACULTY OUTSTANDING RESEARCH OUTPUT AWARD 2024



Professor James Ho	JAMA ONCOLOGY <i>Effectiveness of aerobic exercise and tai chi interventions on sleep quality in patients with advanced lung cancer: a randomized clinical trial</i>
Professor Ivan Hung	THE LANCET INFECTIOUS DISEASES <i>Viral burden rebound in hospitalised patients with COVID-19 receiving oral antivirals in Hong Kong: a population-wide retrospective cohort study</i>
Professor Lau Chak-Sing Professor Shirley Li	THE LANCET PSYCHIATRY <i>Vaccine effectiveness of BNT162b2 and CoronaVac against SARS-CoV-2 omicron infection and related hospital admission among people with substance use disorder in Hong Kong: a matched case-control study</i>
Professor Leung Wai-Keung Mr Li Yunhao	THE LANCET GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY <i>Global prevalence of Helicobacter pylori infection between 1980 and 2022: a systematic review and meta-analysis</i>
Ms Carol Fong	THE LANCET <i>Oral emergency contraception with levonorgestrel plus piroxicam: a randomised double-blind placebo-controlled trial</i>

Awards and Honours



Professor Michael Cheung

- Young Investigator Award, APASL 2025 Beijing



Professor Ivan Hung

- Regional Adviser for Hong Kong, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh
- Chairperson of Grant Review Board & Non-official Member of Research Council, Health Bureau, HKSAR Government



Professor Herbert Kwok

- Elected Member, The Medical Council of Hong Kong
- Fellow, Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology
- Advisory Board Member, *Advances in Therapy* (Impact Factor: 3.4)
- Academic Editor, *Case Reports in Medicine* (Impact Factor: 0.8)
- 2022-2023 Top Cited Article in *The Clinical Respiratory Journal*, WILEY
- Top Cited Article in *Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety*, WILEY



Professor David Lam

- APSR Medal, 28th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology



Professor Leung Wai-Keung

- Chairperson of Grant Review Board, Health Bureau, HKSAR Government



Professor Philip Li

- President, Hong Kong Institute of Allergy
- WAO Center of Excellence 2025-2028, World Allergy Organization (WAO)
- Fellow, American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
- Hong Kong Humanity Youth Power 2024, Hong Kong Red Cross
- Early Career Teaching Award 2024, HKU
- Faculty Teaching Medal 2024, HKUMed
- Outstanding Project Team on COVID-19 Research Award, Health Research Symposium 2024
- Best Presentation Award, The 73rd Annual Meeting of Japanese Society of Allergology
- Top Author Award for Most Citations, *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice*

Awards and Honours



Professor David Lui

- Travel Grant Award, International Congress of Diabetes and Metabolism 2024



Professor Becky Ma

- 2024 KHSN Early Career Researcher Award in Clinical Science, Kidney International (KI) & International Society of Nephrology (ISN)



Professor Loey Mak

- Highly Ranked Scholar, ScholarGPS
- AOCO Rising Star Award, SOMS International Conference on Obesity & Metabolism in conjunction with Asia-Oceania Conference on Obesity 2024
- Section Editor, *Clinical and Molecular Hepatology* (Impact Factor: 14)



Professor Shirley Li

- Associate Editor, *npj Vaccines* (Impact Factor: 7)
- Mentor for Early Career Researcher, HTAsiaLink



Professor Kathryn Tan

- Commissioner, The Lancet Commission on Tackling Cardiovascular Disease in the Asia Pacific Region



Professor Sydney Tang

- Chair, Scientific Program Working Group, World Congress of Nephrology 2026



Professor Yuen Man-Fung

- Justice of the Peace, HKSAR Government

NEW RESEARCH GRANT/ FUND AWARDED



National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)/ Research Grants Council (RGC) Joint Research Scheme 2024/25

Principal Investigator	Project Title	Amount Awarded (HKD)
Professor Sydney Tang	<i>Exploring The Role of Anaphylatoxins in The Pathogenesis of Diabetic Kidney Disease</i>	\$1,223,482



Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRF) 2023

Principal Investigator	Project Title	Amount Awarded (HKD)
Professor James Ho	<i>Real-world Experience with Combination Chemotherapy and Osimertinib in Poor Prognostic Group of Metastatic EGFR-Mutated Lung Adenocarcinoma</i>	\$1,496,640
Professor Thomas Lui	<i>The Long-Term Effect of Artificial Intelligence-Assisted Colonoscopy on Risk of Metachronous Advanced Colonic Lesion</i>	\$1,127,400
Professor Herbert Kwok	<i>Prospective Clinical Study on Vitamin D Replacement in Bronchiectasis - A Pilot Study</i>	\$500,000
Dr Lam Kong	<i>Quantitative Profiling, Immunological Coating, and Metagenomic Immunoglobulin Sequencing: The Role of Gut Microbiota in The Pathogenesis of IgA Nephropathy</i>	\$1,318,216



Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF)

Principal Investigator	Project Title	Amount Awarded (HKD)
Professor Xu Aimin	<i>Development and Clinical Implementation of Multiple Biomarkers-based Non-invasive Tool for Early Diagnosis of Metabolic Associated Steatohepatitis and Fibrosis in Diabetic Patients</i>	\$1,677,482

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Yuen, M.F.**, Lim, Y.S., Yoon, K.T., Lim, T.H., Heo, J., Tangkijvanich, P., Tak, W.Y., Thanawala, V., Cloutier, D., Mao, S., Arizpe, A., Cathcart, A.L., Gupta, S.V., Hwang, C. & Gane, E. (2024). **VIR-2218 (Elebsiran) Plus Pegylated Interferon-alfa-2a in Participants with Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection: A Phase 2 Study.** *The Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, 9(12), 1121-1132. (Impact Factor: 30.9)

Chan, E.Y.H., Sinha, A., Yu, E.L.M., Akhtar, N., Angeletti, A., Bagga, A., Banerjee, S., Boyer, O., Chan, C.Y., Francis, A., Ghiggeri, G.M., Hamada, R., Hari, P., Hooman, N., Hopf, L.S., Ikram, M., Ijaz, I., Ivanov, D.D., Kalra, S., Kang, H.G., Lucchetti, L., Lugani, F., Ma, A.L.T., Morello, W., Camargo Muñiz, M.D., Pradhan, S.K., Prikhodina, L., Raafat, R.H., Sinha, R., Teo, S., Tomari, K., Vivarelli, M., Webb, H., Yap, H.K., **Yap, D.Y.H.**** & Tullus, K. (2024). **An International, Multi-Center Study Evaluated Rituximab Therapy in Childhood Steroid-resistant Nephrotic Syndrome.** *Kidney International*, 106(6), 1146-1157. (Impact Factor: 14.8)

Hui, R.W.H.*, Chiu, K.W.H., Lee, I.C., Wang, C., Cheng, H.M., Lu, J., Mao, X., Yu, S., Lam, L.K., Mak, L.Y., Cheung, T.T., Chia, N.H., Cheung, C.C., Kan, W.K., Wong, T.C.L., Chan, A.C.Y., Huang, Y.H., Yuen, M.F., Yu, P.L.H. & **Seto, W.K.**** (2024). **Multimodal Multiphasic Preoperative Image-based Deep-Learning Predicts HCC Outcomes After Curative Surgery.** *Hepatology*. (Impact Factor: 13.0)

Gray, V., Chen, W., Tan, R.J.Y., Teo, J.M.N., Huang, Z., Fong, C.H.Y., Law, T.W.H., Ye, Z.W., Yuan, S., Bao, X., Hung, I.F.N., **Tan, K.C.B.****, **Lee, C.H.**** & **Ling, G.S.**** (2024). **Hyperglycemia-triggered Lipid Peroxidation Destabilizes STAT4 and Impairs Anti-viral Th1 Responses in Type 2 Diabetes.** *Cell Metabolism*, 36(12), 2511-2527. (Impact Factor: 27.7)

Ren, Q.W.*, Teng, T.H.K., Ouwerkerk, W., Tse, Y.K., Tsang, C.T.W., Wu, M.Z., Tse, H.F., Voors, A.A., Tromp, J., Lam, C.S.P. & **Yiu, K.H.**** (2025). **Triglyceride Levels and Its Association with All-cause Mortality and Cardiovascular Outcomes Among Patients with Heart Failure.** *Nature Communications*, 16(1), 1408. (Impact Factor: 14.7)

Mak, L.Y.*, Wooddell, C.I., Lenz, O., Schluep, T., Hamilton, J., Davis, H.L., Mao, X., Seto, W.K., Biermer, M. & **Yuen, M.F.**** (2025). **Long-term Hepatitis B Surface Antigen Response After Finite Treatment of ARC-520 or JNJ-3989.** *Gut*, 74(3), 440-450. (Impact Factor: 23.1)

Tan, J.T.*, Mao, X., Cheng, H.M., Seto, W.K., **Leung, W.K.**** & **Cheung, K.S.**** (2025). **Aspirin is Associated with Lower Risk of Pancreatic Cancer and Cancer-Related Mortality in Patients with Diabetes Mellitus.** *Gut*, 74(4), 603-612. (Impact Factor: 23.1)

Guo, R.*, Wat, D., Lam, S.H.M., Bucci, T., Tsang, C.T.W., Cai, A.P., Chan, Y.H., Ren, Q.W., Huang, J.Y., Zhang, J.N., Gu, W.L., Zhu, C.Y., Hung, Y.M., Frost, F., Lip, G.Y.H. & **Yiu, K.H.**** (2025). **Cardiovascular Benefits and Safety Profile of Macrolide Maintenance Therapy in Patients with Bronchiectasis.** *European Respiratory Journal*, 65(3), 2401574. (Impact Factor: 17)

Zou, Y.*, Yiu, W.H., Lok, S.W.Y., Ma, J., Feng, Y., Lai, K.N. & **Tang, S.C.W.**** (2025). **Tubular FoxP2 and Kidney Fibrosis.** *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, 36(4), 544-558. (Impact Factor: 10.3)

Mao, X.*, **Cheung, K.S.****, Tan, J.T., Mak, L.Y., Lee, C.H., Cheng, H.M., Hui, R.W.H., Chan, E.W.Y., Yu, P.L.H., Yuen, M.F., Leung, W.K. & **Seto, W.K.**** (2025). **Risk of Colorectal Cancer and Cancer-Related Mortality in Type 2 Diabetes Patients Treated with Metformin, SGLT-2 Inhibitors, or Their Combination.** *Cancer Communications*. (Impact Factor: 20.1)

Mak, L.Y.*, Anderson, M., Stec, M., Chung, M.S.H., Wong, D.K.H., Hui, R.W.H., Seto, W.K., Cloherty, G. & **Yuen, M.F.**** (2025). **Longitudinal Profile of Plasma Pregenomic RNA in Patients with Chronic Hepatitis B Infection on Long-Term Nucleoside Analogues and Its Interaction with Clinical Parameters.** *Clinical and Molecular Hepatology*, 31(2), 460-473. (Impact Factor: 14)

Jiao, Y.*, Bai, L., Wang, J., Yan, V.K.C., Chan, E.W., Na, R., Bishai, D.M., Guan, X. & **Li, X.**** (2025). **Analysis of Drug Consumption and Expenditure of WHO Essential Medicines for Cancer in 40 Countries and Regions Between 2012 and 2022: A Multinational Drug Use Study.** *The Lancet Oncology*. (Impact Factor: 41.6)

Ng, N.K.L., **Lam, S.S.Y.***, Zheng, L., Liu, X., Liang, M., Ng, L., Chan, K.C., Zhang, C.X., Tse, R.L.S., Cheung, A.K.L., Ip, H.W., Au, C.H., Ma, E.S.K., Ng, C.T., Ni, Y., Li, R.S., Ling, G.S., Leung, S.Y., Javed, A. & **Leung, A.Y.H.**** (2025). **Mechanism of Initial Favorable Response to Decitabine in TP53-Mutated MDS/AML and Potential Mechanisms of Subsequent Relapse.** *Clinical Cancer Research*. (Impact Factor: 10.4)




Yau, T.*, Galle, P.R., Decaens, T., Sangro, B., Qin, S., Fonseca, L., Karachiwala, H., Blanc, J., Park, J.W., Gane, E., Pinter, M., Peña, A.M., Ikeda, M., Tai, D., Santoro, A., Pizarro, G., Chiu, C.F., Schenker, M., He, A., Chon, H.J., Wojcik-Tomaszewska, J., Verset, G., Wang, Q.Q., Stromko, C., Neely, J., Singh, P., Jimenez Exposito, M.J., Kudo, M., CheckMate 9DW investigators (2025). **Nivolumab Plus Ipilimumab Versus Lenvatinib or Sorafenib as First-Line Treatment for Unresectable Hepatocellular Carcinoma (CheckMate 9DW): An Open-label, Randomised, Phase 3 Trial.** *The Lancet*, 405(10492), 1851-1864. (Impact Factor: 98.4)

* Staff/student as first author




** Staff/student as corresponding author

WHAT'S UPCOMING




HKU Advanced Endoscopy Workshop 2025: Colonoscopy

 June 13-14, 2025 (Friday & Saturday)
 Lecture Theatre 2, Academic Building,
3 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong
 <https://www.giworkshop.hku.hk>




Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism Hong Kong: Nursing Workshop 2025

 June 28-29, 2025 (Saturday & Sunday)
 Academic Building & The Jockey Club Building
for Interdisciplinary Research, Sassoon Road,
Pokfulam, Hong Kong
 <https://edmhk.hku.hk/edmhk-nursing-workshop>

Hong Kong Valves 2025

 October 17-19, 2025 (Friday to Sunday)
 Faculty of Medicine Building,
21 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong
 <https://www.hongkongvalves.com>

8th Annual Meeting of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism Hong Kong

 October 25-26, 2025 (Saturday & Sunday)
 S221, Level 2, Old Wing (Phase I),
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
 <https://edmhk.hku.hk>

31st Medical Research Conference

 January 24, 2026 (Saturday)
 Faculty Boardroom, Daniel & Mayce Yu
Administration Wing, 21 Sassoon Road,
Pokfulam, Hong Kong
 <https://mrc.hku.hk>

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor-in-Chief

Professor Sydney Tang


Managing Editors



Ms Lilian Tsoi

Ms Ellen Ma



HKU Med School of Clinical Medicine
Department of Medicine
香港大學內科學系

 Room 405B, 4/F, Professorial Block, Queen Mary Hospital,
102 Pok Fu Lam Road, Hong Kong

 Tel: (852) 2255-3749  medconf@hku.hk

 <https://medic.hku.hk>



HKU Department
of Medicine



@hkudeptmedicine



@hkudeptmedicine



HKU Department
of Medicine