



香港大學

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Professor ZHOU Zhongjun

Professor Department of Biochemistry

Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong

Biography

Professor Zhou Zhongjun is a Professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Xiamen University. He then completed a PhD degree in Pathophysiology from Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences & Peking Union Medical College and a PhD degree in Medical Biochemistry from Karolinska Institutet in Sweden respectively.



Professor Zhou is an internationally recognized expert on laminopathy-based premature aging and extracellular matrix. His major research field is bone development, blood vessel development and aging. His research focuses on premature aging and aging-associated diseases, as well as extracellular matrix.

Professor Zhou and his team identified prelamin A as an *in vivo* substrate for metalloproteinase Zmpste24 through a genetic approach and explained how Lamin A's abnormality influences development and aging. His team demonstrated lamin A activates longevity protein SIRT1 to maintain the stem cell potency. He revealed for the first time that mutation in nuclear structural protein lamin A compromises DNA repair, which contributes to accelerated aging in Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome. His work provides important insights into the molecular mechanisms underlying Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome (HGPS). This has an important implication in normal aging and aging-related human degenerative disorders. Many of his works have been cited in the notable publication *The Hallmarks of Aging* (Cell, 2013).

Professor Zhou has published more than 40 original research papers, many of which in high impact journals such as *Nature*, *Nature Medicine*, *Nature Genetics*, *Nature Communication*, *Cell Metabolism*, *Developmental Cell*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA*, *EMBO Journal*, *Cancer Research*, etc..

Professor Zhou is the associate editor of journal *Mutation Research*. He also serves on the editorial board of several international scientific journals such as *PLOS ONE*, *Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology and Physiology*, *Biochemistry and Analytical Biochemistry*, *Journal of Metabolomics and Systems Biology*. He has also been invited to deliver Plenary / Keynote lectures and oral presentations in international conferences, in addition to giving seminars at prestigious universities and research institutes.

Awards and Scholarships

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| 2015 | Croucher Senior Research Fellowship
The Croucher Foundation of Hong Kong |
| 2014 | Outstanding Research Award
The University of Hong Kong |
| 2011 | State Science and Technology Award (2nd Class)
State Council, China |
| 2011 | Co-founding chairman
Asian Association of Aging Research |
| 2006 | Faculty Outstanding Research Output Award
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong |
| 2005 | Distinguished Overseas Young Chinese Scientist Award
Natural Science Foundation of China |
| 2000 | Young Investigator Award
International Society for Fibrinolysis and Proteolysis |