Translational Genetics and Epigenetics of Immune-Related Skin Diseases

Introduction to Guest Editors

Qianjin Lu, M.D.; Ph.D.

Department of Dermatology, The Second Xiangya Hospital of Central South University, Changsha, Hunan, China

Research interest: Epigenetic mechanism, biomarker, and treatment of autoimmune skin diseases

Dr. Qianjin Lu is currently a Professor and Director of the Institute of Dermatology at Central South University, Director of Hunan Key Laboratory of Medical Epigenomics, President of the Chinese Society of Dermatology. His researches focus on the epigenetics of autoimmune and inflammatory-related skin diseases, including lupus, psoriasis, and atopic dermatitis. He has authored over 200 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, and review articles in high academic journals, including Lancet, JAMA, Blood, J Clin Invest, Ann Rheum Dis, and J Immunol. Dr. Lu is on the editorial board of several peer-reviewed and has been appointed as an associate editor of Clinical Immunology and Associate Editor of Global Clinical and Translational Research. He has received numerous awards, including the International League of Dermatological Societies, the Second Prize of National Scientific and Technological Progress, the First Prize of Natural Scientific Research of Hunan Province, the First Prize of Scientific and Technological Progress of Hunan Province, and Outstanding Medical Scientist of China. Dr. Lu practices clinical dermatology including outpatient and inpatient services and teach medical student, and has extensive clinical and research experience in dermatology and especially in lupus and psoriasis.

Selected publications


**Ming Zhao, M.D, Ph.D.**

Department of Dermatology, The Second Xiangya Hospital of Central South University, Changsha, Hunan, China

Research interest: Epigenetic mechanism, biomarker, and treatment of autoimmune skin diseases.

Dr. Ming Zhao is a professor in the Department of Dermatology in the Second Xiangya Hospital of Central South University and vice-director of the Hunan Key Laboratory of Medical Epigenomics. He has served as vice-director of the Experimental Chapter of the Chinese Society of Dermatology since 2016. His research focuses on the epigenetic mechanism and biomarkers of autoimmune skin diseases. Dr. Zhao is a recipient of the Excellent Youth Investigator Fund and the general grant fund of the National Natural Science Foundation. He published 30 papers as first author or corresponding author in the peer-reviewed academic journals, including *Nature Communications, Journal of Clinical Investigation*, and *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*. He is a recipient of the second prize of the National Science and Technology Progress Award in 2017 and two first prizes of Hunan Science and Technology Progress Awards.

Selected publications


Juan Tao, MD, PhD
Department of Dermatology, The Union Hospital of Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei, China.

Research interest: Immunologic mechanism and translational medicine of severe cutaneous diseases (malignant melanoma, psoriasis and lupus erythematosus) and skin repair

Dr. Juan Tao is a Professor and Chairman of the department of dermatology of Wuhan Union Hospital, and the director of Hubei Engineering Research Center for Skin Repair and Theranostics. She has led six research programs of the National Natural Science Foundation of China and one New Century Talent Project from the Ministry of Education in China. She has published 64 peer-reviewed papers as the first or corresponding author, including five papers in academic journals such as Angew Chem Int Ed, J Invest Dermatol, JAAD, BJD, Biomaterials, and Small. She is a recipient of the first prize of the Hubei Provincial Science and Technology Progress Award (Ranked the first) and filed 21 invention patents in China, one of which one has been granted, and clinical transformation has been realized. She organized and participated in establishing eight experts’ consensus/guidelines. Dr. Juan Tao has been invited as an editorial consultant of Br J Dermatol, deputy editor of the Chinese edition of J Am Acad Dermatol, and served as a reviewer for many domestic and international journals.

Selected publications


Liangdan Sun, MD, PhD

Department of Dermatology, the First Affiliated Hospital, Anhui Medical University; Institute of Dermatology, Anhui Medical University; The Key Laboratory of Dermatology of the Ministry of Education, Hefei, Anhui, China

Research interest: Genetics and genomics of common diseases

Dr. Liangdan Sun is Professor and Director of the Key Laboratory of Dermatology in Hefei, the Ministry of Education, Director of Department of Research and Development (R&D) of the First Affiliated Hospital, Anhui Medical University, Visiting Scholar of the University of Colorado and the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences. His research focuses on the genetic and genomic studies of diseases. Dr. Sun has identified more than 200 susceptibility genes and diagnostic biomarkers for 40 diseases and has constructed the unique precision variation database of the whole Human Leukocyte Antigens (HLA) based on 10,000 samples in the Chinese population. Through the genome-wide association and sequencing study, he has constructed the genome-wide variation maps for different diseases, demonstrated the mechanisms of genetic susceptibilities and etiologies, which will provide the necessary evidence for the precision medicine of these diseases. Dr. Sun has published over 170 papers, including those in *Nat Genet, New Engl J Med*, and *Nat Commun*, and has been cited more than 6,300 times, including by publications in *Nature, Cell, New Engl J Med*.

Selected publications


Hong Liu, MD, PhD

Shandong Provincial Hospital for Skin Diseases, The First Medical University of Shandong; Shandong Provincial Institute of Dermatology and Venereology, Shandong Academy of Medical Sciences, Jinan, Shandong, China

Research interest: Clinical and experimental studies of infectious diseases, such as leprosy, fungal infectious diseases, auto-immune blistering diseases, and severe cutaneous adverse drug reactions

Dr. Hong Liu is the vice director of Shandong Provincial Dermatovenereology Key Laboratory. She has presided five national research programs, including one National Science Fund for Excellent Youth Investigator and one National "863" Yong Investigator Program. As the first/corresponding author, she has published over 30 papers, including those in high profile journals such as Nature Genetics, Nature Comm, JAMA Dermatology, American Journal of Human Genetics, and Journal of Investigative Dermatology. As a major participant, she has received awards for the first prize of Shandong Provincial Science and Technology Progress (2011), the first prize of Shandong Provincial Nature and Science (2015), and the first prize of Shandong Provincial Technology and Invention (2018). She obtained three National Invention Patents and four International Invention Patents, and was selected for the “National Hundred-Thousand-Ten Thousand Project” and honored with National Outstanding Young and Middle-aged Expert, Shandong Provincial Outstanding Young and Middle-aged Expert and Young experts For Taishan Scholars with excellent achievements.

Selected publications