

[AAAAI Foundation and Donald Y. M. Leung, MD PhD FAAAAI - JACI Lecture: Investing Together in Our Future \(12th year\)](#)

Friday, February 23, 2024

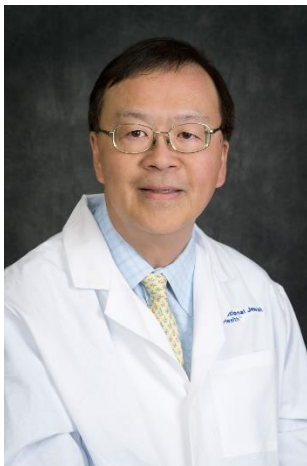
1601 Presidential Plenary: Neuroimmunology: Cross Talk Between Allergy and Other Specialties

Convention Center, Level 2, Hall D, 1:45-3:15 PM

Lecturer: Brian Kim, MD, MTR

The Translational Revolution of Itch

Donald Y. M. Leung, MD PhD FAAAAI



Donald Y.M. Leung, MD, PhD, FAAAAI served as the Editor-in-Chief of The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (JACI) from 1998-2015. Under his leadership, the impact factor of our journal rose from 3.7 to 12.485, reflecting a marked improvement in publications of research dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of allergic and immunologic diseases. JACI is the most highly cited journal in the field of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology and is the most visible official publication of The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI).

As one of his initiatives to support and enhance research in our specialty and to maintain JACI's high impact factor, Dr. Leung has established the AAAAI Foundation and Donald Y.M. Leung, MD, PhD-JACI Editors Lecture: Investing

Together in Our Future, and he continues to raise money to support the mission of the Foundation. In 2016, to acknowledge his significant contributions to the field, the AAAAI Foundation named a Faculty Development Award in his honor. It is known as the AAAAI Foundation & Dr. Donald Y.M. Leung/JACI Editors Faculty Development Award.

Both the Lectureship and the Award serve to advance the knowledge and/or treatment of allergy, asthma and immunology by providing a source of funding for future research. The vision is to support quality, cutting edge translational and basic research suitable for publication in JACI and further advance patient care and the credibility of allergy/immunology. Dr. Leung encourages all individuals interested in securing the future of scientifically based patient care to consider donating to this Lectureship. Please join the individuals who have already committed funds to make this vision a reality. We encourage you to celebrate the contributions of Dr. Leung, the other JACI Editors and editorial staff and the success of JACI with a generous donation to the Donald Y.M. Leung- JACI Named Award and Lectureship Fund. Together we can do more.

Brian Kim, MD, MTR



Dr. Kim received his M.D. from the University of Washington, was a HHMI-NIH Scholar, completed residency in dermatology at the University of Pennsylvania where he earned a Master of Translational Research (MTR). The Kim Lab focuses on mechanisms that underlie skin inflammation and the sensation of itch as a fundamental, broad, model paradigm of neuroimmunology. Key discoveries include the first identification of group 2 innate lymphoid cells (ILC2s) in the skin of both mice and

humans, novel contributions of basophils, ILC2s, and natural killer (NK) cells to skin inflammation, and unveiling how immune cells and type 2 cytokines/JAK signaling directly influence sensory neuronal responses. He has >120 peer-reviewed publications, multiple NIH grants, designed pivotal clinical trials that led to novel FDA-approved treatments, and is an inventor of itch-centered technologies. His research has led to awards and funding from NIH, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, American Skin Association, American Academy of Dermatology, American Society for Clinical Investigation, American Dermatological Association, and International League of Dermatological Societies. He holds a patent for the use of JAK inhibitors for chronic itch. He is on the scientific advisory board for Abrax Japan, Granular Therapeutics, Recens Medical, National Eczema Association, and Cell Reports Medicine. He is on the editorial board of *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, section editor for *Journal of Immunology* and on the board of reviewing editors for *eLife*.