

## Meet the First Authors

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### Hypercholesterolemia Increases Hepatic Treg Cells (p 1740)

**Dr Reiner K.W. Mailer** is an Assistant Professor in the Experimental Cardiovascular Research Unit led by Professor G.K. Hansson at the Center for Molecular Medicine, Stockholm, Sweden. He earned a Master's of Science in biochemistry at the University of Hanover, Germany, completed his PhD studies at the Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Berlin-Buch, Germany, and continued his career as a postdoctoral fellow at Karolinska Institutet, Sweden. His research focuses on T-cell immunity, in particular regulatory T cells and Th17 cells in chronic inflammatory diseases. He has investigated hepatic T-cell response in hypercholesterolemic mice and elucidated a link between liver immunology and atherosclerosis. Dr Mailer embraces nature's creations inside the lab as well as outside, enjoys family life, and traveling with friends.



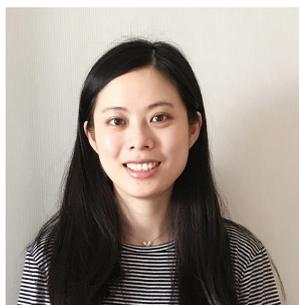
### Genome-Wide Methylation Analysis of ACS (p 1754)

**Dr Jun Li** is currently a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, conducting research in genomic, metabolomic, nutritional, and hormonal factors in relation with cardio-metabolic diseases under the mentorship of Drs Frank Hu and Liming Liang. She received her MD in preventive medicine at Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST) in China, and her PhD in Environmental Health at the HUST School of Public Health under the supervision of Dr Tangchun Wu. Dr Li conducts epidemiological research that will contribute to the prevention of cardio-metabolic diseases, and she aspires to be an independent diabetes and CVD epidemiologist in the future. In her free time, she loves listening to music, painting, cooking, and traveling.



### Therapeutic Potential of Synthetic Stem Cells (p 1768)

**Dr Lan Luo** is currently a research scientist at Nagasaki University, Japan. She earned her BS in Laboratory Science from Soochow University, China in 2011. After training at The Second Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University, she moved to Japan in 2013 and obtained her PhD degree in Stem Cell Biology under the supervision of Professor Tao-Sheng Li at Nagasaki University. Her research focuses on radiation-induced cardiovascular disease and heart regeneration. She runs every day, which makes her feel invigorated and mentally refreshed. She also believes that "where there is a will there is way."



### Therapeutic Potential of Synthetic Stem Cells (p 1768)

**Dr Junnan Tang** is a physician scientist in Cardiology, The First Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University in China. She received her MD in Clinical Medicine in 2011 and obtained her PhD degree in Cardiology under the supervision of Dr Jinying Zhang at Zhengzhou University in 2017. Her funding from the China Scholar Council allows her to conduct research in Dr Ke Cheng's Lab at the Department of Molecular Biomedical Sciences and Department of Biomedical Engineering at North Carolina State University and UNC-Chapel Hill. Currently, Junnan is splitting her time between clinical patient care and translational research in cardiovascular medicine. Her research focuses on the use of biomaterials combined with stem cells for treating heart diseases. When she is not working, Dr Tang enjoys swimming, listening to music, eating delicious food, and spending time with her dog.

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### 20-HETE–GPR75 Pairing and Hypertension (p 1776)

**Dr Victor Garcia** earned his PhD at New York Medical College under the mentorship of Dr Michal L. Schwartzman. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow in Dr William Sessa's lab at Yale University. His research focus includes hypertension, eicosanoids, endothelial cell function, and vascular remodeling. During his PhD research, Victor became fascinated with the identification and characterization of receptors. Victor is a stencil graffiti artist under the moniker PaperMonster. He is married, and by a beautiful coincidence, the day his manuscript was accepted by *Circulation Research* his wife gave birth to a baby boy!



### Monocyte Patrolling in Arteries (p 1789)

**Dr Amado A. Quintar** grew up in a rural area of northwestern Argentina and is currently an Adjunct Professor at the National University of Cordoba, where he earned an MD degree when he was 20 and also received his PhD in Medicine and Cell Biology. He completed postdoctoral training in vascular biology and intravital microscopy with Joe Miano and Klaus Ley at the University of Rochester and the La Jolla Institute of Allergy and Immunology. His research now focuses on the consequences of vascular pathology, ischemia, and hypoxia on prostatic diseases.



### TGF- $\beta$ 1/sENG Ratio as a Biomarker of BAV Aortopathy (p 1800)

**Dr Amalia Forte** has a degree in Biological Sciences (Molecular Biology) and is currently a research scientist at the School of Medicine, Università della Campania "L. Vanvitelli", in Naples, Italy, where she also received her PhD. Since completing her doctoral studies, she has applied her skills in molecular biology and manipulation of gene expression to the analysis of vascular pathophysiology mechanisms, with particular reference to arterial restenosis and to the identification of potential therapeutic strategies aimed at its prevention. Dr Forte's research focuses on the analysis of pathogenetic mechanisms at the basis of aortopathy associated with bicuspid aortic valve, a congenital defect that impacts 1–2% of the general population. She believes that good mentors, passion for research, a supportive family, and some gardening are the keys to achieving her research goals, regardless of circumstances and environment.

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