

Meet the First Authors

Circulation Research

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High Throughput Screen in Cardiomyocytes (p 604)

Dr Patrick McLendon earned his BS in Biochemistry and his PhD in Biological Chemistry from Virginia Tech. His postdoctoral work, with Dr Jeffrey Robbins at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, focused on mechanisms of cardiac protein degradation. He currently works for UES, Inc, developing high-content assays for predicting personalized toxicological risks. Patrick's primary research interests are using high-throughput cellular imaging to develop agnostic/unbiased approaches to address biological questions: these approaches are necessary to drive forward new biological discoveries and discover new mechanisms. In his spare time, Patrick enjoys hiking, traveling, and catching wild yeasts for fermenting beer.



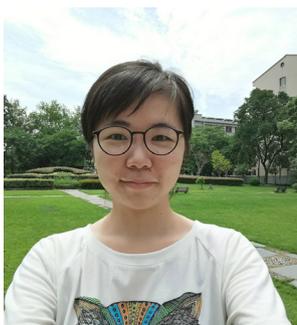
Paracrine-Mediated Salvage of Injured Myocardium (p e22)

Dr Atsushi Tachibana is currently a PhD student in Radiological Sciences at the Tokyo Metropolitan University (TMU), Japan. He received his BS in Healthcare Sciences and Radiological Technologist degree from the Komazawa University, Japan, and an MS in Radiological Sciences from TMU. In 2014, he joined Dr Phillip C. Yang's lab in the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at Stanford School of Medicine as a Research Associate to work on stem cell therapy in cardiac tissue. His main interest is on using Cardiac-MRI to elucidate the mechanisms of myocardial disease. He recently began running in his free time and enjoys it very much.



Paracrine-Mediated Salvage of Injured Myocardium (p e22)

Michelle Santoso is a research associate in Phillip Yang's lab in the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at Stanford University. She received her BS in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and BA in Economics from the University of California, Davis. Her research focuses on stem cell derivatives for ischemic cardiomyopathy, particularly the potential of exosomes from autologous iPSC-derivatives. She hopes to pursue this paradigm to implement precision medicine for heart failure therapy and diagnostics. In her spare time, she enjoys napping with her dog and ordering food deliveries.



EphrinB2 Is a Novel Regulator in Cardiac Fibrosis (p 617)

Sheng-an Su is a PhD student at Zhejiang University School of Medicine under the supervision of Dr Meixiang Xiang, who has inspired Sheng-an to analyze scientific issues with multiple perspectives and to solve problems with novel approaches. She completed a 7-year program in Clinical Medicine that combines BS, MS, and MD degrees from Zhejiang University. Sheng-an's main research interests are cardiac fibrosis and hypertrophy. She recently received a Visiting Scholarship from Zhejiang University to conduct further research at the Texas Heart Institute. Her motto is, "there is no end to learning." In her free time, she is fond of animation and enjoys drawing comics.

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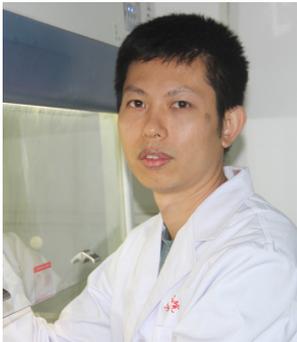
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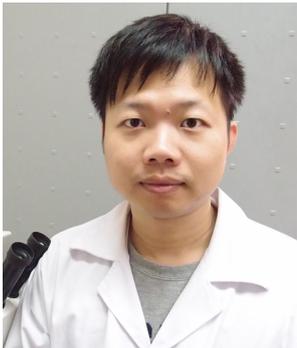
Novel Regulation of α -SMA Expression (p 628)

Dr Yan Sun earned her PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Hebei Medical University, China. She earned her BS in Laboratory Medicine, and an MS in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from The Key Laboratory of Neural and Vascular Biology, Ministry of Education of China. Her research focuses on the molecular mechanisms of phenotype switching in vascular smooth muscle cells. In her free time, Dr Sun enjoys swimming and playing games with her son. Her motto is, “diligence is the mother of success.”



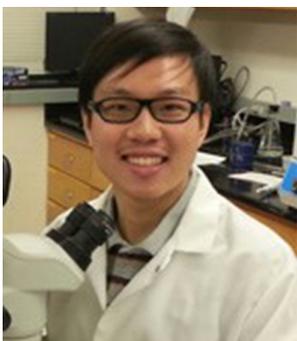
Novel Regulation of α -SMA Expression (p 628)

Dr Zhan Yang is currently a research scientist at The Second Hospital of Hebei Medical University, China. He earned an MS in Microbiology and Biopharmaceutics from Jinan University, China in 2011. After further training at Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School, he moved to Hebei Medical University, where he earned a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at The Key Laboratory of Neural and Vascular Biology, Ministry of Education of China. His research focuses on the biogenesis and function of circRNAs in vascular disease. When not working, Dr Yang enjoys watching movies, eating delicious food, and spending time with his family.



TPL2/SDF1 α Axis Regulates Diabetic Retinopathy (p e37)

De Wei Lai is a PhD candidate in the Biomedical Institute at Taichung Veterans General Hospital, studying under the supervision of Dr Meei Ling Sheu. He earned his BS in Applied Chemistry from Taiwan Pingtung University, where he studied cell metabolism and biochemistry signaling. Despite the obstacles presented by ophthalmology research, De Wei is confident his devotion to solving current clinical problems will help him in overcoming any difficulty. After all, his favorite motto is, “genius is one percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration.”



ET-1 Stimulates Vasoconstriction Through Rab11A (p 650)

Xue (Roger) Zhai is a PhD candidate in the laboratory of Dr Jonathan Jagger in the Department of Physiology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Prior to starting his doctoral research, he earned an MD from Nankai University in China. His research focus is cardiovascular physiology, with a particular emphasis on studying mechanisms that control ion channel trafficking in arterial smooth muscle cells. In his free time, he enjoys playing sports and traveling.

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Ambient Temperature Controls Monocyte Egress from Marrow (p 662)

Dr Jesse Williams is a postdoctoral fellow in Dr Gwendalyn Randolph's Laboratory at Washington University in St. Louis. He received a liberal arts education at DePauw University and earned his PhD at the University of Chicago, where he trained in innate immunity, studying models of allergy and asthma. Jesse is currently focused on understanding the role of myeloid cells in the pathogenesis of cardiovascular disease, with specific interests in fluorescent intravital microscopy and determining mechanisms of foam cell formation. Outside the laboratory, Jesse is an avid baseball fan who is passionate about crafting beers and riding bicycles.

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