

Invited Speaker



Prof. Jian Ge

MD, PhD

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Biography

Jian Ge is Director and Professor of the Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center, State Key Laboratory of Ophthalmology, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China.

In addition to these academic roles, Prof. Ge's expertise is well respected by his peers, resulting in his election as President of the Chinese Glaucoma Society and Vice President of the Chinese Ophthalmologic Society. He is also Editor-in-Chief of Eye Science and Vice Editor-in-Chief of the Chinese Journal of Ophthalmology as well.

Prof. Ge's research covers many aspects of ophthalmology and optometry, ranging from basic science to clinical fields. It includes the following: (1) mechanism of experimental myopia in rhesus monkeys; (2) gene screen and function in familial primary open angle glaucoma; (3) reconstruction of natural glaucoma animal model; (4) stem cell and tissue engineering in ophthalmology; (5) modulation of scar formation after anti-glaucoma surgery; and (6) phacoemulsification in the treatment of glaucoma. Specifically, he has published many peer-reviewed articles on topics such as the regulatory factors for tubule formation in human retinal vascular cells, and the effects of human retinal glial cells on circulating endothelial progenitor cells under hypoxic conditions. In clinical practice, Prof. Ge is a pioneer in advocating phacoemulsification and endoscopic photocoagulation as new alternatives for glaucoma patients. In addition, he has published a review of novel classifications of primary angle closure glaucoma, which makes it more feasible to be diagnosed earlier. In 2007, Prof. Ge won a grant from the National Basic Research Program of China (973 Program) for research on the pathogenesis of and treatment for irreversible nerve blindness. He is also the first ophthalmologist to be the chief scientist of this prestigious program.

In recognition of his distinguished achievements and contributions to ophthalmology, Prof. Ge was honored with the Outstanding Achievement Award of the Chinese Ophthalmologic Society in 2007 and the Outstanding Service Award of the Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology in 2008.

Perspective on basic eye research in China

Abstract

Ever since the 1980s, ophthalmology in China has entered an era of rapid development. After some 20 years of development, ophthalmology in China has attained great achievements, which include the application of world-class instruments and facilities, marked increase in the amount of SCI papers published, successful international cooperation, and frequent hosting of international congresses. Despite these great successes, China still lags far behind developed countries in ophthalmology in terms of total government funding for basic research in ophthalmology and the quality of research outcomes. This lecture will review the progress of ophthalmology in China, investigate the problems hindering Chinese ophthalmic research, and put forward a fundamental countermeasure for the further development of Chinese ophthalmology.