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IMMUNOLOGY PROGRAM

The Ming Li Lab

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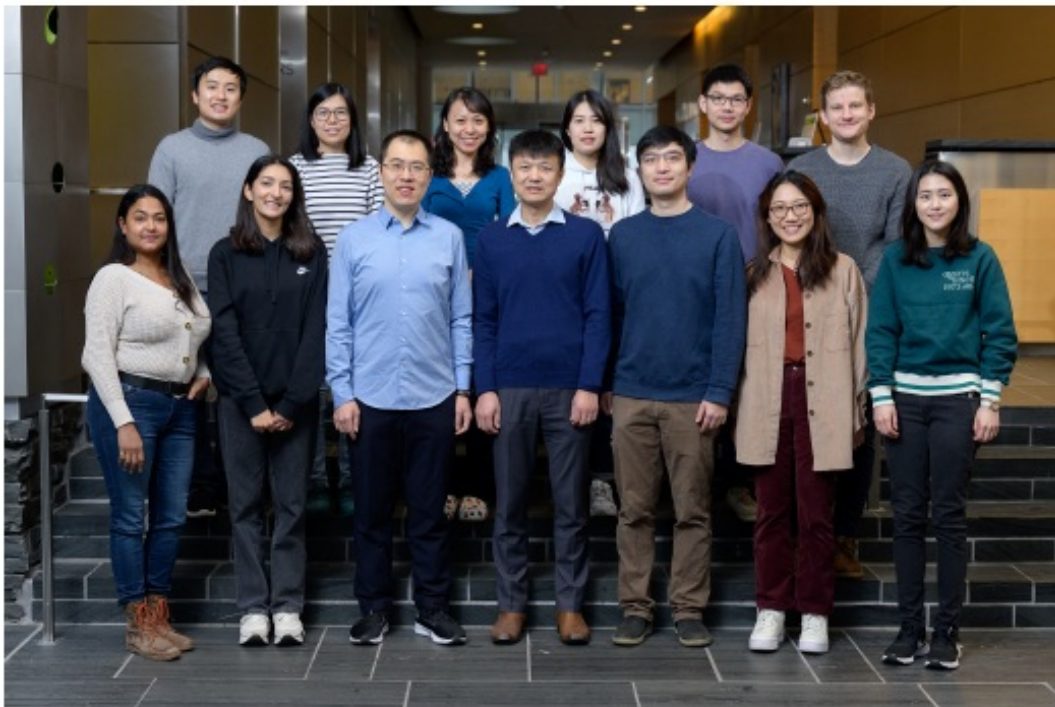
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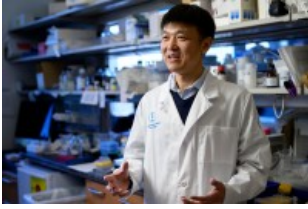
Ming Li, PhD

The pervasive influence of the immune system on human health and disease underscores the importance of a mechanistic understanding of immune regulation under pathophysiological conditions such as cancer. Cancer immunology research in my laboratory aims to decipher the cellular and molecular basis of tumor-elicited innate and adaptive immune responses and develop mechanism-based interventions to unlock the untapped potential of the immune system for cancer therapy.

[View Lab Overview \(https://www.sloankettering.edu/research-areas/labs/ming-li/overview\)](https://www.sloankettering.edu/research-areas/labs/ming-li/overview)

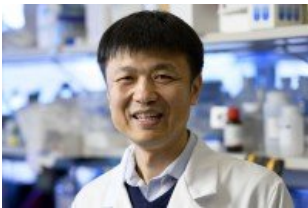


Featured News



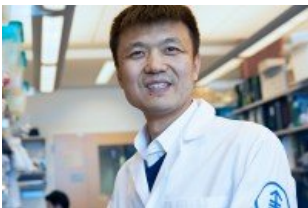
[How One Lab at MSK Is Working To Harness the Power of the Immune System Against Cancer](#)

Study by study, Dr. Ming Li's lab at MSK is sharing new insights into the molecular and cellular mechanisms involved in immune regulation.



[SKI Scientists Identify Potential New 'Soldier' for Cancer Immunotherapy](#)

The new cells, which the scientists have dubbed killer innate-like T cells, differ in several notable ways from the conventional target of many immunotherapies.



[Sloan Kettering Institute Scientists Solve a 100-Year-Old Mystery about Cancer](#)

Scientists have long known that cancer cells and immune cells have an uncommon hunger for glucose but haven't understood why. A new study offers an answer.

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Publications Highlights

X. Zhang, S. Li, I. Malik, M.H. Do, L. Ji, C. Chou, W. Shi, K.J. Capistrano, J. Zhang, T. Hsu, B.G. Nixon, K. Xu, X. Wang, A. Ballabio, L.S. Schmidt, W.M. Linehan, M.O. Li.

Reprogramming Tumor-Associated Macrophages to Outcompete Cancer Cells. *Nature* 2023 619: 616-623. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37380769/>

C. Chou, X. Zhang, C. Krishna, B.G. Nixon, S. Dadi, K.J. Capistrano, E.R. Kansler, M. Steele, J. Han, A. Shyu, J. Zhang, E.G. Stamatiades, M. Liu, S. Li, M.H. Do, D.S. Kang, C. Chen, I.H. Wei, E.P. Pappou, M.R. Weiser, J. Garcia-Aguilar, J.J. Smith, C.S. Leslie, M.O. Li. Programme of Self-Reactive Innate-Like T Cell-Mediated Cancer Immunity. *Nature* 2022, 605: 139-145. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35444279/>

E.R. Kansler, S. Dadi, C. Krishna, B.G. Nixon, E.G. Stamatiades, M. Liu, F. Kuo, J. Zhang, X. Zhang, K. Capistrano, K.A. Blum, K. Weiss, R.M. Kedl, G. Cui, K. Ikuta, T.A. Chan, C.S. Leslie, A.A. Hakimi, M.O. Li. Cytotoxic Innate Lymphoid Cells Sense Cancer Cell-Expressed Interleukin-15 to Suppress Human and Murine Malignancies. *Nat Immunol.* 2022 23: 904-915. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35618834/>

K. Xu, N. Yin, M. Peng, E.G. Stamatiades, A. Shyu, P. Li, X. Zhang, M.H. Do, Z. Wang, K.J. Capistrano, C. Chou, A.G. Levine, A.Y. Rudensky, M.O. Li. Glycolysis Fuels Phosphoinositide 3-Kinase Signaling to Bolster T Cell Immunity. *Science* 2021, 371: 405-410. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33479154/>

S. Li, M. Liu, M.H. Do, C. Chou, E.G. Stamatiades, B.G. Nixon, W. Shi, X. Zhang, P. Li, S. Gao, K.J. Capistrano, H. Xu, N.V. Cheung, M.O. Li. Cancer Immunotherapy via Targeted TGF-beta Signaling Blockade in TH Cells. *Nature* 2020, 587: 121-125. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33087933/>

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People

Ming Li, PhD

David H. Koch Chair in Immunological Studies

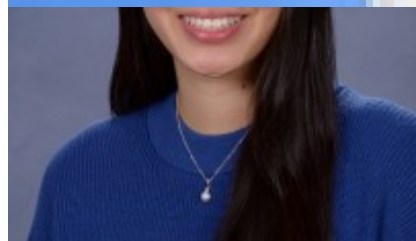
Professor

- Immunologist Ming Li studies mechanisms of immune regulation, and their relevance to diseases including cancer.
- PhD, Columbia University

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Office Phone

Members



Sophia Brosnan
Research Technician



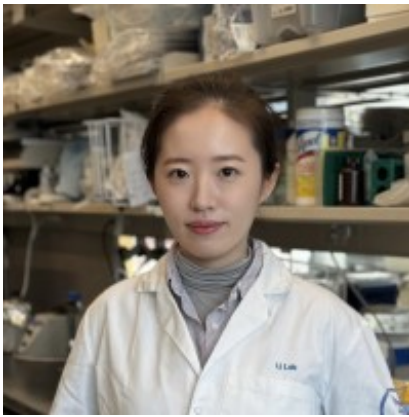
Andrew Cornish
MD Fellow

Lab
Alumni

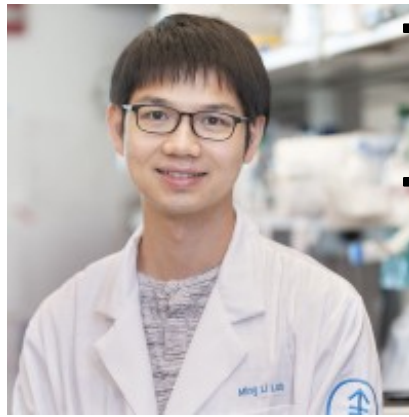
Lab Affiliations

Achievements

- Clarivate Highly Cited Researcher (2022)
- American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow (2021)
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute Faculty Scholar (2016)



Sikun Guo
Research Scholar



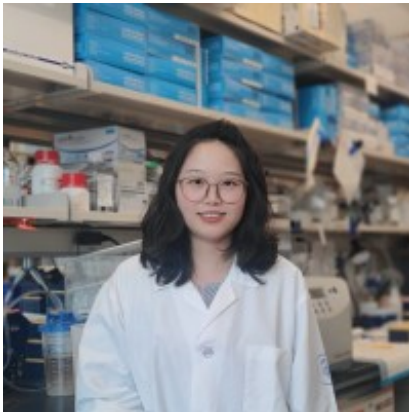
Liangliang Ji
Research Associate

- AAI-BD Biosciences Investigator Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Immunology (2016)
- Scholar, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (2014)

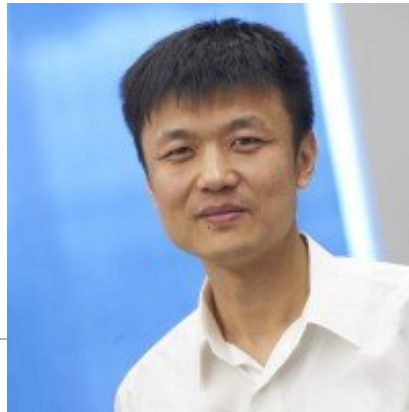
Open Positions

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To learn more about compensation and benefits for postdoctoral researchers at MSK, please visit [Resources for Postdocs](#)



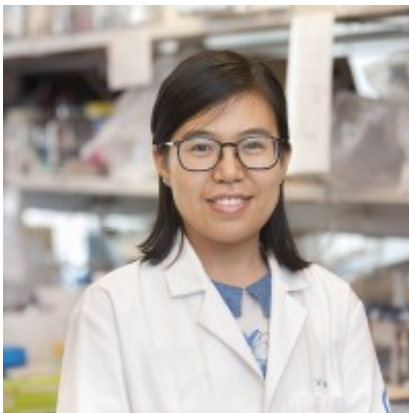
Jiaxin Li
Research Fellow



Ming Li
Member and Immunologist;
David H. Koch Chair in
Immunologic Studies #1
Alexandra Ramadhin
Senior Administrative Assistant

Career Opportunities

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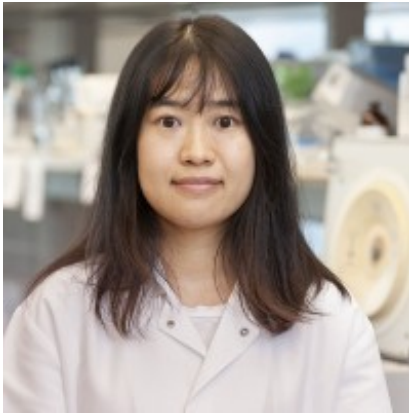
Peng Li
Senior Research Scientist



Zijian Xu
Research Associate

[now \(https://www.sloankettering.edu/research-areas/labs/ming-li/career-opportunities\)](https://www.sloankettering.edu/research-areas/labs/ming-li/career-opportunities)

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Jing Zhang

Research Associate

Disclosures

Members of the MSK Community often work with pharmaceutical, device, biotechnology, and life sciences companies, and other organizations outside of MSK, to find safe and effective cancer treatments, to improve patient care, and to educate the health care community. These activities outside of MSK further our mission, provide productive collaborations, and promote the practical application of scientific discoveries.

MSK requires doctors, faculty members, and leaders to report (“disclose”) the relationships and financial interests they have with external entities. As a commitment to transparency with our community, we make that information available to the public. Not all disclosed interests and relationships present conflicts of interest. MSK reviews all disclosed interests and relationships to assess whether a conflict of interest exists and whether formal COI management is needed.

Ming Li discloses the following relationships and financial interests:

- Amberstone Biosciences Inc.
Equity; Professional Services and Activities
- Flagship Pioneering
Professional Services and Activities
- META Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Equity; Professional Services and Activities

The information published here is a complement to other publicly reported data and is for a specific annual disclosure period. There may be differences between information on this and other public sites as a result of different reporting periods and/or the various ways relationships and financial interests are categorized by organizations that publish such data.

This page and data include information for a specific MSK annual disclosure period (January 1,

2024 through disclosure submission in spring 2025). This data reflects interests that may or may not still exist. This data is updated annually.

Learn more about MSK's COI policies [here](#) . For questions regarding MSK's COI-related policies and procedures, email MSK's Compliance Office at ecoi@mskcc.org .

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