Professor Chen Zhiwei Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine LKS Faculty of Medicine, HKU

Professor Chen Zhiwei is currently a Tenured Professor and Chair of Immunology and Immunotherapy in the Department of Microbiology, School of Clinical Medicine, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, the University of Hong Kong (HKUMed).

Professor Chen received a PhD from New York University School of Medicine in 1996 and progressed from an NIH F32 Post-doctoral Fellow to Assistant Professor at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center of Rockefeller University from 1996 to 2002. In 2007, he joined HKU as an Associated Professor and was the Founding Director of the HKUMed AIDS Institute.



He was a former Chairman of the Hong Kong Society for Immunology and an Executive Committee Member of the China AIDS Vaccine Initiative. He also served as a Member of Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS for the HKSAR Department of Health from 2008 to 2014.

His research focuses on AIDS/SARS/COVID-19 pathogenesis and immunotherapy, with a particular emphasis on the early events of viral infection. He pioneered the creation of HKU-patented platforms of technologies, including the PD1-based vaccine, the tandem bi-specific antibody, and an anti- Δ 42PD1 antibody drug for the fight against viral infection and cancer.

He was ranked by Clarivate Analytics among the top 1% of researchers worldwide by citations and a Highly Cited Researcher in both 2022 and 2023. He has won numerous research grants as PI from RGC GRF/CRF/TRS, ITC RAISe+, HMRF, NIH RO1, amfAR, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and so forth. He also won the HKU Knowledge Exchange Excellence Award 2019, Outstanding Researcher Award 2021 and Outstanding Research Student Supervisor Award 2021.