

## **Research Excellence in Allergic Diseases Award 2025**

### **Dr. Philip Li**

It is with immense pleasure that Professor Philip Hei Li is awarded the Hong Kong Institute of Allergy's Outstanding Research Award. Professor Li is a world-renowned physician-scientist whose transformative research in drug allergy has fundamentally improved clinical practice and patient safety on a global scale.

Professor Li's academic pedigree is exceptional, holding an MD and MBBS from the University of Hong Kong and prestigious fellowships, including the FAAAAI, FAAAAI, and FRCP across three Royal Colleges. His international training at leading UK institutions (Guy's and St Thomas', Royal Free London, Barts Health) provided a robust foundation for his research. He now leads the Division of Rheumatology & Clinical Immunology at HKU.

His research portfolio is marked by seminal, high-impact work. He pioneered the first large-scale epidemiological study of  $\beta$ -lactam allergy in Hong Kong (JAMA Netw Open 2020), providing critical local data. This foundational work directly led to his most significant contribution: the conception and leadership of the Hong Kong Drug Allergy Delabelling Initiative (HK-DADI). Through groundbreaking studies, including a landmark head-to-head trial (JACI Pract 2024) and a innovative nurse-led protocol (JACI Pract 2023), his team has established safe, effective, and scalable models for removing inaccurate penicillin allergy labels—a major public health burden. His leadership extends to directing the multinational ADAPT randomized trial, demonstrating the effectiveness of educating non-specialists in this field (Allergy 2024).

His influence is further cemented by his role as lead author on the APAAACI clinical pathway for penicillin allergy testing and his prolific publication record in top-tier journals. His work has been recognized with numerous accolades, including the Sir Patrick Manson Gold Medal, the Richard Yu Lectureship, and a Chief Executive's Commendation for Public Service.

As President of HKIA and Chairperson of the APAAACI Drug Allergy Interest Group, Professor Li is a visionary leader dedicated to advancing allergology. For his exceptional contributions to research that bridges the gap between academic discovery and real-world clinical impact, Professor Philip Li is a most deserving candidate for this award.