

Yuan Li, MD, PhD

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EDUCATION

- 08/2012-12/2018** **Ph.D.** in Toxicology, Dept. of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Therapeutics, University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC), U.S.A.
Dissertation: *Role of Autophagy in Alcoholic-induced Adipose Atrophy and Liver Injury*
Mentor: Dr. Wen-Xing Ding
- 09/2006-06/2011** **B.Med.** in Clinical Medicine, Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), China
- 03/2008-06/2011** **B.A. (Minor)** in English Language and Literature, Foreign Languages College, Central China Normal University, China

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

03/2019-Present Postdoctoral Scholar, Dr. Natalie J. Torok's Lab, Dept. of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Stanford University, U.S.A.

-Study liver fibrosis and stellate cells in non-alcoholic steatohepatitis

12/2018-02/2019 Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Wen-Xing Ding's Lab, Dept. of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Therapeutics, KUMC, U.S.A.

-Study the role of autophagy and mitochondria functions in alcoholic liver disease

-Train junior lab members for lab skills and ethics, and oversee their projects

09/2013-10/2018 Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Wen-Xing Ding's Lab, Dept. of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Therapeutics, KUMC, U.S.A.

-Worked independently or collaboratively with internal and external researchers to deepen the understanding of the role of autophagy and Nrf2 pathway in liver physiology, diseases and cancers

- Independently established an *in vitro*, *ex vivo* & *in vivo* adipocyte study pipeline in a liver lab
- Characterized the phenotype of several transgenic mouse strains and their response to drug, alcohol, starvation, or aging, with expertise in analysis of liver and adipose tissue
- Analyzed the data of an image-based high throughput drug screening, selected potential autophagy modulators, and validated *in vitro* & in mice
- Deepened the understanding of autophagy and/or Nrf2 activation in physiological & disease models including liver lipid metabolism, drug-induced liver injury, alcohol-induced adipose and liver dysfunction, and the chemotherapy resistance of non-small cell lung cancer

08/2012-08/2013 Graduate Research Assistant, Various Departments, KUMC, U.S.A

-Rotated and gained wide exposure to molecular cell biology and cancer studies

Before 2013

09/2010-06/2012 Research Trainee, Institute of Liver Disease, Tongji Hospital of HUST, China

-Worked to culture cell lines; worked with surgeons to collect patient liver tissue; and examined interested protein expression in cell lines with different malignancy and cancer tissues

07/2008-09/2008 Summer Student, the Key Lab of Chinese Ministry of Education for Studying Cancer

Invasion and Metastasis, Tongji Hospital of HUST, China

07/2007-09/2007 Summer Student, Dept. of Pharmacology, Wuhan University, China

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

01/2009-06/2011 Medical Intern, Various Departments, Tongji Hospital of HUST, China

Rotated to shadow, assist, and practice medical treatments under the supervision of residents; talked with patients for informed consent and health education; and helped to recruit subjects and follow up them for clinical trials

TRAINING

12/2017-04/2018 *Big Data Training for Translational Omics Research*, Purdue University, U.S.A.

01/10/2019 *Methods to Promote Data Reproducibility in Laboratory Research*, University of Kentucky, U.S.A.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Li Y, Ni HM, Jaeschke H, Ding WX. Chlorpromazine Protects Against Acetaminophen-Induced Liver Injury in Mice by Modulating Autophagy and c-Jun N-terminal Kinase Activation. *Liver Res.* [In Press]
2. Li Y, Chao X, Yang L, Lu Q, Li T, Ding WX, Ni HM. Impaired Fasting-Induced Adaptive Lipid Droplet Biogenesis in Liver-Specific Atg5-Deficient Mouse Liver Is Mediated by Persistent Nuclear Factor-Like 2 Activation. *Am J Pathol.* 2018 Aug;188(8):1833-1846. doi: 10.1016/j.ajpath.2018.04.015. Epub 2018 May 25. PMID:29803835
3. Chao X, Wang S, Zhao K, Li Y, Williams JA, Li T, Chavan H, Krishnamurthy P, He XC, Li L, Ballabio A, Ni HM, Ding WX. Impaired TFEB-mediated Lysosome Biogenesis and Autophagy Promote Chronic Ethanol-induced Liver Injury and Steatosis in Mice. *Gastroenterology.* 2018 May 18. pii: S0016-5085(18)34560-8. doi: 10.1053/j.gastro.2018.05.027. PMID: 29782848
4. Li Y, Zong WX, Ding WX. Recycling the Danger via Lipid Droplet Biogenesis after Autophagy. *Autophagy.* 2017 Sep 5:1-3. doi: 10.1080/15548627.2017.1371394. PMID: 28873005
5. Li J, Chen C, Li Y, Matye D, Wang Y, Ding WX, Li T. Inhibition of Insulin/PI3K/AKT Signaling Decreases Adipose Sortilin 1 in Mice and 3T3-L1 Adipocytes. *Biochim Biophys Acta.* 2017 Nov;1863(11):2924-2933. doi: 10.1016/j.bbadis.2017.08.012. Epub 2017 Aug 24. PMID: 28844948
6. Li Y, Ding WX. Impaired Rab7 and Dynamin2 Block Fat Turnover by Autophagy in Alcoholic Fatty Livers. *Hepatol Commun.* 2017 Aug;1(6):473-476. doi: 10.1002/hep4.1067. PMID: 29124250
7. Li Y, Ding WX. Adipose Tissue Autophagy and Homeostasis in Alcohol-Induced Liver Injury. *Liver Res.* 2017 Jun;1(1):54-62. doi: 10.1016/j.livres.2017.03.004. Epub 2017 Apr 26. PMID: 29109891
8. Li Y, Ding WX. Does Genetic Loss of Immunoglobulin A Have No Impact on Alcoholic Liver Disease? *Alcohol Clin Exp Res.* 2017 Jan;41(1):20-22. doi: 10.1111/acer.13270. PMID: 28042659
9. Zhou Y, Li Y, Ni HM, Ding WX, Zhong H. Nrf2 but Not Autophagy Inhibition is Associated with the Survival of Wild-Type Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Cells. *Toxicol Appl Pharmacol.* 2016 Nov 1;310:140-149. doi: 10.1016/j.taap.2016.09.010. PMID:27639429
10. Li Y, McGreal S, Zhao J, Huang R, Zhou Y, Zhong H, Xia M, Ding WX. A Cell-Based Quantitative High-Throughput Image Screening Identified Novel Autophagy Modulators. *Pharmacol Res.* 2016 Aug;110:35-49. doi: 10.1016/j.phrs.2016.05.004. PMID:27168224
11. Li Y, Ding WX. A Gene Transcription Program Decides the Differential Regulation of Autophagy by Acute Versus Chronic Ethanol? *Alcohol Clin Exp Res.* 2016 Jan;40(1):47-9. doi: 10.1111/acer.12931. PMID: 26727521
12. Yang H, Peng YF, Ni HM, Li Y, Shi YH, Ding WX, Fan J. Basal Autophagy and Feedback Activation of

Akt Are Associated with Resistance to Metformin-Induced Inhibition of Hepatic Tumor Cell Growth. **PLoS One**. 2015 Jun 25;10(6):e0130953. PMID: 26111001

13. Williams JA, Ni HM, Haynes A, Manley S, **Li Y**, Jaeschke H, Ding WX. Chronic Deletion and Acute Knockdown of Parkin Have Differential Responses to Acetaminophen-induced Mitophagy and Liver Injury in Mice. **J Biol Chem**. 2015 Apr 24;290(17):10934-46. PMID: 25752611
14. **Li Y**, Wang S, Ni HM, Huang H, Ding WX. Autophagy in Alcohol-Induced Multiorgan Injury: Mechanisms and Potential Therapeutic Targets. **Biomed Res Int**. 2014;2014:498491. PMID: 25140315
15. Liu FY, Deng YL, **Li Y**, Zeng D, Zhou ZZ, Tian DA, Liu M. Down-regulated KLF17 Expression Is Associated with Tumor Invasion and Poor Prognosis in Hepatocellular Carcinoma. **Med Oncol**. 2013 Mar;30(1):425. PMID: 23325444
16. He XX, **Li Y**, Ren HP, Tian DA, Lin JS. 2010 Guideline for the Management of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Recommended by the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. **Zhonghua Gan Zang Bing Za Zhi**. 2011 Apr; 19(4): 249-50. PMID: 21805732 [Article in Chinese]
17. He XX, Ren HP, **Li Y**, Lin JS. Molecular Targeted Therapy Strategies for Primary Liver Cancer. **Zhonghua Gan Zang Bing Za Zhi**. 2011, 19(8): 561-562. [Article in Chinese]
18. Liu J, **Li Y**, Li S, Wang D, Hu T, Meng Y, Ma D, Cai H, Wang Z, Xiong C, Zhang H. Clinicopathological Features and Prognosis of Small Cell Carcinoma of the Cervix. **J Huazhong Univ Sci Technolog Med Sci**. 2010 Oct; 30(5): 626-30. PMID: 21063846

Conference Abstracts

1. **Li Y**, Chao X, Wang S, Ni HM, Ding WX. Acute-On-Chronic Alcohol Induces Adipose Tissue Atrophy, Hepatic Steatosis and Liver Injury via Inhibition of mTORC1 in Adipose Tissue in Mice [abstract]. In: The 68th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases: The Liver Meeting 2017; 2017 Oct 20–24; Washington, D.C: **Hepatology**; 2017 Oct. Abstract nr 1295.
2. **Li Y**, Ni HM, Chao X, Ding WX. Impaired Adipocyte Autophagy Promotes White Adipocyte Browning And Protects Against Alcohol-Induced Liver Injury [abstract]. In: The 67th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases: The Liver Meeting 2016; 2016 Nov 11–15; Boston, MA: **Hepatology**; 2016 Oct. Abstract nr 1223.

In Preparation or Submitted

1. **Li Y**, Chao X, Wang S, Ni HM, Ding WX. Role of Adipocyte mTOR and Autophagy in Alcohol-induced Adipose Atrophy and Liver Injury. [In preparation]

PRESENTATIONS

Oral Presentations

1. **Li Y**, Chao X, Wang S, Ni HM, Ding WX. Genetic Inactivation of MTORC1 in Adipose Tissue Protects Mice from Exacerbation of Alcohol-Induced Liver Injury. *Society of Toxicology Central States Regional Chapter 2018*, Nov 18 to Nov 19, 2018. Manhattan, KS, U.S.A.
2. **Li Y**, Chao X, Wang S, Ni HM, Ding WX. Role of Adipose Raptor/mTORC1 in Alcohol-induced Adipose Atrophy and Liver Injury. *Midwest Liver Symposium*, Apr 12 to Apr 13, 2018. Kansas City, KS, U.S.A.
3. **Li Y**, Ni HM, Chao X, Wang S, Yang X, Ding WX. Impaired Adipocyte Autophagy Promotes White Adipocyte Browning and Protects against Alcohol-induced Liver Injury. *The 39th Annual Student Research Forum*, Apr 5 to Apr 6, 2017. KUMC, U.S.A.
4. **Li Y**, Zhou Y, Zhong H, Ni HM, Ding WX. Nrf2 But Not Autophagy Activation Is Associated with Resistance to EGFR Inhibitor-Induced Lung Tumor Cell Apoptosis. *Experimental Biology 2016*, Apr 2 to Apr 6, 2016. San Diego, CA, U.S.A.
5. **Li Y**, Ni HM, Chao X, Wang S, Yang X, Ding WX. The Role of Adipose Autophagy in Regulation of

Alcoholic Liver Disease. *The 38th Annual Student Research Forum*, Mar 30 to Apr 1, 2016. KUMC, U.S.A.

6. **Li Y**, Ni HM, Chao X, Wang S, Yang X, Ding WX. The Role of Adipocyte Autophagy in Alcoholic Liver Disease. *Liver Center Research in Progress*, Aug 13, 2015. KUMC, U.S.A.
7. **Li Y**, McGreal S, Xia M, Ding WX. A High Throughput Image-based Screening Reveals Novel Autophagy Inducers for Treating Drug-Induced Liver Injury. *Experimental Biology 2015*, Mar 28 to Apr 1, 2015. Boston, MA, U.S.A.
8. **Li Y**, McGreal S, Xia M, Ding WX. A High Throughput Image-based Screening Reveals Novel Autophagy Inducers. *The 37th Annual Student Research Forum*, Mar 17 to Mar 19, 2015. KUMC, U.S.A.
9. **Li Y**, McGreal S, Xia M, Ding WX. A High Throughput Image-based Screening Reveals Novel Autophagy Inducers. *The 36th Annual Student Research Forum*, Apr 1 to 3, 2014. KUMC, U.S.A.

Poster Presentations

1. **Li Y**, Chao XJ, Wang SG, Ni HM, Ding WX. Genetic Inactivation of MTORC1 in Adipose Tissue Protects Mice from Exacerbation of Alcohol-Induced Liver Injury. *The Liver Meeting*, Oct 20 to Oct 24, 2017. Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
2. **Li Y**, Ni HM, Ding WX. Impaired Adipocyte Autophagy Promotes White Adipocyte Browning and Protects Against Alcohol-induced Liver Injury. *Society of Toxicology Central States Regional Chapter 2016*, Nov 17 to Nov 18, 2016. Iowa City, IA, U.S.A.
3. **Li Y**, Ni HM, Chao X, Wang S, Yang X, Ding WX. A Deletion of *Autophagy-Related Gene 5 (Atg5)* in Mice Abrogates Alcohol-induced Adipose Tissue Atrophy and Liver Injury. *Society of Toxicology Central States Regional Chapter 2015*, Oct 10, 2015. Kansas City, KS, U.S.A.
4. **Li Y**, McGreal S, Xia M, Ding WX. A High Throughput Image-based Screening Reveals Novel Autophagy Inducers for Treating Drug-induced Liver Injury. *Women in Medicine & Science Poster Session*, Aug 21, 2014. KUMC, U.S.A.

HONORS AND AWARDS

KUMC *Biomedical Research Training Program* (2017, \$12,000 stipend)

KUMC *Graduate Student Professional Development Award* (2016, 2017)

KUMC *Azarnoff Award* (2016, 2017, 2018)

KUMC *SGC Travel Award* (2014, 2015, 2017)

MENTORING

Hua Sun, Exchange graduate student (2018-2019), Anhui Medical University, China

Josh Kaseff, SURF summer undergraduate (2017 Summer), KUMC, U.S.A.

EXTRACURRICULAR ROLES

Volunteer Usher, Kauffman Center of Performing Arts (2015-2019)

Volunteer, International Student Inc. (2014-2019)

Volunteer, Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America (Annual Symposium of Hepatology Division 2018)

Volunteer, Society for Neuroscience Kansas City Chapter (Brain Discovery Fair 2017, 2018)

Panelist, EVC Diversity and Inclusion Annual Symposium (KUMC, Mar 22, 2018)

Presenting in the *End-of-life Culture Panel*

President, Chinese Students & Scholars Association of KUMC (2013-2014)

Intern Assistant Editor, *Lin Chuang Wai Ke Za Zhi (Journal of Clinical Surgery)* [in Chinese] (2010-2012)