

PRESS RELEASE

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Li Chan announced as winner of the 2024 *European Journal of Endocrinology (EJE)* Award

The European Society of Endocrinology (ESE) is delighted to announce that the 2024 European Journal of Endocrinology (EJE) Award has been awarded to Professor Li Chan.

Li Chan is Professor of Molecular Endocrinology and Metabolism at the Centre for Endocrinology, William Harvey Research Institute, at the Queen Mary University of London.

The [European Journal of Endocrinology Award](#) is presented to a candidate who has significantly contributed to the advancement of knowledge in the field of endocrinology through publication.

Professor Chan has been undertaking world class research in the biology of melanocortins and their accessory proteins MRAPs following her description of how MRAP and MRAP2 interact and regulate melanocortin receptor expression, trafficking and function. In 2009, she was awarded a highly competitive MRC Clinician Scientist Fellowship, which she used to establish her research group and a collaborative network, resulting in several highly significant outputs, including the description of the involvement of MRAP2 in obesity.

Her further work has led to the development of small molecule antagonists for ACTH excess and a new research direction investigating obesity and diabetes in individuals with Down Syndrome.

Li Chan actively champions for women in science, serving as a role model for considered work-life balance and has mentored several women in endocrine science in her group who have faced similar challenges to those that she has encountered. She has generously donated her time to mentor the next generation in national programmes in collaboration with the Academy of Medical Sciences UK.

In addition, she has taken on key leadership roles supporting the academic endocrine community. She is co-leading the Genomics England Clinical Interpretation Partnership (GeCIP) for Endocrinology and Metabolism. She has established and leads the Life-Long Health Multidisciplinary Programme at her Medical School and is co-director of a UK Ageing network CELLO. She is Senior Editor of ESE's journal *Endocrine Connections* and plays active leading roles in the several paediatric and endocrine societies.

Li Chan's achievements are reflected not only by the prestigious fellowships she held but also by significant prizes and awards for her work, most recently the Starling Medal 2023 for scientific excellence in

Endocrinology from the UK Society for Endocrinology, honouring endocrine scientists less than 15 years post-PhD on an exceptional trajectory.

“Li Chan is an eminently worthy recipient of the *European Journal of Endocrinology* Award and fully deserves this recognition. Her contribution to endocrine research has been outstanding.” commented Wiebke Arlt, Editor-in-Chief of *European Journal of Endocrinology*.

Along with other deserving ESE Award winners, Professor Chan will be presenting a plenary lecture during the opening session of ESE’s annual Congress, the **European Congress of Endocrinology (ECE) 2024**, which will be held in Stockholm, Sweden from 11-14 May 2024.

Nominations for the ESE’s 2025 Awards are now open.

***** ENDS *****

About the European Society of Endocrinology

The European Society of Endocrinology (ESE) provides a platform to develop and share leading research and best knowledge in endocrine science and medicine. By uniting and representing every part of the endocrine community, we are best placed to improve the lives of patients. With over 5,000 individual members and through the 51 National Societies involved with the ESE Council of Affiliated Societies (ECAS) ESE represents a community of over 20,000 European endocrinologists. We inform policy makers on health decisions at the highest level through advocacy efforts across Europe.

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