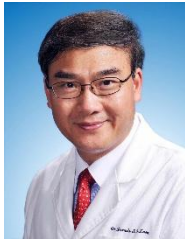


Biography of Prof. Dennis Lam, APAO Past President (2015–17) and Past Secretary-General (2005–13)



Dennis S. C. LAM
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Prof. Dennis S. C. Lam is a clinician-scientist in ophthalmology. He currently serves as the Director of the International Eye Research Center at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), and is a Life Fellow of the Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis (AOI), a privileged title limited to 100 members worldwide.

Dedicated to the elimination of preventable blindness, particularly cataract-related cases, Prof. Lam established the non-profit organization Project Vision in 2006, which has since pioneered surgical outreach programs in rural villages in China. He has successfully advocated for the nationwide Million Cataract Surgeries Program, translating medical innovations into solutions for societal challenges. For these impactful works, the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) honored him with the quadrennial Naumann Award for Leadership in Global Eye Care and the ICO Mark Tso Golden Apple Award.

His humanitarian efforts are underpinned by rigorous scientific studies. With over 40 years of experience in medicine, he has conducted systematic research on complex eye diseases and major blinding conditions prevalent in China, spanning clinical practice, epidemiology, molecular genetics, and disease mechanisms. He has published 471 SCI-indexed papers, accumulating 24,995 citations and attaining an H-index of 85. Among these, he was

the first or corresponding author of 208 papers in international journals, including *The Lancet* (1), *New England Journal of Medicine* (2), *Nature Reviews Disease Primers* (1), and 40 papers in the top three global ophthalmology journals.

Integrating his research into diagnostic and treatment protocols, he has devised novel frameworks for Consensus Statement standards, which have since been adopted by 6 Asia-Pacific ophthalmic specialty societies for developing new guidelines. In 2024, ScholarGPS elected him a “World Top 0.05% Scholar”, making him the only Chinese ophthalmologist on the list. The same year also saw him being the sole recipient of the 3rd Academy of Asia-Pacific Professors of Ophthalmology (AAPPO) Innovator Award. For 7 consecutive years, he has stayed on the “Power List - Top 100 Ophthalmologists in the World” compiled by the UK magazine *The Ophthalmologist*, ranking number 1 in Asia and number 6 globally in 2024.

Alongside his research achievements, Prof. Lam has advanced ophthalmology through academic publishing and teaching. In 2012, he founded the *Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology* (APJO), the official journal of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) and the AAPPO, serving as Editor-in-Chief since then. By 2023, APJO ranked 7th worldwide and 1st in the Asia-Pacific region. He is a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Tsinghua University, and an Honorary Professor at The University of Hong Kong and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Over decades, he has also mentored hundreds of ophthalmologists and postgraduates, with 7 named “Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong”.

Moreover, Prof. Lam has played a pivotal role in bridging the Chinese and international ophthalmic communities. He

facilitated China's joining of APAO in 2006 and subsequently secured APAO Congresses in Mainland China (2010, 2015). By organizing the 2008 World Ophthalmology Congress, he connected 3,000 Chinese ophthalmologists with over 10,000 peers from around the world.

Through academic innovation, talent development, and medical philanthropy, he exemplifies "healer's benevolence" and social responsibility, which earned him the World Outstanding Chinese Award. In recognition of his contributions, APAO and the Asia-Pacific Vitreo-retina Society (APVRS) launched the APAO Dennis Lam Award and the APVRS Dennis Lam Lecture, respectively. In 2025, he was ranked number. 1 on the second "Asia-Pacific Power List 100" jointly organized by AAPPO, APAO, and APJO.

Beyond his passion for healthcare, Prof. Lam is devoted to public service. He has been a Deputy to the National People's Congress (NPC) of China since 2008, and was a Member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong from 2022 to 2025.

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