

Name: Soo-Jong Hong MD, PhD

Current Post: Professor, Department of Paediatrics, Childhood Asthma and Atopy Center, Environmental Health Center, Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan College of Medicine Seoul, Korea

### <Biography>

Professor Soo-Jong Hong obtained his undergraduate medical education from the Seoul National University, and trained at Seoul National University Hospital, Korea. He subsequently received a visiting Fellowship at the National Jewish Center at Denver, USA(1996-8). He has been active in research and teaching upon return to Korea to take up his post at the University of Ulsan College of Medicine and Asan Medical Center, Korea. He is currently director of Childhood Asthma Atopy Center and Environmental Health Center for Asan Medical Center.

Prof Hong's main research interests include epidemiology (Korean ISAAC study) and birth cohort study (COCOA study) to investigate the origin of allergic diseases and to prevent allergic diseases. In particular, he is interested in the environmental determinants of allergic disorders, genetic or epigenetic susceptibility, and gene-environmental interactions. Also, he is interested in the development of immune modulation to modify and prevent the development of allergic diseases in the view of hygiene hypothesis. In addition, he is interested in the concept from hygiene hypothesis to microbiome hypothesis in the development of allergic diseases and allergic march. Nowadays, he is interested in the humidifier disinfectants-associated interstitial lung diseases in children.

He is currently a chair of the steering committee members of Korean ISAAC (International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood) research group and principal investigator of COhort for Childhood Origin of Asthma and allergic diseases (COCOA) research group and also director of HDLI investigation committee.

He has published over 260 original articles(including 160 SCI articles), review papers, and several book chapters in the field of asthma, allergies and respiratory diseases. Among other duties within several editorial boards, he is also one of the Editor of *Allergy Asthma Immunology Research*.