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CURRENT POSITION :

- ◆ Group Vice President, Genetic Diseases Science

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND :

- ◆ Ph.D., University of London, UK

RESEARCH INTERESTS :

Dr. Cheng received his B.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Biochemistry from the University of London, U.K. He trained as a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute for Medical Research in London, U.K. and at Integrated Genetics Inc., where he performed research on the molecular basis of tumorigenesis. He was a Staff Scientist at Integrated Genetics in 1987 and joined Genzyme Corporation in 1989 to work on several discovery projects including the structure and function of the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator. Since 1993, he has managed the efforts at Genzyme Corporation to develop synthetic and viral gene delivery vectors for several disease indications. These efforts led to one of the first clinical testing of gene therapy for cystic fibrosis for which he was awarded the Genzyme President's award in 1996. He has published over 170 scientific research articles and is a co-author on 24 issued patents in the area of biotechnology. He is a member of the editorial boards of *Molecular Therapy*, *Journal of Gene Medicine*, *Current Gene Therapy*, *The AAPS Journal*, *Current Pharmaceutical Biotechnology* and *The Open Genomics and Gene Therapy Journals*. Presently, he is responsible for the discovery and translational research activities for genetic, neurometabolic and neurodegenerative diseases at Genzyme.

PUBLISHED WORKS : (selected list)

1. Passini et al. (2007). Combination brain and systemic injections of AAV provide maximal functional and survival benefits in the Niemann-Pick mouse. **Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA** 104, 9505-9510.
2. McEachern et al. (2007). A specific and potent inhibitor of glucosylceramide synthase for substrate inhibition therapy of Gaucher disease. **Mol. Genet. Metab.** 91, 259-267.
3. Yang et al. (2007). Intraparenchymal injections of acid sphingomyelinase results in regional correction of lysosomal storage pathology in the Niemann-Pick A mouse. **Exp. Neurol.** 207, 258-266.
4. Chang et al. (2008). Intraventricular enzyme replacement improves disease phenotypes in a mouse model of late infantile neuronal ceroid lipofucinosi. **Mol. Ther.** 16, 649-656.
5. Dodge et al. (2009). Intracerebroventricular infusion of acid sphingomyelinase corrects CNS manifestations in a mouse model of Niemann-Pick A disease. **Exp. Neurol.** 215, 349-357.