




<p>Name : Sok Ching Cheong</p>	
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<p>Brief Introduction</p>	
<p>Professor Dr Cheong Sok Ching is a molecular biologist whose work focuses on translating fundamental cancer biology into clinically actionable strategies. She is the Chief Scientific Officer of Cancer Research Malaysia, a non-profit research organisation dedicated to improving cancer outcomes for Asian populations, and an Adjunct Professor at the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Malaya.</p>	
<p>Her research centres on understanding cancer dependencies and vulnerabilities using functional genomics and immunological approaches, addressing cancers that are common yet under-studied in the region such as oral cancer. Over the past two decades, she has led multidisciplinary teams integrating laboratory discovery, translational research, and clinical investigation.</p>	
<p>A major focus of her work is the use of genome-wide CRISPR/Cas9 functional screens to identify genetic drivers and essential pathways in oral cancers. These studies have revealed novel therapeutic targets and informed mechanism-guided drug development and rational combination strategies. In parallel, she has led the development of therapeutic cancer vaccines, advancing several candidates through preclinical validation towards early-phase clinical evaluation, including strategies designed to enhance responses to immune checkpoint therapies.</p>	
<p>Professor Cheong is also actively involved in investigator-initiated clinical trials, including pragmatic immunotherapy studies tailored to low- and middle-income settings. Complementing her laboratory and clinical work, she has led the development of MeMoSA, a digital health and AI-enabled platform for oral cancer screening and early detection, supporting population-level implementation of cancer research.</p>	
<p>She is a Fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia and The World Academy of Sciences, has received multiple international awards recognising her scientific contributions, and serves regularly as a reviewer for national and international research funding agencies.</p>	
<p>Education</p>	
<p>PhD</p>	
<p>Professional Experiences</p>	
<p>See brief introduction section.</p>	
<p>Research Interests and Areas of Expertise</p>	
<p>See brief introduction section.</p>	