

Wendy Chung, M.D., Ph.D.

Bio Sketch

Wendy Chung is a clinical and molecular geneticist who directs the clinical genetics program at Columbia University and performs human genetic research. She received her B.A. in biochemistry and economics from Cornell University, her M.D. from Cornell University Medical College, and her Ph.D. from The Rockefeller University in genetics. She directs research programs in human genetics of complex traits such as obesity, diabetes, breast cancer, and congenital heart disease. The goal of her research is to identify new genes for susceptibility to complex genetic traits to develop individualized risk assessment, prevention, and therapeutic interventions for these disorders. Clinically, she directs programs in risk assessment for oncogenetics, cardiomyopathy, arrhythmias, and diabetes and develops novel molecular diagnostic methods to improve genetic testing including preimplantation genetic diagnosis. She enjoys the challenges of genetics as a rapidly changing field of medicine and the ethical issues posed by research in human genetics. She lectures and writes often on the legal and social issues raised by genetic testing in asymptomatic individuals, disparities in access to genetic care, confidentiality and privacy of genetic information, and defining conditions for which prenatal genetic testing is or is not appropriate. She is a recipient of the American Academy of Pediatrics Young Investigator Award and is currently the Herbert Irving assistant professor of pediatrics and medicine. She strives to facilitate the integration of genetic medicine into all areas of health care in a medically, scientifically, and ethnically sound, accessible, and cost effective manner.