



Dr. Pascual-Garrido Research Lab

Summer 2025 Newsletter



CPG Newest Lab Member

CPG Lab welcomes our newest member, Dr. Yoshihito Suda MD, PhD, from Kobe, Japan. He started his two-year postdoc on April 15, 2025, and plans to study novel interventional therapies for hip osteoarthritis.

Outside of work, what do you enjoy doing to relax or recharge? I play golf with friends and play video games (Nintendo Switch) at home.

What's one thing most people wouldn't guess about you? I have a wife and three children and routinely cook for them.

What would you be if you were not an Orthopaedic Surgeon? I would like to be in a profession other than a doctor, something completely different from my current life.

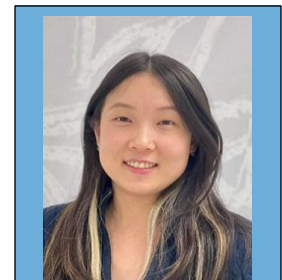
Why did you choose to work at Washington University Orthopedics in St. Louis? Because WashU Orthopedics is the leading group in the world in both surgery and research and I wanted to be a part of that.

CPG Lab Spotlight

Chengchong Ai, MD, PhD, is from Yunnan, China. She is currently the Senior PostDoc in the CPG Lab. For the past two years, Dr. Ai has been dedicated to investigating the mediators of osteoarthritis in the pre-arthritis hip, advancing treatment methods, and conducting pioneering research. She is investigating transcriptomic changes from the early stages of hip impingement to late-stage hip osteoarthritis. By focusing on these changes, Dr. Ai aims to uncover the specific pathways that may make certain patients more susceptible to progressing toward osteoarthritis. Her ultimate goal is to develop targeted interventional treatments that can effectively halt disease advancement, improve patient outcomes, and preserve hip function.



Dr. Suda



Dr. Ai



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NEWS

First ever Translational Hip Meeting! On Thursday April 24, 2025, Dr. Pascual-Garrido brought together a new group of scientists and surgeons to discuss potential collaborative research that will advance the field, address knowledge gaps, and focus on new innovations. From WashU were Drs. Clohisy, Harris, and Nepple. Visiting faculty included Drs. Steven Mell and Catherine Yuh from Rush University and Dr. Jessica Goetz from University of Iowa.

The **2025 Otto Aufranc Hip Society Research Award** was given to **Drs. Cecilia Pascual-Garrido and Kenichi Kikuchi**. Their work titled “*DNTM3A-PPAR γ Signaling is a Key Epigenetic Mechanism of Hip OA Disease: A Potential Therapeutic Target for Hip OA*” was presented on Friday, March 14, at The Hip Society/The Knee Society/AAHKS Specialty Day program (at the AAOS 2025 Annual Meeting) held at the San Diego Convention Center.

Kudos to **Jon Deniz C. Ince** as first author of *Statistical Shape Modeling of an Experimental Induced FAI Cam Deformity in a Rabbit Model. A Platform to Study Mechanism of Hip Disease* in The American Journal of Sports Medicine, March 2025 with Dr. Pascual-Garrido.

Congratulations to **Dr. Tomoyuki Kamenaga** (mentored by Dr. Pascual-Garrido as former postdoc) is first author of *Experimentally Induced Femoroacetabular Impingement Results in Hip Osteoarthritis: A Novel Platform to Study Mechanisms of Hip Disease* in The American Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery.

Study Spotlight

Under the direction of Drs Cecilia Pascual-Garrido, Steven Mell, and Catherine Yuh, **the R21 Research Group** will launch a new research project in June 2025 that will focus on the validation of the pathomechanics and biology of a novel pre-clinical rabbit model for hip Osteoarthritis surgical treatment for Femoroacetabular Impingement (FAI). Washington University School of Medicine will serve as both the Coordinating and Data Management Center for this study.

More exciting details to come in our Fall Newsletter!

Help Fuel Progress and Discovery

Our research is primarily supported by federal grants and private foundations. We also receive critical funding through generous gifts from families and friends affected by femoroacetabular impingement (FAI) and hip osteoarthritis.

Gifts at any level help us fund essential lab supplies, support novel research projects, and advance community and professional education. Philanthropy allows us to explore bold ideas that may not yet qualify for traditional grant funding. Every breakthrough we achieve and every life we touch is made possible by those who believe in our mission.

How to Give

Contact Corey Pashea, Executive Director of Medical Advancement at 314-935-8830 or corey_pashea@wustl.edu.



CPG Lab is a multicultural research group focused on the investigation of epigenetic factors of hip osteoarthritis.

