

Speaker's Biosketch

ICoLA 2024

Yeonseok Chung (Seoul National University, Republic of Korea)

Yeonseok Chung earned his Ph.D. from Seoul National University in 2003. During his post-doctoral fellowship in the esteemed laboratory of Dr. Chen Dong at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Dr. Chung made significant contributions to the understanding of Th17 and Tfh cell biology. In 2010, he joined the University of Texas as a tenure-track assistant professor. In 2014, he was recruited back to Seoul National University, where he currently holds a professorship in immunology and serves as the director of the Leader Research Center for Immunolipid Metabolism, supported by the National Research Foundation of Korea. Dr. Chung's research interests focus on understanding the cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in immune-mediated disorders. His previous studies have centered on the biology of helper T cells in autoimmune diseases, allergies, and cancer. He was among the first to identify follicular regulatory T cells as a novel subset controlling germinal center reactions. His recent work has highlighted the role of proatherogenic and tissue-specific environments as critical immune modulators that influence T cell immunity in vivo. Additionally, his group has discovered novel regulatory roles of several cytokines on regulatory T cells and cytotoxic T cells in cancer. Dr. Chung's current research interests include the role of lipid metabolism in shaping innate and adaptive immunity, immunosenescence, and the development of immunotherapeutics for cancer.