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Professor Juliana CN Chan is Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics, Director, Hong Kong Institute of Diabetes and Obesity, Director, Clinical Research Management Office, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). She graduated with MBChB from the Liverpool University in the United Kingdom and is a physician researcher with accreditations in internal medicine, endocrinology and clinical pharmacology. She leads a 60-member interdisciplinary team at the Prince of Wales Hospital, who are committed to create, disseminate and transfer knowledge in pursuit of prevention, control and cure of diabetes with precision, quality and value.

In 1989, she was awarded the Croucher Fellowship, later turned into a seed research grant, which formed the basis of her Doctor of Medicine (MD) thesis: 'Diabetes in Hong Kong', awarded by her alma mater in 1998. She conducted the first randomized controlled trial in diabetes in Asia which inspired her to combine research and practice to discover and translate knowledge through people development and academic-industrial collaborations. In 1995, she established the first and foremost Hong Kong Diabetes Register (HKDR) for quality assurance whilst use the data to define the causes, trajectories and outcomes in diabetes, culminating into the 30-year Chinese Diabetes Outcome Model to stratify risk and personalize care. In 2007, she set up the Asia Diabetes Foundation and invented the foremost web-based Joint Asia Diabetes Evaluation (JADE®) Platform, complete with protocols, risk engines, decision support and personalized reporting system and confirmed its life- and cost-saving nature in 11 Asian countries/areas. She led her research team to use the biobanks of HKDR and related cohorts to discover Asian-relevant biogenetic markers with issue of patents by China, United States and Europe, for detecting high risk individuals for early prevention of diabetes and its complications. To realize these inter-linking goals, she has established clinical research unit, laboratory, education institute, risk assessment centre, foundation and a start-up company to build capacity, create jobs and translate knowledge into services and technologies to help people live healthier, happier and longer.

She and her team has raised USD 150 million in competitive and commissioned grants, sponsorships and donations to fund these research, education and care activities. She has published 900 articles and 29 book chapters with 80,000 citations and H-index of 130, mentored hundreds of clinical and research fellows and students and is amongst the top 5 women scientists in China with CUHK ranked as the top university in endocrinology and metabolism in Asia since 2021. She serves on global/regional advisory boards of multinational companies, steering committees of international surveys and landmark clinical trials. She is a member of expert committees on practice guidelines in diabetes and chronic kidney disease. She is a member of the Hong Kong Government Health Bureau Research Council, Health and Medical Research Fund Grant Review Committee, and Vetting Committee of Professional Advancement Support Scheme of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau for development of knowledge workers. She is a Honorary Fellow of the International Diabetes Federation and a member of the Global Council of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes. She has served on the University Grant Committee and Innovation and Technology Commission Grant Review Committee and provided consultancy to the World Health Organization.

She has received multiple awards including the Harold Rifkin Award for Distinguished International Service For the Cause of Diabetes and Kelly West Award for Outstanding Achievement in Epidemiology by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) and was featured in *Diabetes Care*, the official journal of ADA. In 2020, she led 44 global experts and published *The Lancet* Commission Report on Diabetes: ***Using data to transform diabetes care and patient lives***, which provides a roadmap to inform policymakers, planners, payors, providers, patients and public to take concerted actions to reduce the burden of diabetes and chronic diseases which account for 80% of global deaths. In 2025, her team was awarded an Area of Excellence by University Grant Committee with the same title: <https://www.thelancet.com/commissions/diabetes>

Personal profiles

Juliana Chan: Helping patients live with diabetes in [Lancet](#)

Professor Juliana Chan: Tireless Trailblazer for Diabetes Research, Care, and Education in Asia in [Diabetes Care](#)

Interview by [Pharmaboardroom](#)