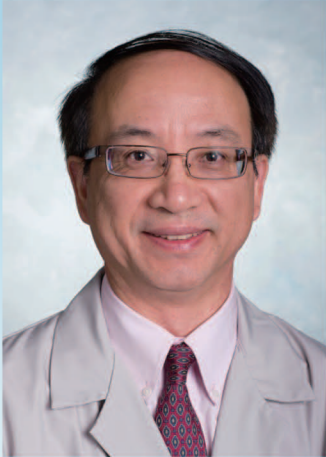


Meet Guest Editor



Jianfeng Xu, MD, Dr.PH

Vice President of Translational Research
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Dr. Xu is a genetic epidemiology/genomic translational researcher with a strong interest in prostate cancer (PCa), urological diseases, and other complex diseases. His primary research interests are 1) the discovery of genetic alterations associated with the development and progression of diseases, and 2) the translation of genomic findings into clinical settings and the population for better prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Together with collaborators in the U.S. and China, he has discovered several highly penetrant PCa susceptibility genes using genetic linkage, positional cloning and next-generation sequencing as well as multiple PCa risk-associated SNPs using genome-wide association studies (GWAS). Dr. Xu has been working on genetic studies of complex diseases for over 20 years and has published over 300 peer-reviewed papers in this area, including many high impact papers in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Science*, and *Nature Genetics*.

Dr. Xu was trained in medicine, public health, and genetic epidemiology. He received his M.D. and M.S. in Public Health from Shanghai Medical University in Shanghai, China, and his M.P.H. and Dr.PH. in Genetic Epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene & Public Health in Baltimore, Maryland. After training at Johns Hopkins, he later joined the faculty of the University of Maryland at Baltimore in 1997 as an assistant professor. In 2000, he moved to Wake Forest University School of Medicine, where he was a professor as well as the Director of the Center for Cancer Genomics.

At present, he conducts studies on inherited genomic risk focused on guiding targeted cancer screening at NorthShore University HealthSystem in Evanston, IL, USA. As the Director of Program for Personal Cancer Care, he leads the Genomic Translational team whose work ultimately focuses on the implementation of genomic findings in clinical personalized medicine. His team uses a four-step approach to the translation of scientific research: 1) evidence-based evaluation, 2) development of robust and cost-effective tests, 3) pilot clinical trials, and 4) evaluation of ethical implications. Dr. Xu also developed the Pyramid Model for personalized cancer care, which brings personalized medicine approaches to clinical settings from screening and prevention, to diagnosis, to early- and late-stage diseases.

Relation to AJA

Dr. Xu greatly respects the focus that the AJA places on the translation of scientific discoveries into clinically relevant topics. He believes the genomic findings published by the AJA are of paramount importance to the fields of urology and andrology.