A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

Celebrating 155 years, one of China's premier university hospitals continues to prioritize medical innovation and patient care.

155th Anniversary
浙大二院 | 1869–2024

浙江大学医学院附属第二医院
THE SECOND AFFILIATED HOSPITAL ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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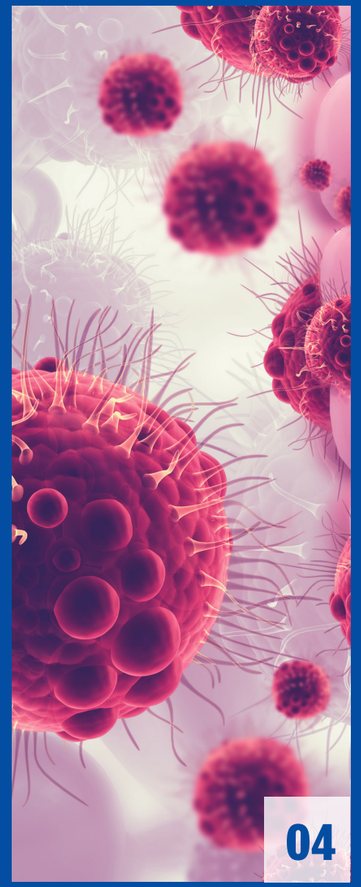


A legacy of excellence

One of China's premier university hospitals celebrates its 155th anniversary by honouring its heritage of patient-centred care through continued innovation.

Founded in 1869 by the British Church Missionary Society as the Hangzhou Guangji Hospital, the Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) was a pioneer in the adoption of modern medicine in China. As a testament to its exceptional standards, it was hailed by commentators as the best hospital in the Far East in the early 20th century.

From its beginnings as a 16-bed clinic, SAHZU today has become one of the top hospitals in China, treating nearly eight million outpatients and 330,000 inpatients every year with 4,400 beds across five campuses.

In 2022, 11 of SAHZU's specialties were ranked in the national top ten according to the *Chinese Hospitals and Specialties* — a widely recognized ranking system reviewed by more than 5,000 medical professionals.

SAHZU excels in medical treatment and research across many fields, including valvular and coronary heart diseases, liver cancer, colorectal cancer, bone tumours, rare diseases, cataracts, neurological diseases, lung diseases, burns and trauma.

Treatment pioneer

"We were the first in China to perform several pioneering surgeries, including the first reattachment of severed limbs in 1971, and the first small-incision cataract surgery in 1990," says Jian'an Wang, member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and chairman of SAHZU. "We also produced the first Chinese-designed and made prosthetic heart valve device, which was approved by the National Medical Products Administration in 2017."

In 2019, SAHZU physicians implanted China's first brain-computer interface in a patient with quadriplegia. With this device, the patient has control of a robotic arm to perform tasks such as drinking or writing.

In 2013, it achieved Joint Commission International (JCI) accreditation for the first time, a globally recognized benchmark that signifies it meets high international standards of care. It has also received accreditation from the College of American Pathology, in recognition of its pathology laboratories.

SAHZU was the primary healthcare provider for G20 Summit and the 19th Asian Games when these were held in Hangzhou in 2016 and 2023.

International outlook

The hospital's international perspective has fuelled its growth. Since 2009, it has established partnerships with more than 30 global institutions. These collaborations have facilitated various international academic exchanges.

Its interventional cardiology team has been invited to demonstrate techniques in Spain, Greece, Argentina, India, The Philippines, Malaysia and Thailand. Its physicians have also been providing humanitarian medical aid in Mali since 1970s.

Additionally, SAHZU is building itself into a training base for overseas clinicians. This initiative has attracted more than 400 international doctors and medical students from 35 countries, including the US, Germany and Canada, for rotations and training.

Lasting commitment

As it celebrates 155 years, SAHZU continues to prioritize medical innovation and patient care, with a focus on technology. For example, it is using 5G technology to empower its emergency rescue network and facilitate remote medical services across its campuses and pre-hospital facilities. "Many of these attempts, such as using drones to deliver blood, were the first of their kind in the country," says Wang.

"Our methods have evolved dramatically since 1869, but our core value — the needs of patients and customers come first — has never changed," he adds. "Every advancement we embrace is not just for progress, but to honour the legacy of care that defines our hospital's enduring purpose."

An artist's impression of SAHZU's new Xiaoshan Campus, which is undergoing construction.

Advancing medicine for healing hearts

People with a broad range of cardiovascular conditions are enjoying better health following innovations in treatments, techniques and biomedical devices.

Patients with heart diseases are benefitting from cardiovascular disease treatments being developed at the Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) Heart Centre in Hangzhou, China. The Heart Centre was one of the first regional cardiovascular disease centres in China and remains among the top ranked centres in the nation.

In a world-first study, researchers from SAHZU Heart Centre and Seoul University Hospital in South Korea co-led a clinical trial which found that invasive procedures called percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) — a stent implantation procedure to hold open narrowed coronary arteries — can potentially be avoided in certain patients with coronary artery disease.

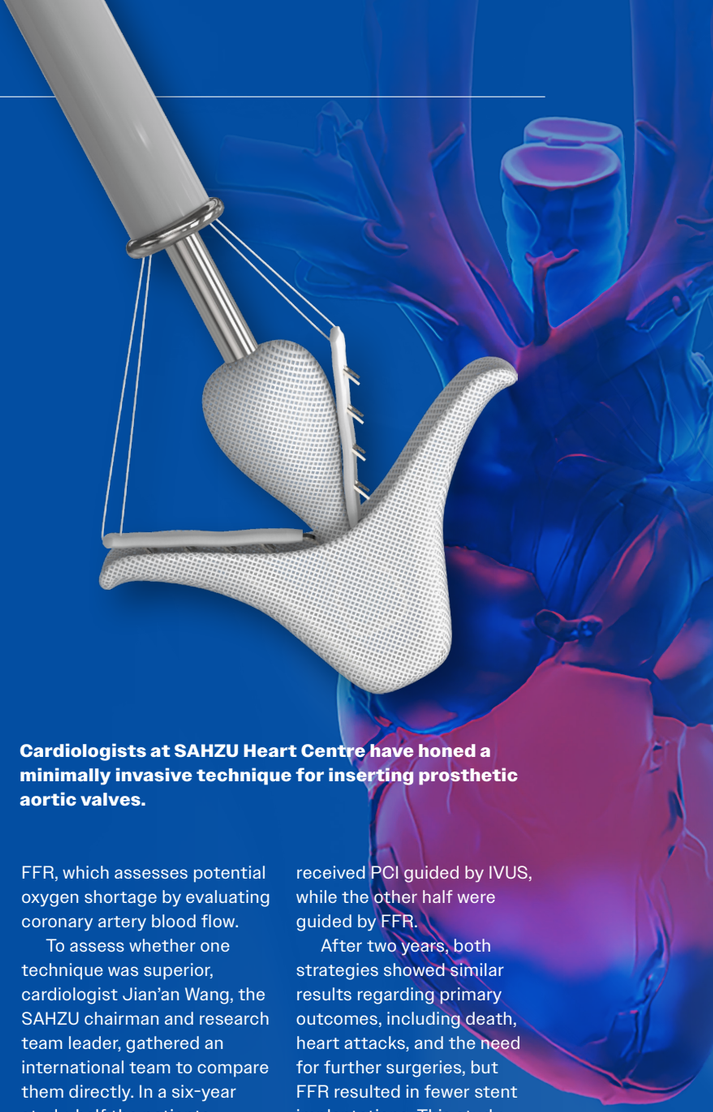
The randomized, controlled, clinical trial — named the FLAVOUR Study — enrolled 1,682 people with coronary artery disease and compared two prevalent techniques used by doctors to guide PCI. The results indicated that the technique called fractional flow reserve (FFR) could reduce the need for stent implantation procedures by 21%[1].

To stent or not?

For patients with medium level narrowing of coronary arteries due to the build-up of lipid deposits known as plaques, doctors typically use one of two techniques: intravascular ultrasonography (IVUS), which visualizes artery narrowing and plaques; or FFR, which assesses potential oxygen shortage by evaluating coronary artery blood flow.

To assess whether one technique was superior, cardiologist Jian'an Wang, the SAHZU chairman and research team leader, gathered an international team to compare them directly. In a six-year study, half the patients received PCI guided by IVUS, while the other half were guided by FFR.

After two years, both strategies showed similar results regarding primary outcomes, including death, heart attacks, and the need for further surgeries, but FFR resulted in fewer stent implantations. This study was the first to compare functional and image-guided PCI on patient outcomes, highlighting the advantages of using FFR for guidance.



Cardiologists at SAHZU Heart Centre have honed a minimally invasive technique for inserting prosthetic aortic valves.

Cell studies

For people with coronary artery disease and atherosclerosis, where arteries are narrowed by lipid-laden plaques, lowering cholesterol is crucial. However, even with controlled cholesterol, plaque buildup can be linked to chronic inflammation, a damaging over-activation of the immune system.

Wang's team discovered that immunotherapy drugs developed to treat cancer may offer a novel anti-inflammatory treatment. They investigated a group of cancer patients that also had atherosclerosis, and found plaque shrinkage among those who had been treated with a subtype of anti-programmed cell death protein 1 (PD-1) immunotherapy drugs[2].

The study was the first in the world to reveal the important role of adaptive immunity mediated by PD-1+ pro-inflammatory T cells in plaque progression. "These T cells could be valuable targets to inhibit T cell-mediated inflammatory response," say the authors of a study, led by researchers including Wang, and fellow cardiologist and SAHZU executive vice president, Xinyang Hu.

Cellular analysis was also at the heart of studies, co-led by Wang and Hu, exploring how different cell types work together to heal damage after a heart attack. They analysed how new blood vessel formation is coordinated by the release and uptake of tiny packages of proteins and RNAs called 'extracellular vesicles' (EVs), a form of intercellular communication.

The team identified key RNAs responsible for the regenerative effects of heart cell EVs. In the lab they then produced EVs enriched in these RNAs, as a potential therapy for recovery from heart attack. In world-first preclinical studies with non-human primates, they showed that the enriched EV treatment reduced the area of heart damage by 20%, and aided recovery[3].

Perfecting valve interventions

Patients who need heart valves replacement or repair can now have this done via minimally invasive procedures, such as Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR). A catheter inserted via the leg is fed through the femoral artery to the aortic valve. The interventional cardiologists then remotely deliver the new valve via the catheter.

Cardiologists at SAHZU's Heart Centre have been central to two key innovations in TAVR, now known as the 'Hangzhou Solution' and the 'Hangzhou Valve', says Wang.

With conventional TAVR, the valve cannot be moved once placed, and an incorrectly positioned valve can increase complications including blockage. In 2010 the team joined a long-standing collaboration between government, industry, the university and the hospital to develop improved prosthetic heart valves[6].

The team developed a repositionable and retrievable heart valve known as VenusA Plus. Approved for use in China in 2020, this new valve was aimed at reducing severe conduction block in intermediate- and high-risk patients.

SAHZU cardiologists also developed a process for selecting the correct valve size and deployment position for patients with a congenital heart condition called a bicuspid aortic valve (BAV), in which the valve consists of two leaflets, rather than the usual three[4].

This so-called Hangzhou Solution for bicuspid valve TAVR and the innovated valve devices have been adopted by more than 150 hospitals in China and introduced to multiple medical centres outside China in nations including Spain, Greece, India and Argentina, says Wang.

The team has also developed China's first edge-to-edge heart valve repair device, known as 'The Dragonfly', which was approved for use in China in 2023. The device is currently undergoing multiple clinical trials in Germany, Italy, Spain, and Canada. This enables patients too frail for heart surgery to have minimally invasive mitral heart valve repair.

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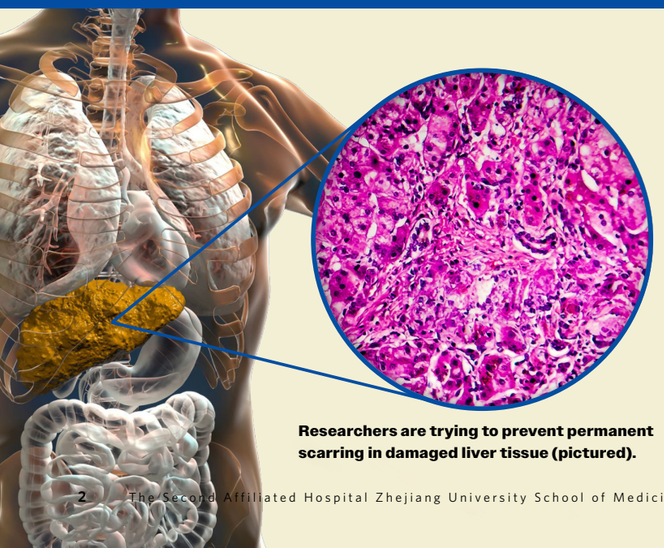

Researchers are trying to prevent permanent scarring in damaged liver tissue (pictured).

Fighting liver fibrosis with bio-guided drug delivery vehicles

A new technology for delivering melatonin to diseased liver tissue may help prevent permanent scarring.

As part of an extensive, world-leading oncology research programme, The Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) in Hangzhou, China, has made breakthroughs in nanoparticle drug delivery systems for treating liver cancer and fibrosis, an inflammatory condition that precedes cancer.

Liver fibrosis is scarring caused by most types of chronic liver disease for which there is very little effective clinical treatment, says Weilin Wang, a surgeon and president of SAHZU. These scars impede the liver's ability to remove waste from blood, metabolize nutrients and filter toxins.

The hormone melatonin could help limit scarring, says Wang. Melatonin aids the scavenging of free radicals, which helps prevent oxidative damage to cells, and also inhibits a key sensor involved in the inflammatory processes that can cause liver fibrosis, known as activating transcription factor 6.

However, ingested melatonin exhibits low bioavailability, and standard treatments are limited, so Wang's team developed two pioneering nanoparticle drug delivery systems that use cell membranes coatings for precision targeting.

The first coating uses the membranes of hepatic stellate cells, which are key to the liver's response to injuries. When activated, these membrane express a receptor that homes in on and binds to highly expressed platelet-derived growth factors in fibrotic livers.

The other coating is a membrane isolated from blood platelets, which can target inflammation. The CD47 protein on the membrane surface also helps prevent the treatment being destroyed by the immune system.

In experiments on mice,[1] both delivery methods improved the effects of melatonin.

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Immunotherapy and screening help fight cancer burden

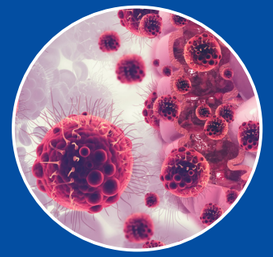
Early detection and screening are essential in reducing cancer incidence in China.

China has one of the highest incidences of cancer in the world, with nearly five million new cases in 2022 alone. Researchers and clinicians at the Department of Oncology at the Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) in Hangzhou, China, are leaders in the development of prevention, control and screening for colorectal cancer. They are also developing ground-breaking cancer immunotherapies and robust screening guidelines.

In a world-first study published in 2024[1], a team led by Liangjing Wang, vice president of SAHZU and deputy director of the university's Gastroenterology Institute, identified a regulatory pathway where gut bacteria metabolites can influence immune system functioning. They found that these metabolites may enhance T cell activity against tumours, potentially improving the effectiveness of immunotherapy for tumours of the breast, skin and colon.

In another study[2], led by Kefeng Ding, executive vice chairman at SAHZU and deputy director of the Zhejiang University Institute of Oncology, researchers examined the effect of having a follow-up colonoscopy after a positive fecal immunochemical test for cancer markers. Based on data from more than 595,000 patients, they found that failure to have a colonoscopy after a positive result led to increased incidence and mortality. The finding supports refinement of screening practices, say the authors.

Researchers at the department have also developed a set of guidelines that identify effective strategies for reducing both cancer incidence and mortality rates in China, aiming to complement national clinical health guidelines on colorectal cancer screening.



Cancerous cells in the colon. New strategies are aiding colorectal cancer diagnosis.

Mohammed Haneefa Nizamudeen/ iStock / Getty; Steve Gschmeissner/Science Photo Library/Getty

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Rebuilding the pelvis after cancer surgery

Surgical innovation could improve pelvic reconstruction after bone cancer removal.

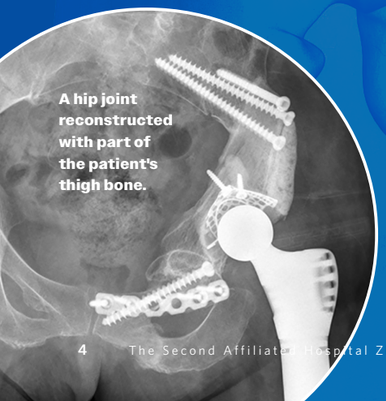
Reconstructing the pelvis with part of a patient's thigh bone, following tumour removal, offers a promising alternative to current techniques.

A team led by orthopaedic surgeon, Zhaoming Ye, director of the Department of Orthopaedics at the Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine in Hangzhou, China, spent decades researching pelvic resection and reconstruction, resulting in globally unique innovations. It was one of the world's leading teams to adopt intelligent digital surgical navigation tools, allowing surgeons to remove tumours very precisely, whilst preserving healthy bone.

Rebuilding the pelvis is challenging due to its complexity and the weight it has to bear, especially when the hip socket is involved by tumour. Usually, surgeons use metal prostheses for hip joint reconstruction, but "we have observed a high incidence of metal-related complications, such as prosthesis loosening, dislocation and screw breakage," says Ye.

In a preliminary study[1], 11 patients who had undergone surgery to remove cancerous pelvic bone required a reconstructed hip joint to help them walk again. Ye's team cut the upper segment of the thigh bone, or femur, on the same side, shaped it and then inverted it to reconstruct the pelvis. They then replaced the removed part of the femur with a prosthesis.

"The post-operative hip dislocation rate is significantly reduced," explains Ye, as swapping a complex pelvic reconstruction to a simpler hip-joint reconstruction results in a more stable pelvis. Another example of the team's surgical innovation has been the development of 3D printed prostheses with an ear-shaped interface for pelvic reconstruction after complex tumour resections[2].



A hip joint reconstructed with part of the patient's thigh bone.

ChrisChrisW/iStock / Getty

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Controlling bionic limbs with the brain

Brain researchers in China are trialling brain-computer interfaces to control artificial limbs.

The brain-computer interface team at The Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) in Hangzhou, China, has made a series of breakthroughs to improve life for patients with neurological diseases, such as paralysis.

In 2019, a man paralysed below the neck due to a spinal cord injury was reported to have been able to control a bionic arm with his thoughts, following a robot-assisted implantation of a brain-computer interface (BCI) in China[1]. "This was the first such case in Asia," says neurosurgeon, Jianmin Zhang, director of the Institute of Brain Medicine at SAHZU.

Before the operation, the patient was asked to imagine moving his arms while watching a video of the activity. Functional MRI (fMRI) was used to identify how his thoughts changed activity in the motor cortex as he imagined arm movements. While the patient envisioned hand grasping and upper-limb motions, data was collected to help calibrate the BCI for better control of the bionic arm's movements. Robot-assisted surgery then helped ensure precise placement of the interface electrodes in the brain.

"The electrodes capture electrical signals from nerve cells when the patient thinks about moving their arm," explains Zhang. A processor converts these nerve signals into electrical commands that control the robotic arm's movements.

At a one-year follow-up, the man was still able to control the arm without complications.

The researchers believe this is the first reported case of a BCI being implanted using a robotic surgical navigation system, which provides greater stability and precision compared to freehand surgery. They argue that this method allowed them to detect strong signals from the implant with minimal noise, while avoiding neural tissue damage and haemorrhages reported in earlier attempts.

Brain-computer interfaces could enable bionic limbs.

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Unravelling the genes of a rare movement disorder

DNA clues are now helping to diagnose a disorder often mistaken for epilepsy.

Recent discoveries at The Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) in Hangzhou, China, are transforming the diagnosis and treatment of paroxysmal kinesigenic dyskinesia (PKD), a rare movement disorder.

According to the team at SAHZU's Department of Medical Genetics, the work was selected by experts as one of several 'Major Advances in Chinese Neuroscience' in 2021 and has marked "a milestone for the precise diagnosis and treatment of PKD".

PKD affects 1 in 150,000 people, and is characterized by unexpected, involuntary muscle contractions triggered by abrupt movements — such as standing up suddenly.

Due to similarities in presentation, PKD is commonly misdiagnosed as epilepsy. But the chance of more accurate diagnosis came in 2011, when a team, led by neurologist, geneticist and department director, Zhiying Wu, was the first to identify a causative gene, *PRRT2*, which causes the disorder in about 80% of familial cases and 30% of sporadic cases in China[1].

Finding the genes behind PKD has greatly sped diagnosis.

Then, in 2021, Wu's team identified a second causative gene, *TMEM151A*, which was found to be associated with other forms of PKD. These genetic markers now serve as the gold standard for confirming PKD diagnoses, greatly shortening diagnosis time, which was five years[2].

In addition, Wu's team has found that patients with *PRRT2* mutations responded well to an existing anti-epilepsy drug, carbamazepine[3].

"With a precise genetic diagnosis, clinicians can better tailor treatment plans, assess prognosis, and provide more effective genetic counselling," explains Wu, whose SAHZU team opened the first clinical centre for rare diseases in 2016 and China's first clinical department of medical genetics, in 2021.

TanyaJoy/iStock / Getty

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SAHZU Eye Centre surgeons are working on innovative treatments to restore sight.

Yuichiro Chino/Moment/Getty

Letting the light back in

Lens regeneration may one day offer an alternative to cataract surgery, while shape-shifting tear duct plugs ease painfully dry eyes.

Lenses have been regenerated in rabbits by scientists at the Eye Centre of The Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) in Hangzhou, China. The team has also developed novel, shape-changing tear duct plugs to treat dry eye syndrome.

The centre is a leading hub for research that has trained more than 15% of China's cataract surgeons, developed national prevention and treatment standards, and spearheaded five major reforms aimed at expanding precision refractive surgery.

Growing lenses

Traditional cataract treatment involves replacing opaque lenses with artificial ones. But what if, instead of surgical interventions, lenses could be regenerated?

In the rabbit study, embryonic stem cells in the lab were induced to differentiate into lens precursor cells[1]. The cells were then mixed with hyaluronate — a gel found naturally in the body — and injected into a rabbit's lens capsule.

After 54 weeks, the treated lens almost completely regenerated, with a thickness of 85% of a natural lens and similar shape, transparency and optical properties. It was found to have grown from a mix of implanted cells and the remaining lens epithelial cells.

The lens was the thickest, most transparent and the most similar to a natural lens known to have been regenerated artificially, says centre director, Ke Yao. "We hope that one day this strategy could be applied to treat congenital cataracts in infants and children, and then expanded to all cataract patients."

Shape-shifting devices

His team is also designing a world-first, shape-changing, polymer tear duct plug to treat 'dry eye syndrome' — a disorder caused by a tear deficiency or excessive evaporation from the eye's surface.

Dry eye syndrome is associated with inflammation, pain and infection. Current treatments include tiny plugs placed in the eye's duct system to block tears from draining, but these can be easily displaced by rubbing. Now a compact, long-lasting hydrogel has been designed that can be pushed through the narrow tear ducts into the more stable lacrimal sac. Once inside, the hydrogel expands to block tears from draining.

The new plugs are being developed by Chujun Ni, one of the centre's early career researchers. Ni is drawing on earlier work done during her PhD at Zhejiang University on a shape-shifting, printable, biomedical polymer hydrogel — which was detailed in *Nature* in 2023[2].

Created using a heat treatment, these hydrogel devices can transform their shape inside the body via internal water redistribution. Crucially, this unfurling happens after a set period, without external cues.

This controllable time delay, which can range from 1–50 minutes, should allow various devices to be implanted using minimally invasive keyhole surgery.

The centre's other research includes developing advanced artificial lenses and drugs to reverse an abnormal aggregation of lens proteins that causes cataracts.

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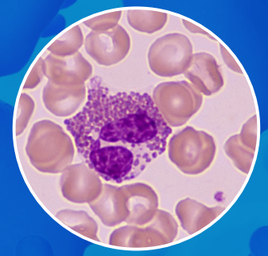
A new approach to treating asthma

Iron-dependent cell death may one day provide an alternative treatment for asthma.

Discovery of a novel form of cell death in eosinophils, white blood cells linked to triggering asthma, could lead to a new treatment for the disease, says respiratory physician Wen Li, director of the Department of Respiratory and Critical Medicine, at The Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) in Hangzhou, China.

Through groundbreaking work on eosinophils and asthma, in 2003, Li's team was the first to prove the link between the two, which has led to numerous research projects on many new treatment possibilities. It was also the first to diagnose and define a new variant of asthma.

Ferroptosis is an iron-dependent type of cell death characterized by the accumulation of reactive oxygen species and lipid peroxides that destroy the cell's membranes. "Because eosinophils have a relatively high iron content, we wondered if we could combat asthma by selectively inducing eosinophil ferroptosis," says Li.



SAHZU scientists identified that immune eosinophil cells (purple) play a role in asthma .

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To test that idea, Li's team conducted the first known study to treat mouse and human eosinophils in the lab with ferroptosis-inducing agents (FINs) — agents that allow lipid peroxides to accumulate — confirming that they triggered cell death[1]. Next, they used FINs alone or with dexamethasone, a steroid used for asthma treatment, to treat mice with asthma-like symptoms. Both treatments killed eosinophils and reduced inflammation in the mouse airways, with the two treatments together having a synergistic effect.

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Comprehensive care of the critically ill

With the largest number of severe trauma patients in China, this hospital offers wide-ranging and efficient emergency medicine.

The Department of Emergency Medicine at the Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU) in Hangzhou, China is a hotbed of innovation.

New research or globally unique projects here include advanced burn recovery treatments; the trialling of drones for superfast blood delivery in cities; a 'one-stop' trauma resuscitation technique that uses 5G-enabled remote monitoring, even as patients are rushed to hospital; and animal models of traumatic cardiac arrest to investigate new therapies.

"Our guiding principles are integration and coordination" of pre-hospital emergency care, in-hospital emergency care and intensive care treatment, says emergency specialist Mao Zhang, vice president of the hospital.

SAHZU pioneered the 'second-line emergency care model', which involves clinical departments handling common medical emergencies, so that the emergency department can focus on improving treatment of critically ill patients.

The department also prides itself on basic research that drives improvements in emergency care. Take central venous catheters, fundamental to care of the critically injured. These can be inserted under the collarbones or in the groin, and are used to deliver medicine and fluids and to take blood samples. But catheter-related thrombosis (CRT), or clots, are common.

To better understand CRT, Zhang's team used ultrasound to study 1,262 patients admitted to 28 intensive care units (ICU). CRT occurred in 17% of patients, usually in the first week after the line was inserted[1]. Although death rates were no higher in patients with CRT, they stayed longer in ICU. Further studies are needed to find out how to reduce incidence, says Zhang.

Drones could soon be speeding the delivery of blood to emergency departments.

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Mission-driven, future-focused hospital seeks scientific talent

Built on 155 years of innovation and patient-centred care, one of China's top hospitals is seeking global talent to shape the future of medicine.

The Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine (SAHZU), in Hangzhou, consistently ranks among China's top ten hospitals, excelling in cardiology, oncology, orthopaedics, neurology, ophthalmology, respiratory medicine and emergency medicine.

Situated on the shores of the tranquil West Lake, a UNESCO World Heritage site that has drawn scholars since the 9th century, SAHZU embodies a commitment to research, medical education, and exceptional patient care.

Top recipient

One way today's medical scholars at SAHZU demonstrate excellence is through their capacity to win research grant funding.

SAHZU has been the top recipient of National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) grants in Zhejiang province for 14 consecutive years, and the second most awarded hospital in China for four consecutive years. For research conducted in 2024, SAHZU researchers have received 183 NSFC grants, including two for key national programmes and one international programme.

This dedication to research and innovation has allowed SAHZU to win China's National Prize for Progress in Science and Technology five times. In 2021, SAHZU added the China Quality Award to its list of prizes — the nation's highest honour for excellent management.

SAHZU also has a reputation for international collaboration. Its partnerships with leading healthcare institutions in Europe, the United States and beyond, include a residency exchange programme with the University of California, Los Angeles, resulting in multiple joint projects and publications.

Join the team!

SAHZU is now expanding its global collaborations and recruitment of top international clinicians and researchers in medical fields and life sciences from leading universities, medical institutions and scientific research institutions overseas. It is seeking:

- Senior clinicians, that hold a professorship or serve as chief physicians at leading Chinese hospitals, or hold an associate professorship or above at a prestigious international university.
- Early career clinicians, that have completed overseas residency training (regardless of discipline) or obtained board certification, and who have mastered cutting-edge international medical technologies.
- Outstanding scholars, that are recognized in their field, including professors from top universities and experts from renowned research institutions.
- Outstanding early career scholars with credentials from top universities and qualifications equivalent to an assistant professorship at a prestigious international institution.
- Research platform directors, that hold a doctoral degree or senior professional title, with experience in managing relevant public technology platforms. Familiarity with biomedical instruments, laboratory animal science, animal technology, or veterinary medicine is essential.

SAHZU offers staff a significant support package, including: career development; aid in building teams; research funding; a generous salary and benefits; and assistance with housing, employment for partners and schooling for children.

To find out more about employment opportunities, or to collaborate with researchers at the Second Affiliated Hospital Zhejiang University School of Medicine, email ***Z2talents@zju.edu.cn*** *or call* ***+86 571 8778 8656/+86 571 8778 4513****. Learn more about the hospital at* ***https://en.z2hospital.com/.***

SAHZU facts and figures

1869

- Number of staff: **9,500**
- Size of clinical research centre: **4,000m²**
- Consistently ranks **No.1** in Zhejiang province, and **No.2** in China, for number of grants from China's National Natural Science Foundation.
- Number of patents awarded in 2023: **438**
- Number of outpatient and emergency patient visits in 2023: **7.8 million**

The scene captures Dr David Duncan Main, a British physician and the first hospital president, greeting a pediatric patient with humility and respect. It symbolizes the hospital's core value today: "The needs of patients and customers come first".

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