A Brief Biography of David D. Ho

David D. Ho is the Founding Scientific Director of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center and the Clyde and Helen Wu Professor of Medicine at Columbia University Irving Medical Center. He received his degrees from California Institute of Technology and Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Ho has been at the forefront of AIDS research for 39 years, publishing over 400 papers. His elegant studies unraveled the dynamic nature of HIV replication in vivo and revolutionized our basic understanding of this horrific disease. This knowledge led him to champion combination antiretroviral therapy that resulted in unprecedented control of HIV in patients. An automatic death sentence has been transformed into a manageable disease, and over 25 million worldwide are currently on such therapy. Dr. Ho's research team is now devoting considerable efforts on vaccine and antibody research in order to halt or slow the spread of the AIDS epidemic. He worked on SARS and is now devoted time to develop drugs and antibodies against the new coronavirus.

Dr. Ho has received fourteen honorary doctorates. He was named Time Magazine's Man of the Year in 1996 and the recipient of a Presidential Medal from Bill Clinton in 2001. He was also inducted into the California Hall of Fame. Dr. Ho was also recognized by the Kingdom of Thailand with the Prince Mahidol Award in Medicine, and given the Distinguished Alumni Award by Caltech. He is a member of the US National Academy of Medicine as well as the Chinese Academy of Engineering.