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Mechanisms and modulation of corneal lymphangiogenesis

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Lymphatic research represents an explosive field of new discovery in recent years. The cornea provides an ideal tissue for lymphatic research due to its accessible location, transparent nature, and lymphatic-free but-inducible features. Once induced, corneal lymphatic vessels enhance high volume delivery of antigens and immune cells, and accelerate disease progression and transplant rejection. Our research goal is to elucidate the molecular and cellular mechanisms of lymphangiogenesis and to identify new targets for therapeutic intervention. This presentation is to introduce our recent data on corneal lymphatic research and to provide novel insights into corneal lymphangiogenesis, a multi-facet event associated with the pathogenesis of many diseases after an inflammatory, infectious, immunogenic, traumatic, or chemical insult.

Biography

Lu Chen graduated from Shandong Medical University and undertook ophthalmology residency at Shandong Eye Institute & Hospital in China. She received her Ph.D. in ophthalmology & visual sciences from University of Louisville, Kentucky, and postdoctoral training at the Schepens Eye Research Institute, Department of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School. Chen is an Associate Professor with tenure and Morton D. Sarver Endowed Chair at University of California, Berkeley. She also holds joint faculty positions at the Proctor Foundation for Research in Ophthalmology at University of California, San Francisco, and the Schepens Eye Research Institute, Mass Eye and Ear, Harvard Medical School.

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