

Hongik Hwang, Ph.D.

Department of Life Science
University of Seoul
163 Seoulsiripdae-ro, Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul 02504, South Korea

[E-mail] hongik@uos.ac.kr

[Office] (+82)-2-6490-2678

[Publications] [Google Scholar](#)

Last updated: Sep 17, 2023

APPOINTMENT

University of Seoul
Department of Life Science
Assistant Professor

Seoul, South Korea
2023.03 – *Present*

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Ph.D., Biological Chemistry

Cambridge, MA, USA
2009.08 – 2016.06

Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH)
B.S., Chemistry with a minor in Life Science
Summa Cum Laude

Pohang, South Korea
2004.03 – 2008.02

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST)
Brain Science Institute
Postdoctoral Fellow

Seoul, South Korea
2016.07 – 2023.02

[Alternative military service as research personnel: 2016.07 – 2019.08]

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
The Picower Institute for Learning and Memory
Research Assistant, Graduate Student

Cambridge, MA, USA
2010.07 – 2016.06

Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL)
Neurobiology Course

Woods Hole, MA, USA
2011.06 – 2011.07

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
Departments of Psychiatry and Biological Chemistry
Research Assistant

Los Angeles, CA, USA
2008.07 – 2009.01

PUBLICATIONS

First and co-first authored papers

1. Seo J*, **Hwang H***, Sohn H*, Cho E, Jung S, Kim S, Um SM, Kim JY, Kang M, Choi Y, Kim JH, Kim M, Kim SY, Lee SK, Ahnn J, Rhim H, Jo DG, Kim E, Park M (2023) Cyclin Y regulates spatial learning and memory flexibility through distinct control of the actin pathway. **Mol. Psychiatry**, 28(3), 1351
2. Seo J*, **Hwang H***, Choi Y*, Jung S, Hong JH, Yoon BJ, Rhim H, Park M (2022) Myristoylation-dependent palmitoylation of cyclin Y modulates long-term potentiation and spatial learning. **Prog. Neurobiol.**, 218, 102349
3. **Hwang H***, Hur YN*, Sohn H, Seo J, Hong JH, Cho E, Choi Y, Lee S, Song S, Lee AR, Kim S, Jo DG, Rhim H, Park M (2021) Cyclin Y, a novel actin-binding protein, regulates spine plasticity through the cofilin-actin pathway. **Prog. Neurobiol.**, 198, 101915
4. **Hwang H**, Szucs MJ, Ding LJ, Allen A, Ren X, Haensgen H, Gao F, Rhim H, Andrade A, Pan JQ, Carr SA, Ahmad R, Xu W (2021) Neurogranin, encoded by the schizophrenia risk gene *NRGN*, bidirectionally modulates synaptic plasticity via calmodulin-dependent regulation of the neuronal phosphoproteome. **Biol. Psychiatry**, 89(3), 256 (co-corresponding author)
5. **Hwang H***, Seo J*, Choi Y*, Cho E, Sohn H, Jang J, Lee AR, Lee J, Kim S, Koh HY, Park M (2020) *Ccny* knockout mice display an enhanced susceptibility to kainic acid-induced epilepsy. **Pharmacol. Res.**, 160, 105100
6. Ryoo N*, Rahman MA*, **Hwang H***, Ko SK, Nah SY, Kim HC, Rhim H (2020) Ginsenoside Rk1 is a novel inhibitor of NMDA receptors in cultured rat hippocampal neurons. **J. Ginseng Res.**, 44(3), 490
7. Cho Y*, **Hwang H***, Rahman MA, Chung C, Rhim H (2020) Elevated O-GlcNAcylation induces an antidepressant-like phenotype and decreased inhibitory transmission in medial prefrontal cortex. **Sci. Rep.**, 10(1), 6924
8. **Hwang H**, Rhim H (2019) Acutely elevated O-GlcNAcylation suppresses hippocampal activity by modulating both intrinsic and synaptic excitability factors. **Sci. Rep.**, 9(1), 7287
9. Nam SM*, **Hwang H***, Seo M, Chang BJ, Kim HJ, Choi SH, Rhim H, Kim HC, Cho IH, Nah SY (2018) Gintonin attenuates D-Galactose-induced hippocampal senescence by improving long-term hippocampal potentiation, neurogenesis, and cognitive functions. **Gerontology**, 64(6), 562
10. **Hwang H**, Rhim H (2018) Functional significance of O-GlcNAc modification in regulating neuronal properties. **Pharmacol. Res.**, 129, 295

Co-authored papers

1. Lee R, Kim JH, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Hwang SH, Cho IH, Kim DG, Kim HC, Nah SY (2023) Preparation of red ginseng marc-derived gintonin and its application as a skin nutrient. **Nutrients**, 15(11), 2574
2. Rahman MA, Rahman MDH, Mamun-Or-Rashid ANM, **Hwang H**, Chung S, Kim B, Rhim H (2022) Autophagy modulation in aggresome formation: Emerging implications and treatments of Alzheimer's disease. **Biomedicines**, 10(5), 1027
3. Choi SH, Lee RM, Cho HS, Hwang SH, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Kim HC, Kim DG, Cho IH, Nah SY (2022) Visualization of the binding between gintonin, a Panax ginseng-derived LPA receptor ligand, and the LPA receptor subtypes and transactivation of the EGF receptor. **J. Ginseng Res.**, 46(3), 348
4. Kim D, Lee Y, Kim HR, Park YJ, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Kang T, Choi CW, Lee B, Kim MS (2021) Hypothalamic administration of sargahydroquinone acid elevates peripheral thermogenic signaling and ameliorates high fat diet-induced obesity through the sympathetic nervous system. **Sci. Rep.**, 11(1), 21315
5. Lee R, Choi SH, Cho HS, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Kim HC, Hwang SH, Nah SY (2021) Effect of the gintonin-enriched fraction on glucagon-like-protein-1 release. **Molecules**, 26(20), 6298
6. Oh SY, Jang MJ, Choi YH, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Lee B, Choi CW, Kim MS (2021) Central administration of afzelin extracted from *Ribes fasciculatum* improves cognitive and memory function in a mouse model of dementia. **Sci. Rep.**, 11(1), 9182
7. Rahman MA, Rahman MS, Rahman MH, Rasheduzzaman M, Mamun-Or-Rashid A, Uddin MJ, Rahman MR, **Hwang H**, Pang MG, Rhim H (2021) Modulatory effects of autophagy on APP processing as a potential treatment target for Alzheimer's disease. **Biomedicines**, 9(1), 5
8. Rahman MA, Cho Y, **Hwang H**, Rhim H (2020) Pharmacological inhibition of O-GlcNAc transferase promotes mTOR-dependent autophagy in rat cortical neurons. **Brain Sci.**, 10(12), 958
9. Rahman MA, **Hwang H**, Nah SY, Rhim H (2020) Gintonin stimulates autophagic flux in primary cortical astrocytes. **J. Ginseng Res.**, 44(1), 67
10. Cho YJ, Choi SH, Lee R, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Cho IH, Kim HC, Lee JI, Hwang SH, Nah SY (2020) Ginseng gintonin contains ligands for GPR40 and GPR55. **Molecules**, 25(5), 1102
11. Lee NE, Park SD, **Hwang H**, Choi SH, Lee RM, Nam SM, Rhim H, Cho IH, Kim HC, Hwang SH, Nah SY (2020) Effect of a gintonin-enriched fraction on hair growth: an *in vitro* and *in vivo* study. **J. Ginseng Res.**, 44(1), 168

12. Rahman MA, **Hwang H**, Cho Y, Rhim H (2019) Modulation of O-GlcNAcylation regulates autophagy in cortical astrocytes. ***Oxid. Med. Cell. Longev.***, 6279313
13. Lee R, Lee NE, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Cho IH, Nah SY (2019) Ginseng gintonin enhances hyaluronic acid and collagen release from human dermal fibroblasts through lysophosphatidic acid receptor interaction. ***Molecules***, 24(24), 4438
14. Kim HY, Yang YR, **Hwang H**, Lee HE, Jang HJ, Kim J, Yang E, Kim H, Rhim H, Suh PG, Kim JI (2019) Deletion of PLC γ 1 in GABAergic neurons increases seizure susceptibility in aged mice. ***Sci. Rep.***, 9(1), 17761
15. Kim SH, Seo M, **Hwang H**, Moon DM, Son GH, Kim K, Rhim H (2019) Physical and functional interaction between 5-HT $_6$ receptor and Nova-1. ***Exp. Neurobiol.***, 28(1), 17
16. Choi SH, Kim HJ, Cho HJ, Park SD, Lee NE, Hwang SH, Cho IH, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Kim HC, Nah SY (2019) Gintonin, a ginseng-derived exogenous lysophosphatidic acid receptor ligand, protects astrocytes from hypoxic and re-oxygenation stresses through stimulation of astrocytic glycogenolysis. ***Mol. Neurobiol.***, 56(5), 3280
17. Jo MG, Ikram M, Jo MH, Yoo L, Chung KC, Nah SY, **Hwang H**, Rhim H, Kim MO (2019) Gintonin mitigates MPTP-induced loss of nigrostriatal dopaminergic neurons and accumulation of α -synuclein via the Nrf2/HO-1 pathway. ***Mol. Neurobiol.***, 56(1), 39
18. Liu M, Shi R, **Hwang H**, Han KS, Wong MH, Ren X, Lewis LD, Brown EN, Xu W (2018) SAP102 regulates synaptic AMPAR function through a CNH-2-dependent mechanism. ***J. Neurophysiol.***, 120(4), 1578
19. Jones KJ, Templet S, Zemoura K, Kuzniewska B, Pena FX, **Hwang H**, Lei DJ, Haensgen H, Nguyen S, Saenz C, Lewis M, Dziembowska M, Xu W (2018) Rapid, experience-dependent translation of neurogranin enables memory encoding. ***Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.***, 115(25), E5805
20. Shi R, Redman P, Ghose D, **Hwang H**, Liu Y, Ren X, Ding LJ, Liu M, Jones KJ, Xu W (2017) Shank proteins differentially regulate synaptic transmission. ***eNeuro***, 4(6), 0163-15.2017
21. Yang YR, Song S, **Hwang H**, Jung JH, Kim SJ, Yoon S, Hur JH, Park JI, Lee C, Nam D, Seo YK, Kim JH, Rhim H, Suh PG (2017) Memory and synaptic plasticity are impaired by dysregulated hippocampal O-GlcNAcylation. ***Sci. Rep.***, 7, 44921
22. Gao M, Sossa K, Song L, Errington L, Cummings L, **Hwang H**, Kuhl D, Worley P, Lee HK (2010) A specific requirement of Arc/Arg3.1 for visual experience-induced homeostatic synaptic plasticity in mouse primary visual cortex. ***J. Neurosci.***, 30(21), 7168
23. Wang DO, Kim SM, Zhao Y, **Hwang H**, Miura SK, Sossin WS, Martin KC (2009) Synapse- and stimulus-specific local translation during long-term neuronal plasticity. ***Science***, 324(5934), 1536

Manuscripts in progress

1. **Hwang H***, Song JY*, Rhim H, Yang BS (202X) Topical application of LCB03-0110, a multi-kinase inhibitor, exhibits direct and fast-acting anti-pruritic activity and ameliorates atopic dermatitis-like inflammatory conditions in mice. (*in preparation*)
2. Cho Y, **Hwang H**, Rhim H (202X) Transcriptome analysis of O-GlcNAcase-mediated changes in hippocampal neurons. (**co-corresponding author**) (*in preparation*)

PATENTS

Rhim H, Nah SY, **Hwang H** (2018) Pharmaceutical composition comprising gintonin for prevention and treatment of Parkinson's disease. *Korean patent pending*, No. 10-2018-0075055

HONORS AND AWARDS

Best Presentation Award Korean Society for Brain and Neural Sciences (KSBNS)	2021.05
Excellent Poster Award Brain Science Institute, KIST	2020.12
Best Presentation Award Korean Society for Brain and Neural Sciences (KSBNS)	2020.11
Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies Fellowship Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies (KFAS)	2009 – 2014
Henry E. Singleton (1940) Graduate Fellowship The Picower Institute for Learning and Memory, MIT	2010 – 2012
Arthur Klorfein Scholarship Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL)	2011.05
Summa Cum Laude Honor Student Award POSTECH	2008.02
Presidential Science Scholarship The President of the Republic of Korea Full-tuition scholarship for undergraduate studies	2004 – 2008
Lee In-Sook Scholarship Department of Chemistry, POSTECH	2005 – 2007

GRANTS (received as a principal investigator)

Sejong Science Fellowship (NRF-2021R1C1C2009072)
National Research Foundation of Korea

2021.03 – *Present*

Role: Principal investigator (PI)
Funding amount: 122,110,000 KRW per year (Total: 610,550,000 KRW)
Duration: 5 years (2021.03 – 2026.02)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)
The Picower Institute for Learning and Memory, MIT
Research mentor for undergraduate students (Weifeng Xu Lab)

2013.09 – 2016.06

Laboratory Chemistry (CHEM 5.310)
Department of Chemistry, MIT
Teaching Assistant (Instructor: Dr. John J. Dolhun)

Spring 2010

Principles of Chemical Science (CHEM 5.111)
Department of Chemistry, MIT
Teaching Assistant (Instructors: Prof. Keith A. Nelson, Prof. Alexander M. Klibanov)

Fall 2009

General Chemistry (Honor class)
POSTECH
Student Mentor

2005 – 2007

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Hwang H *et al.*, Poster presentation at the 24th Korean Society for Brain and Neural Science (KSBNS) Annual Meeting, Incheon, South Korea, May 2021

Hwang H *et al.*, Poster presentation at the 23rd Korean Society for Brain and Neural Science (KSBNS) Annual Meeting, Seoul, South Korea, Nov 2020

Hwang H *et al.*, Oral presentation at the 19th Korean Society for Brain and Neural Science (KSBNS) Annual Meeting, Goyang, South Korea, Sep 2016

Hwang H *et al.*, Poster presentation at the Gordon Research Conferences, Molecular & Cellular Neurobiology, Hong Kong, Jun 2016

Hwang H *et al.*, Oral presentation at the 8th Annual Dana & Betty Fisher Retreat of the Picower Institute, Cape Cod, MA, USA, Jun 2015

Hwang H *et al.*, Poster presentation at the Gordon Research Conferences, Excitatory Synapses & Brain Function, Newport, RI, USA, Jun 2015

Hwang H *et al.*, Poster presentation at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience (SfN), San Diego, CA, USA, Nov 2013

Hwang H *et al.*, Oral presentation at the 6th Annual Dana & Betty Fisher Retreat of the Picower Institute, Cape Cod, MA, USA, May 2013

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Ad-hoc Reviewer

NeuroMolecular Medicine

Academic Organization

New England Bioscience Society (NEBS)
MIT Biotech Group
Society for Neuroscience

2011.09 – 2016.06
2015.03 – 2016.06
2013.03 – *Present*