

In the memory of Professor Felicidad Cua-Lim

Yoon-Seok Chang

Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seongnam 463-802, Korea

It was truly sad that Professor Felicidad Cua Lim who was the Founding President of the *Philippine Society of Allergology and Immunology* (1972–1978) and the President of *Asia Pacific Association of Allergy, Asthma, and Clinical Immunology, APAAACI* (1999–2000) passed away on August 28, 2014 (Fig. 1) [1]. It was a great loss for us. All thoughts and prayers from the Asia Pacific region were with the family, and the *Philippine Society of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology*. I would like to echo the condolences from Professor Ashok Shah, one of the editorial board members of *Asia Pacific Allergy* on her funeral day.

"Today is the day to say good bye to our much respected



Fig. 1. Professor Felicidad Cua-Lim who was the Founding President of the *Philippine Society of Allergology and Immunology* (1972–1978) and the President of *Asia Pacific Association of Allergy, Asthma, and Clinical Immunology, APAAACI* (1999–2000).

Professor Felicidad Cua-Lim and to celebrate her achievements. An outstanding personality in the field of allergy, she always greeted everyone with a million dollar smile. She was the one of the first faces of allergy from Asia and we are all proud of her accomplishments. I will cherish fond memories of meeting her at many allergy meetings in many different countries.

May God give peace to the departed soul."

- Ashok Shah -

This issue of the *Asia Pacific Allergy* features important reviews and articles on asthma. Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disorder on the airways. The readers of this issue will find the possible role of inflammasome and S100A9 in the pathogenesis of asthma [2].

Innate lymphoid cells are, of course, one of the hot issues at the moment in the field of asthma research. Sherkat et al. [3] suggest innate lymphoid cells and cytokines of the novel subtypes of helper T cells in asthma. Upper airway diseases may affect the course of asthma. In this issue, Kim et al. [4] reported the impact of sinusitis on the long term clinical outcomes of asthma. House dust mites are the most important inhalant allergens in respiratory allergic diseases such as asthma and

Correspondence: Yoon-Seok Chang

Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Seoul National University College of Medicine, 82 Gumi-ro 173beon-gil, Bundang-gu, Seongnam 463-707, Korea
Tel: +82-31-787-7023
Fax: +82-31-787-4052
E-mail: addchang@snu.ac.kr

Received: October 21, 2014

Accepted: October 23, 2014

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution. Non-Commercial License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>) which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Copyright © 2014. Asia Pacific Association of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology.

allergic rhinitis. Yu et al. [5] reviewed the environmental evaluation on house dust mites and also reviewed the literatures on the possible role of probiotics.

Readers of this journal will also find several other interesting articles on Brassica pollen, chronic urticaria, atopic dermatitis, drug and food allergy.

Rapeseed-mustard is the second most important source of edible oil in India and several species of Brassica are cultivated in the different regions [6]. In this issue, the readers will also find very unique data on the hypersensitivity to pollen of four different species of Brassica from India [6]. There is another interesting study on serum interleukin (IL) 18 and IL-6 levels in relation with the clinical disease severity in Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria [7].

For those who are interested in atopic dermatitis, I recommend to read a review article by Lee et al. [8] on the role of antiseptic agents in atopic dermatitis.

Recently granulysin, a cytotoxic protein produced by CTLs or natural killer (NK) cells, has been reported to be the key mediator for disseminated keratinocyte death in Stevens-Johnson syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis [9]. Won et al. [10] present an interesting case on lamotrigine-induced toxic epidermal necrolysis confirmed by *in vitro* granulysin and cytokine assays.

Omalizumab, an anti-IgE monoclonal antibody, has originally been approved for the use in case of severe asthma [11]. However, it is also recommended in the management of severe urticaria [12]. What about in food allergy? Nilsson et al. [13] present interesting case series on the successful management of severe cow's milk allergy with omalizumab treatment and CD-sens monitoring.

REFERENCES

1. Cua-Lim F. A journey with allergy: a recollection. *World Allergy Organ J* 2011;4:91-3.
2. Lee TH, Song HJ, Park CS. Role of inflammasome activation in development and exacerbation of asthma. *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:187-96.
3. Sherkat R, Yazdani R, Hakemi MG, Homayouni V, Farahani R, Hosseini M, Rezaei A. Innate lymphoid cells and cytokines of the novel subtypes of helper T cells in asthma. *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:212-21.
4. Kim MH, Jung JW, Cho SH, Min KU, Kang HR. The impact of sinusitis on the long-term clinical outcomes of asthma. *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:222-9.
5. Yu SJ, Liao EC, Tsai JJ. House dust mite allergy: environment evaluation and disease prevention. *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:241-52.
6. Singh A, Shahi S, Katiyar RK, Gaur S, Jain V. Hypersensitivity to pollen of four different species of Brassica: a clinico-immunologic evaluation in patients of respiratory allergy in India. *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:197-205.
7. Rasool R, Ashiq I, Shera IA, Yousuf Q, Shah ZA. Study of serum interleukin (IL) 18 and IL-6 levels in relation with the clinical disease severity in chronic idiopathic urticaria patients of Kashmir (North India). *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:206-11.
8. Lee M, Bever HV. The role of antiseptic agents in atopic dermatitis. *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:230-40.
9. Chung WH, Hung SI. Recent advances in the genetics and immunology of Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrosis. *J Dermatol Sci* 2012;66:190-6.
10. Won HK, Lee JW, Song WJ, Klaewsongkram J, Kang MG, Park HK, Lee HS, Kim MH, Chang YS, Cho SH, Min KU. Lamotrigine-induced toxic epidermal necrolysis confirmed by *in vitro* granulysin and cytokine assays. *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:253-6.
11. Global Initiative for Asthma. Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention. 2014 [Internet]. The Global Initiative for Asthma; [updated 2014 Aug; cited 2014 Oct 20]. Available from: <http://www.ginasthma.org/documents/4>.
12. Zuberbier T, Aberer W, Asero R, Bindslev-Jensen C, Brzoza Z, Canonica GW, Church MK, Ensina LF, Gimenez-Arnau A, Godse K, Goncalo M, Grattan C, Hebert J, Hide M, Kaplan A, Kapp A, Abdul Latiff AH, Mathelier-Fusade P, Metz M, Nast A, Saini SS, Sanchez-Borges M, Schmid-Grendelmeier P, Simons FE, Staubach P, Sussman G, Toubi E, Vena GA, Wedi B, Zhu XJ, Maurer M. The EAACI/GA(2) LEN/EDF/WAO Guideline for the definition, classification, diagnosis, and management of urticaria: the 2013 revision and update. *Allergy* 2014;69:868-87.
13. Nilsson C, Nordvall L, Johansson SG, Nopp A. Successful management of severe cow's milk allergy with omalizumab treatment and CD-sens monitoring. *Asia Pac Allergy* 2014;4:257-60.