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## Editorial

## In memory of Prof. Lu Shibi, MD



Prof. Lu Shibi, a world renowned orthopaedic surgeon, academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, Director of the PLA Orthopaedic Research Institute, and former director of Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology of the PLA General Hospital, Beijing, passed away on March 28, 2020 in Beijing at age of 90.

Prof. Lu was the first orthopaedic surgeon in mainland China who designed artificial joint and cements as early as in 1970s; in the late 1970s, he led a team whom performed China's first wrist replacement surgery [1,2]; he also was the first to use the shape memory alloy for scoliosis deformity correction surgery in 1980s [3]. Under his leadership, the first freeze-dried human bone bank was established in China. Prof. Lu developed autogenous nerve transplantation in China since 1960s, and the allogeneic nerve transplantation technology in 1989 [4]. His great contributions were well-recognized and Prof. Lu has been awarded numerous prestigious national and international awards.

Prof Lu was an exemplary medical doctor, scientist and teacher and he always aimed at the forefront of medical development and clinical translational research. In the last 2 decades, his research focused on tissue engineering applications such as stem cells therapy for cartilage, bone and nerve repair and regeneration [5–7]. As a leading orthopaedic surgeon in China, he took part in many rescue missions during his life time, including 1976 Tangshan and 2008 Wenchuan major earthquakes in China, setting a raw model of “serving the country and people in need”. Prof. Lu was also a great teacher who trained over one thousand orthopaedic surgeons and scientists all over China and the world during his 65-years career.

One of Prof Lu's favorite poem was “*A silkworm exhausts its silk till death. A candle burns all tears out to give light*”. He was just like the candle whom lightened the pathways to many and he will truly be missed by many of his colleagues, students and friends in China and in the world.

## Conflict of Interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest to disclose in relation to this article.

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