



Hsing-Jien Kung, Ph.D.

Clinical Interests Hsing-Jien Kung is recognized for his significant contributions to understanding the role of oncogenes and growth factors in cancer. Dr. Kung's lab is engaged in cancer research with specific focus on the identification of genetic and epigenetic factors contributing to the development of human malignancies including prostate cancer and Kaposi's sarcoma. Under investigations are cellular and viral oncogenes, which are involved in posttranslational modifications of signal molecules and chromatin, leading to malignant transformation. They include tyrosine kinases, E3 SUMO ligases and histone demethylases. In collaborative work, the lab is also involved in developing inhibitors or therapeutic agents which target these oncogenes, resulting in specific and enhanced killing of tumor cells. More recent work has been directed toward the understanding of autophagy (self-eating) as a modulator of apoptosis (self-killing). Efforts are being made to develop effective means to measure autophagy and to modulate this process.

Title Deputy Director, Basic Science, UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center
Professor

Specialty Biological Chemistry, [Cancer](#)

Department [Biological Chemistry and Molecular Medicine](#)

Division Biological Chemistry

Center/Program Affiliation [UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Languages Chinese (Mandarin)

Education B.S., National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan, 1969

Fellowships University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, California, 1976-78

Select Recent Publications Chang YM, Kung HJ, Evans CP. Nonreceptor tyrosine kinases in prostate cancer. *Neoplasia*, 2007. 9(2): 90-100.

Gautschi O, Huegli B, Ziegler A, Gugger M, Heighway J, Ratschiller D, Mack PC, Gumerlock PH, Kung HJ, Stahel RA, Gandara DR, Betticher DC. Origin and prognostic value of circulating KRAS mutations in lung cancer patients. *Cancer Lett*, 2007. 254(2): 265-273.

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