Yeonwoo (William) Jeong

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Biopsychiatry Researcher - Claremont, CA & New York, NY

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B.A./M.D. Student - Seoul, South Korea

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Education and Training

03/2021 – 02/2029 **Doctor of Medicine**, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea

- Hakgye Merit Scholarship (full tuition), 2024–Present.
- Longitudinal Research Program in Neuroscience, 2023-Present.

03/2021 - 02/2029 Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea

- Thesis: Empowering memories help maintain self-confidence in a stressful cognitive task

Professional Experiences

04/2025 - Present Research Collaborator, Systems Neuroscience & Biological Psychiatry Laboratory

Department of Psychiatry, Weill Cornell Medical College (PI: Conor Liston, M.D., Ph.D.)

- Precision functional mapping of the frontrostriatal salience network in major depressive disorder.

11/2024 – Present Research Collaborator, Cultural & Developmental Psychology Laboratory

Department of Psychology, Scripps College (PI: Heejung Park, Ph.D.)

- Positive youth development and intrinsic motivation in youth from diverse backgrounds.
- Meaning-making and collaborative resilience among post-traumatic individuals and communities.

12/2021 – 02/2025 Student Research Assistant, Laboratory of Neurological Disease

Department of Biomedical Sciences, Seoul National University (PI: Seung-Jae Lee, Ph.D.)

- TLR2 as the mediator of α-synuclein propagation in Parkinson's disease and other synucleinopathies.
- Oligodendrogliopathy induced by transmission of neuron-released α-synuclein in multiple system atrophy.

Research Projects

10/2024 - Present Understanding the Lived Experiences of Multicultural Youth in South Korea: A Mixed Methods Project

Advisors: Heejung Park, Ph.D. (Scripps College), Jessica Chiang, Ph.D. (Georgetown University)

01/2025 – 07/2025 Foudroyant Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Following Vaccination: Symptom Profiles and Clinical Trajectories Advisor: Sun Young Yum, M.D., Ph.D. (Brain Boutique, Inc.)

Clinical Experiences

04/2025 Clinical Observer, Inova Fairfax Medical Campus, Inova Health System

- Inova Multiple Sclerosis & Neuro-Immunology Center / Inova Schar Cancer Institute

03/2025 Clinical Observer, Department of Medicine, UC Irvine Medical Center, UC Irvine Health

- Kidney Transplant Program / American Heart Association Comprehensive Hypertension Center

Publications * indicates equal contribution

Yum SY, Choi Y, Yum SK, **Jeong YW**, Nam S. Can vaccines trigger *de novo* pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS)? A narrative review of VAERS reports. *International Journal of Developmental Neuroscience*. Submitted.

Bae EJ*, Ham S*, **Jeong YW**, Yang WS, Shin J, Lee WJ, Ahn WJ, Yoon YS, Lee HJ, Lee SH, Park SH, Lee SJ. Anti-TLR2 immunotherapy modulates neuron-to-oligodendrocyte propagation of α-synuclein. *Nature Communications*. Submitted.

- **Jeong YW** (Presenter), Choi Y, Nam S, Yum SY. Postvaccination pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome: Identifying vaccination as a previously unrecognized immune trigger. Poster session presented at: 72nd Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; 2025 Oct 20–25; Chicago, IL.
- **Jeong YW** (Presenter), Bae EJ, Ham S, Yang WS, Park SH, Lee SJ. Toll-like receptor 2 mediates oligodendrogliopathy in alphasynucleinopathies. Oral session presented at: 39th Convention of the Seoul National University College of Medicine Alumni Association of North America; 2025 Apr 10–13; Falls Church, VA.
- Bae EJ*, Ham S*, **Jeong YW** (Presenter), Yang WS, Shin J, Lee WJ, Ahn WJ, Yoon YS, Lee HJ, Lee SJ. Neuron-to-oligodendrocyte alpha-synuclein transmission in multiple system atrophy is mediated by Toll-like receptor 2. Poster session presented at: 1st Seoul National University Physician-Scientist Training Program Workshop; 2024 Dec 5–6; Incheon, South Korea.
- Kim S* (Presenter), **Jeong YW***, Park S. Psychiatric needs and trauma among North Korean defectors: A comparative analysis with post-Soviet populations. Poster session presented at: 2024 Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association Research Conference; 2024 Oct 11–13; Irvine, CA.
- **Jeong YW** (Presenter), Bae EJ, Lee SJ. Expression of neural phenotype in alpha-synuclein-exposed human oligodendrocytes. Oral session presented at: Alpha-synuclein inclusion may provoke neuron-oriented transdifferentiation in human oligodendrocytes. 2022 Seoul National University Premedical Course Research Festival; 2022 Dec 16; Seoul, South Korea.

Honors and Awards

- 04/2025 Speaker Invitation to the 39th SNUCMAA of North America Convention (\$1,500 travel award) for Jeong et al.
- 10/2024 SNU Physician-Scientist Training Program Medical Student Research Scholarship (\$1,200), Seoul National University
- 08/2024 Health Fellowship Foundation Research Scholarship (\$5,000), Health Fellowship Foundation, South Korea
- 01/2023 Premedical Academic Excellence Award, Seoul National University
- 12/2022 Premedical Student Research Award (best presentation, \$1,000) for Jeong et al.
- 06/2021 Volunteer Social Service Award, Seoul National University Social Responsibility
- 12/2020 **Talent Award of Korea** (\$2,000 scholarship), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education of the Republic of Korea
 - National honor awarded to 50 high school students with outstanding achievements
- 01/2020 Korean Chemistry Olympiad Finalist: Certificate of Merit, Korean Chemical Society
- 08/2019 Korean Biology Olympiad Finalist: Future Biologist Award, The Korean Society of Biology Education

Professional Memberships

- 2024 Present Medical Student Member, American Psychiatric Association
- 2025 Present Junior Member, European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology