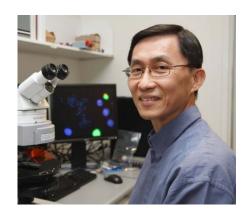


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Professor Andy Choo did his PhD in genetics at The University of Melbourne, Australia. His postdoctoral work at Oxford University led to the first cloning of the human blood clotting factor IX gene that is defective in Haemophilia B patients. Following a further postdoctoral study at the University of California in San Francisco, he returned to the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute in Melbourne where he started his present Chromosome & Chromatin Research Laboratory. His research interest covers different aspects of the chromosomes, in particular the centromere. His work has led to the discovery of the neocentromere phenomenon and new insights into a number of key centromere- and chromosome-related mechanisms. He has published 2 books and 180 research articles and, with >6500 citations, is recognised by The ISI Web of Knowledge as one the world's Highly Cited Scientists. He is Director of the Laboratory and Community Genetics Theme at the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, a Senior Principal Research Fellow of the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council, and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science.