

Dr. David Ho's Short Biography:

Dr. David Ho received his bachelor of science in physics with highest honors from the California Institute of Technology (1974) and MD from the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology (1978). Subsequently, he did his clinical training in internal medicine and infectious diseases at UCLA School of Medicine (1978–1982) and Massachusetts General Hospital (1982–1985), respectively. He was a resident in internal medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles in 1981 when he came into contact with some of the first reported cases of what was later identified as AIDS.

Dr. David Ho has been at the forefront of AIDS research for 26 years. He published over 350 papers, enabling the scientific community to understand the mechanism of HIV replication. He championed the combination anti-retroviral therapy which allowed the control of HIV replication in patients. AIDS mortality has declined six times in developed countries since 1996, and international efforts are under way to bring the treatment to patients in the developing world.

Ho shifted his work from treating late in the illness to finding ways to fight the disease early on. Ho helped devise the HAART or highly active anti-retroviral therapy, which prescribes a cocktail of drugs to treat AIDS, on the theory that it would be more effective to combine powerful protease inhibitors with other HIV medications.

Ho's research team is now working on developing vaccines for AIDS. He heads a consortium of organization in China and the U.S. to address the crisis of HIV/AIDS in China.

Dr. David Ho has received numerous honors and awards for his scientific accomplishments. He is the recipient of ten honorary doctorates, including from Swarthmore, Tufts, Columbia, Tulane, University of Natal, and Tsinghua University. He has been chosen as the commencement speaker at Caltech, MIT, and Harvard School of Public Health. Other accolades include the Ernst Jung Prize in Medicine, Mayor's Award for Excellence in Science & Technology, the Squibb Award, and the Hoechst Marion Roussel Award. On January 8, 2001, Ho was presented with the Presidential Citizens Medal by President Clinton.

Ho is an honorary professor at Peking Union Medical College, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, University of Hong Kong, Wuhan University, and Fudan University. He was a member of the Board of Overseers of Harvard University and the Board of Trustees of the California Institute of Technology. He is a board member of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Corporation.

Dr. David Ho was *Time* magazine's 1996 Man of the Year. On 2006-12-06, California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and First Lady Maria Shriver inducted Ho into the California Hall of Fame located at The California Museum for History, Women, and the Arts.

Ho has been elected as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Academia Sinica, and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy. He is currently the scientific director and chief executive officer of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center and the Irene Diamond Professor at the Rockefeller University in New York.