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Gary D. Wu, MD is the Ferdinand G. Weisbrod Professor in Gastroenterology at the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. He is the Director for Basic Research in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Director of the Penn Center for Nutritional Science and Medicine, and Co-Director of both the PennCHOP Microbiome Program and the NIH Center for Molecular Studies in Digestive and Liver Disease at Penn.

Dr. Wu was the inaugural Director and Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board for the American Gastroenterological Association Center for Gut Microbiome Research and Education and is an elected member of both the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the Association of American Physicians. In 2015, Dr. Wu received the Achievement in IBD Basic Research Award from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. He is an acknowledged expert on the interaction between diet, the gut microbiome, and the host metabolome.

Our diets and microbial environment are critically important factors that influence both health and disease. Diet not only alters the composition microbial communities in the gut but is also leads to the production of small molecule metabolites that can have important physiological functions. Research programs in the Wu laboratory focus on the interactions between the gut microbiota and its host with a particular emphasis on metabolism including nitrogen balance, intestinal oxygen regulation, and epithelial intermediary metabolism.

Of particular interest is the effect of diet on the gut microbiome and its relationship to therapeutic responses associated with the use of defined formula diets in the treatment of Crohn's disease. Insights gained from these projects will hopefully lead to the development of better diets for patients with IBD. As a physician-scientist, Dr. Wu has gained national recognition for his highly innovative multidisciplinary team research approach to translational avenues of investigation that will help to guide the development of therapeutic strategies relevant to IBD and metabolic diseases.

In 2020, Dr. Wu received the Sherman Prize for Excellence in Crohn's and Colitis.