

Professor Cheng wins innovation award for startup

Posted on January 13, 2017 in [Frontiers Announcements](#), [Life Science](#)

Frontiers Specialty Chief Editor's startup Yiviva, developing therapeutics inspired by botanical medicines, wins Innovation Award at the USA-China Health Summit

— By Hedwig Ens

sources: [YaleDailyNews](http://yaledailynews.com/blog/2016/10/25/yale-biotech-startup-receives-innovation-award/) and [Yei.Yale.edu](http://yei.yale.edu/yale-startup-yiviva-wins-innovation-award-us-china-health-summit)

The biotechnology startup [Yiviva](http://www.yiviva.com/) develops therapeutics inspired by botanical medicines, to treat chronic diseases and cancer. Based on research from [Yung-Chi Cheng](http://loop.frontiersin.org/people/176067/overview), professor of Pharmacology at Yale University and Co-Specialty Chief Editor of specialty section [Ethnopharmacology](http://journal.frontiersin.org/journal/pharmacology/section/ethnopharmacology) in *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, the startup won the latest Innovation Award at [the sixth US-China Health Summit in Xi'an, China](http://www.health-summit.org/en/).

The main substance developed by Yiviva, called YIV906, is a herbal mixture based on a 1800-year old traditional Chinese medicine formula. “Our new paradigm for drug discovery is to revisit history and rediscover new medicines,” Prof. Cheng explains. “Chinese medicine happens to have many of the polychemical, poly-target, holistic characteristics we are interested in.”

The development of YIV906 is based on patented research from Prof. Cheng's lab. In various clinical studies, YIV906 has shown to increase the safety and efficacy of a broad spectrum of cancer treatments. Moreover, it may reduce the harmful side effects of chemotherapy. The company is currently setting up Phase II clinical trials in both China and the US.

The US-China Health Summit brings together policymakers, academics, and industry professionals for direct dialogues and discussions on the rapidly transforming global health sector. This 6th Summit was themed “Health for all through innovation” with a special focus on ‘Healthy China’. Participants discussed among others on innovative healthcare delivery models, cutting edge medical and health technology, and precision and holistic medicine.

“They were looking for early-stage companies, future innovators that can have an impact in the U.S. and China,” Peikwen Cheng, a co-founder of Yiviva, explains. “The recognition of our company's drug development technology at the US-China Health Summit says something about the value our work has. We are accelerating discovery by learning from traditional medicines—using modern science to develop poly target botanical medicines to address complex diseases.”

REUBLISHING GUIDELINES: At Frontiers, open access and sharing research is part of our mission. Unless otherwise noted, you can republish our articles posted in the Frontiers blog – as long as you credit us with a link back. Editing the articles or selling them is not allowed. For this article, please also refer to the original sources [YaleDailyNews](http://yaledailynews.com/blog/2016/10/25/yale-biotech-startup-receives-innovation-award/) and [Yei.Yale.edu](http://yei.yale.edu/yale-startup-yiviva-wins-innovation-award-us-china-health-summit).

- Chief Editor
- Medicine
- Pharmacology

Open Science and Peer Review

[Forschungszentrum Jülich and Frontiers develop world's largest pure open access framework agreement](#)

[Coral Reef Research Collection wins \\$100,000 International Science Prize](#)

[UK universities reach new national open access deal](#)

[Frontiers partners with journal policy database TRANSPOSE](#)

[Frontiers joins the National Academy of Sciences' list for author transparency](#)

Latest eBooks

[Frontiers eBook releases: March 2020](#)

[Frontiers eBook releases: February 2020](#)

[Frontiers eBooks published in December 2019](#)

[Frontiers eBooks published in November 2019](#)

[Frontiers eBooks published in October 2019](#)

[Frontiers eBooks published in September 2019](#)

[Frontiers eBooks published in August 2019](#)

Infographics

[Everything You Need to Know About Plagiarism](#)

[FLOWCHART: Should I take on this review assignment?](#)

[ILLUSTRATION: Beginner's Guide to Peer Review](#)

Frontiers Announcements

[Frontiers and Norwegian Institute of Public Health form open access publishing agreement](#)

[Frontiers and Norwegian Veterinary Institute form open access publishing agreement](#)

[Frontiers and Soerlandet Hospital form open access publishing agreement](#)

[Frontiers and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology form open access publishing agreement](#)

[Frontiers and SINTEF form open access publishing agreement](#)