

Yale SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Science

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Dear Heed Ophthalmic Foundation,

It is my pleasure to write this letter strongly nominating Jeremy Liu for the Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Residency Retreat. Jeremy has distinguished himself as one of the best and most remarkable residents that I have worked with in my career as Department Chair of Ophthalmology at Yale. His inimitable drive and passion for research, teaching, and patient care are matched only by an already impressive list of academic accomplishments, even so early in his medical career.

Prior to residency, he had completed an OCT Research Fellowship with Philip J. Rosenfeld, MD, PhD at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. During that time, he created a clinical trial endpoint (i.e. hypertransmission defect) for geographic atrophy in AMD1,2. This has culminated with the creation of a clinical trial design that is currently being used to develop and test novel therapies for intermediate AMD3. In addition, he was the first to characterize calcified drusen on en face OCT and identify it as a risk factor for geographic atrophy formation4. He has over 30 peer-reviewed publications, including 5 first-author publications, all of which have Pubmed IDs. These publications have been collectively cited over 550 times, a testament to the profound impact of his work on the field of ophthalmology.

He also presented at multiple national conferences with 8 first-author and over 40 co-authored podium and poster presentations. He has won many prestigious research awards, including the ARVO Travel Grant. During residency, he continued to perform groundbreaking research on AMD with Dr. Rosenfeld and myself, publishing papers in journals like *Ophthalmology*5. Jeremy has made additional contributions to the ophthalmic research community by serving as a peer reviewer for leading journals, such as *Scientific Reports*, *BMC Ophthalmology*, *BMJ Case Reports*, and *International Journal of Retina and Vitreous* to name a few. He was elected as a full member of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society for demonstrating noteworthy achievements in research that have advanced the field of ophthalmology.

Furthermore, Jeremy has demonstrated his unparalleled commitment to educating the next generation of medical students. He consistently volunteers to lead didactics and to provide students with hands-on training in suturing and the wet lab. Learners appreciate his ability to distill complex topics into digestible components, while modeling exceptional bedside manner. A common theme in his evaluations is that he embodies the qualities that his students would like to cultivate as future physicians. Prior to residency, he also spearheaded an initiative to provide ophthalmologic care to the homeless population of Hawaii. Through this project, he introduced medical students to ophthalmology and provided mentorship to those interested in pursuing it. He has also been inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society for his scholastic achievements, leadership, and service during medical school.

In clinical settings, Jeremy is known for his exemplary collegiality and compassionate, team-based approach to patient care. Feedback from attendings highlight his skill at garnering patient trust and his willingness to support his colleagues. He was named Consultant of the Month at Yale New Haven Hospital Emergency Department for rendering excellent and timely patient care, while educating staff in the emergency department on the treatment of common eye conditions. Similarly, attendings, coresidents, and even medical assistants have commented on how much they enjoy working with Jeremy due to his work ethic, friendly demeanor, and dedication to his patients.

As an academic program, the Yale Department of Ophthalmology is committed to patient care, education, and research. Jeremy Liu has, in turn, shown his commitment to becoming an academic physician and a future leader in the ophthalmology community. I recommend him without reservation to attend the Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Residency Retreat.

Note: In the event that two residents from our program are chosen, the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science will cover one resident's costs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucian V. Del Priore".

Lucian V. Del Priore, MD, PhD
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Yale School of Medicine
Ophthalmologist-in-Chief, Yale New Haven Hospital