


[Curriculum Vitae]

First Name	Belong	Last Name	Cho
Photo			
Affiliation	Seoul National University College of Medicine	Country	Republic of Korea
Department	Family Medicine	Position	Professor
Tel (Mobile)	82)10-9865-2195	E-mail	belong@snu.ac.kr
Educational Background & Experience	Year	Affiliation	Position
	1990	College of Medicine, Seoul National University	M.D
	1996	Department of Public Health, Graduate School Seoul National University,	MPH
	1999	Department of Preventive Medicine, Graduate School Korea University	Ph.D.
	1999-Present	College of Medicine, Seoul National University	Professor

Research Interests	Health Promotion and Disease Prevention , Healthy Aging and Geriatric Care, Primary Care, Health Informatics
Publication	Jung W, Cho IY, Jung J, Cho MH, Koo HY, Park YM, Cho BL, Kwon H, Park JH, Han K, Shin DW. Association between physical activity changes and risk of incident ischemic stroke following cancer diagnosis: A nationwide retrospective cohort study. Cancer. 2024 Aug 15;130(16):2873-2885.
	Lee DW, Lee SY, Yoo SH, Kim KH, Kim MS, Shin J, Hwang IY, Hwang IG, Baek SK, Kim DY, Kim YJ, Kang B, Lee J, Cho B. Supportive Care At Home Research (STAHR) for patients with advanced cancer: Protocol for a cluster non-randomized controlled trial. PLoS One. 2024 May 13;19(5)
	Joh HK, Kwon H, Son KY, Yun JM, Cho SH, Han K, Park JH, Cho B. Allergic Diseases and Risk of Incident Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease. Ann Neurol. 2023 Feb;93(2):384-397.
	Choe HJ, Cho BL, Park YS, Roh E, Kim HJ, Lee SG, Kim BJ, Kim M, Won CW, Park KS, Jang HC. Gender differences in risk factors for the 2year development of sarcopenia in community-dwelling. J Cachexia Sarcopenia Muscle. 2022 Jun;13(3):1908-1918
	Koh H, Kwon S, Cho B. Association of Primary Care Physician Supply with Population Mortality in South Korea: A Pooled Cross-Sectional Analysis. Korean J Fam Med. 2024 Mar;45(2):105-115.

[Abstract]

Lecture Title	Enhancing Primary Care in Korea: Strengthening the Family Doctor System for Better Health Outcomes
	<p>Primary care is the cornerstone of a resilient and equitable health system. In Korea, however, the family doctor system has remained underdeveloped, with primary care often overshadowed by a hospital-centered model. This plenary lecture highlights the urgent need to strengthen primary care in Korea by empowering family physicians and redesigning care delivery for better health outcomes.</p> <p>Korea faces unique challenges: short consultation times, high visit frequencies, and a fee-for-service model that encourages fragmented care. Yet, these very features—if strategically guided—can be transformed into strengths. By adopting structured care plans, designating family doctors, and optimizing frequent visits for prevention and chronic disease management, Korea can build a model of accessible, continuous, and high-value primary care.</p> <p>Crucially, the rapid advancement of digital health technologies—including AI, data analytics, and remote monitoring—offers new opportunities to support this transformation. These innovations can enhance decision-making, streamline workflows, and enable more personalized, proactive care. Korea's highly digitized health environment positions it well to become a global testbed for digitally empowered primary care systems.</p> <p>This lecture will explore recent policy efforts, pilot programs, and strategic reforms aimed at revitalizing primary care. By aligning technological progress with systemic reform, Korea can not only strengthen its own health system but also inspire global models of next-generation primary care. Strengthening the family doctor system is not just a reform—it is a commitment to a healthier, more sustainable future.</p>