

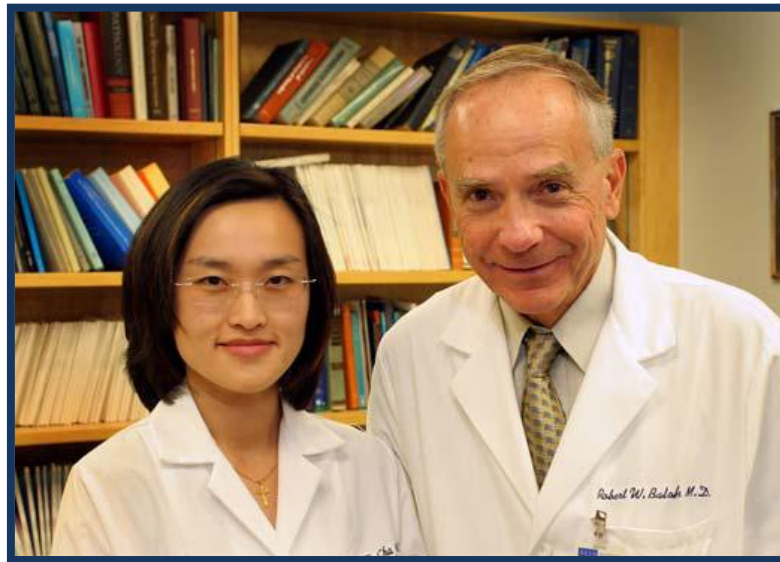
UCLA Researcher, Dr. Yoon-Hee Cha, to Extend Research into

Mal de Debarquement Syndrome

Dr. Yoon-Hee Cha, recipient of the MdDS Balance Disorder Foundation's 2008 *Early Career Distinguished Investigator Award*, will move forward with her research into Mal de Debarquement Syndrome (MdDS) with further support provided by the Foundation. Trained in Neurotology, Dr. Cha is a researcher in the Department of Neurology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) where she provides clinical care and undertakes clinical and translational science investigations. In her research studies, Dr. Cha will collaborate with other specialists in brain function, neuroplasticity, vestibular rehabilitation, and neuroimaging to examine possible etiologies as well as improved diagnostic tests and treatments for MdDS.

MdDS is a rare disease that manifests with sensations of rocking and swaying, false motion, imbalance and cognitive impairment. The wide spectrum of MdDS symptoms usually occurs after a cruise, plane flight, or other passive motion event and may persist for months to years. Presently, little is known regarding the basis for or treatment of this often-misdiagnosed syndrome.

The MdDS Balance Disorder Foundation is an international, all-volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to promoting MdDS awareness and research. The Foundation operates as a PA 501(c)(3) corporation with a mission to support biomedical studies designed to provide a better understanding of the dysfunction that underlies this motion and balance disorder. Support for MdDS research is based in part on a generous charitable contribution by an interested anonymous donor as well as donations received from numerous others.



Yoon-Hee Cha, MD, and her mentor, Robert Baloh, MD from the Department of Neurology at UCLA. Dr. Cha received the 2008 *Early Career Distinguished Investigator Award* from the MdDS Balance Disorder Foundation. Photo by Reed Hutchinson.

For information, please access www.mddsfoundation.org or contact D. Russo at mddsfoundation@yahoo.com.

