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Dong has been actively conducting basic and applied research in the area of aquaculture pathology since 2007. His studies have focused on pathogen discovery and characterization, disease pathogenesis, diagnostics and vaccines. His research team has studied a number of emerging diseases in economically important species in Asia. He is also interested in new technologies in aquaculture. Dong has authored over 60 international peer-reviewed articles related to this field. He has served as a member of editorial advisory board of the Aquaculture journal, regular referee for >20 peer-reviewed journals, expert resource or consultant for several projects led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and WorldFish Center. Currently, Dong is a faculty member at the School of Environment, Resources and Development, Asian Institute of Technology.