



Join us in Congratulating:

2026 Hawaii Physician of the Year

Kore Kai Liow, MD, Hawaii Pacific Neuroscience



Hawaii Medical Association Physician of the Year Award is given to a physician who meets the criteria:

- Distinguished and recognized in the field of healthcare through excellence in research, patient care, and/or community service
- Seen by his or her peers as a role model for other physicians
- Practices the art of medicine with a collaborative spirit, clinical innovation, and proven skill
- Outstanding in reputation as a community member in service of those in need

Award presented to Kore Kai Liow, MD 2026 Physician of the Year by Jerris R. Hedges, MD, Dean Emeritus John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii – Manoa, Marc Alexander, Executive Director, Hawaii Medical Association

Originally from Singapore, Dr. Liow completed his neurology residency at the University of Utah and a research fellowship at the NIH, where he developed a passion for translating scientific discovery into patient care. After an academic career on the mainland, he moved to Hawai‘i in 2009 and, recognizing critical gaps in access to neurological care, co-founded Hawai‘i Pacific Neuroscience with his wife, Michelle. Today, the organization serves over 20,000 patient visits annually regardless of insurance status and has introduced more than 200 research therapies to the islands. His efforts to reduce healthcare disparities were recognized by the [Hawai‘i State Legislature in 2024](#).

Dr. Liow has built programs that bridge clinical care and research, [Hawai‘i BRAIN \(Bridging Research and Innovation in Neuroscience\) initiative](#), which advances basic, translational, and clinical research to address neurological diseases affecting Hawai‘i and the Pacific Islands. He is deeply committed to mentorship, guiding students through the [BRAIN Scholar and Intern Program](#) with a focus on academic excellence and service to community. He has served as principal investigator for over 200 clinical trials and authored more than [100 scientific publications](#). Dr. Liow is a Clinical Professor of Neurology at the University of Hawai‘i John A. Burns School of Medicine and continue to serve NIH on its Review Study Section.

Dr. Liow views medicine as a calling—dedicated to serving underserved communities, providing hope to patients, and inspiring the next generation of healthcare leaders.