

## ***Biography***

Dr. Zhongming Zhao holds Chair Professor for Precision Health and is the founding director of the Center for Precision Health, the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth), where he also held Dr. Doris L. Ross Professor of Biomedical Informatics. Before he joined UTHealth in 2016, he was Ingram Endowed Professor of Cancer Research, Professor (with tenure) in the Departments of Biomedical Informatics, Psychiatry, and Cancer Biology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Chief Bioinformatics Officer of the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center (VICC), Director of the VICC Bioinformatics Resource Center, and the Associate Director of the Vanderbilt Center for Quantitative Sciences. Dr. Zhao has unique, interdisciplinary training: he received his master's degrees in Genetics (1996), Biomathematics (1998), Computer Science (2002), Ph.D. degree in Human and Molecular Genetics (2000), and Postdoctoral Fellow in Bioinformatics (2001-2003). Dr. Zhao has broad interest in bioinformatics, genomics, precision medicine, and machine learning and has co-authored 370 papers in these areas (cited by >12,000 times, H-index = 61). Dr. Zhao has served as the Editor-in-Chief, Associate Editor, or editorial board member of 22 journals and served as the General Chair, Steering Committee Chair, Program Committee Chair, Session Chair, or has been on the steering, program, and award committees of numerous bioinformatics- and biomedical informatics-related international conferences. Dr. Zhao is the founding president of The International Association for Intelligent Biology and Medicine (IAIBM, 2018-2019). Dr. Zhao has received several awards, including the Keck Foundation Post-doctoral Fellowship (twice: 2002, 2003), the NARSAD Young Investigator Award (twice: 2005, 2008), a NIH-funded VPSD Career Development Award in GI Cancer (2009), an Outstanding Achievement Award from the International Society of Intelligent Biological Medicine (2011) and the 2013 Outstanding Researcher Award from the Vanderbilt Department of Biomedical Informatics.

Keywords: Translational bioinformatics, cancer precision medicine, integrative genomics, deep learning, pharmacogenomics, biomedical informatics, methodology development, statistical modeling, and heterogeneous data analysis.