**Video Transcript**

**Xiaodong Liu V1**

[Text: Premier’s Awards for Health and Medical Research 2021 - Victoria. Finalist: Basic Science Researcher]

My name is Xiaodong Liu.

I work as a postdoctoral research fellow at Monash University in Melbourne.

[Text: Why did you become a medical researcher?]

I’m constantly amazed by nature.

You know, when I was young I was really fascinated by how our body functions, you know, for example how the immune system fights the viral infection and also how our brain functions, so that’s why, you know, a lot of those questions remain to be answered, that’s why I pursue to become a medical researcher to really uncover and explore all the unknown questions.

[Text: What was your research project?]

This project was designed to answer very important questions.

[Vision: Xiaodong Liu and colleague discussing cells while looking at computer screen and working in laboratory]

The questions about how the cells make decisions to become another cell.

So, you know, as you can imagine this is a very important question because nowadays all the cells therapies we are trying to develop it’s about changing the cell phase from one stage to another.

So to be able to understand this question we need to use really cutting-edge technologies.

[Text: What were the outcomes of your project?]

The results were quite, like, unexpected, so when we tried to study the cell phase decision and doing reprogramming into the induced prevalent stem cells we found out that, you know, rather than going to one cell type now those cells actually have the capacity to form multiple cell types.

And those cell types can then be organised, self-organised, to form this amazing like human umbrella like structure we call it iblastoid.

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