

Postdoctoral position is available to study the role of protein tyrosine kinases and transcription factor networks in tumor – neural cell interactions, with emphasis on crosstalk between brain metastases and neural cells in the brain tumor microenvironment. Candidates who are highly motivated and share a vision of excellence and commitment to research with a **recent Ph.D.** in tumor biology, neuro-oncology, neurobiology, and/or developmental biology using mouse models are preferred. Candidates must be legally authorized to work in the US.

Postdoctoral Associate, Pharmacology and Cancer Biology Job Description:

The Pendergast Lab in the Department of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology, Duke University School of Medicine, is seeking to recruit a postdoctoral fellow to study the role of tyrosine kinase networks in the regulation of lung cancer metastasis to the brain. Brain metastases are the most common intracranial tumors in adults and lung cancer patients exhibit the highest prevalence of brain metastasis among all cancer types often associated with cognitive impairment, seizures, decline in quality of life and decreased survival. Limited therapeutic options are currently available to treat brain metastasis. We have recently reported that ABL kinases activate distinct transcription networks required for lung cancer cell extravasation, seeding and colonization of the brain parenchyma. Among these factors are the TAZ transcriptional coactivator (2019 Cell Reports 29: 3421) and the Heat Shock Transcription Factor 1 (HSF1) (2020 PNAS 117: 33486), both of which are activated in brain-metastatic lung cancer cells and are required for lung adenocarcinoma brain metastasis. We have identified the ABL2 tyrosine kinase as an actionable target for the treatment of lung cancer brain metastases with blood-brain barrier-penetrant ABL allosteric inhibitors. Ongoing studies employ single cell RNA-seq and Spatial Transcriptomics approaches to dissect the networks that drive lung cancer brain metastasis. We offer an inspiring intellectual, collaborative and multidisciplinary research environment to support your career goals and provide access to state-of-the-art facilities.

Requirements:

Candidates who are highly motivated and share a vision of excellence and commitment to research with a **recent Ph.D.** tumor biology, neuro-oncology, neurobiology, and/or developmental biology using mouse models are preferred. Candidates must be legally authorized to work in the US. Candidates should have a strong inner drive, independence, and willingness to work in a highly interdisciplinary team. The position is available immediately.

How to Apply:

Please send C.V. and the names and e-mail addresses of three references to:

Contact Name:

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