



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Post Doctoral Fellowship, Immunotherapy for Pediatric Malignancies

Duration: Two years with potential for extension pending availability of funding
Start Date: As soon as possible
Salary: Minimum of \$50,000 CAD/yr. plus benefits

Job Description:

The Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute in the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary is accepting applications for a full-time position for a Postdoctoral Fellow with specialization in immunotherapy in pediatric oncology. This fellowship provides a unique opportunity to conduct research to develop safe and effective precision childhood cancer vaccines using genomic computational methods and molecular immunological technologies. Career development opportunities such as teaching, external research collaborations and grant writing opportunities will be available to enhance the professional development of the candidate. Opportunities to interact with clinicians and training in translational pediatric oncology will also be available (See POETICPhase1.org).

The successful candidate will be working in the laboratory of Dr. Aru Narendran. Dr. Narendran's research activities focus on the development of a "trial-in-a-cell" approach for future personalized cancer treatments in children. Researchers in the Narendran lab have expertise in establishing molecularly relevant cell lines and tumour xenografts to screen libraries of novel therapeutics and biological agents for relapsed pediatric cancers. They are also establishing collaborations to derive genomic, epigenomic and transcriptomic data to find driver mutations and decisive genomic alterations in individual tumour specimens so that druggable targets can be identified and matched to the most applicable therapeutic agents for precision medicine in pediatric oncology.

The responsibilities of this position will include:

- Plan and implement experiments for purposes of new therapeutics discovery focusing refractory pediatric malignancies.
- Hands-on experimentation and generation of high quality data for future clinical trials.
- Develop innovative methods and/or novel applications of existing methods in immunoncology
- Assist with the preparation of reports, research proposals, manuscripts and grant applications
- Establish and maintain accurate electronic and paper records regarding laboratory research
- Support mentoring of junior staff, fellows and graduate students as appropriate
- Participation in everyday activities and functioning of the laboratory

Qualifications/Expertise Required:

The successful candidate will have the following qualifications / experience:

- A recent (less than three years) Ph.D. graduate in immunology or related field;
- A minimum two years experience with molecular and cell biology techniques including mammalian tissue culture and cell growth inhibition assays.
- A working knowledge of gene sequencing, cell signalling and gene expression
- Expertise in bioinformatics, drug discovery, structural biology and cancer biology would be an asset
- Experience in *in vivo* experimental models is highly desirable
- Excellent interpersonal, writing and communication skills and an ability to work both in a team environment as well as independently are a must
- An excellent record of peer-reviewed publications in immunology, vaccinology or cancer related journals; and,
- An interest in and compassion to work towards a cure for childhood cancer.

Application details:

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to the following contact, with the subject line “Post Doctoral Fellowship, Immunology”. Please include a cover letter, your academic CV and the names and contact information of a least three external references;

Dr. Aru Narendran, MD, PhD
 Professor
 Arnie Charbonneau Cancer Institute
 Department of Pediatrics and Oncology
 University of Calgary
 e-mail: anarendr@ucalgary.ca

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

About the University of Calgary

The University of Calgary is a leading Canadian university located in the nation’s most enterprising city. The university has a clear strategic direction to become one of Canada’s top five research universities by 2016, where innovative teaching and groundbreaking research go hand in hand, and where we fully engage the communities we both serve and lead. The strategy is called *Eyes High*, inspired by our Gaelic motto, which translates to ‘I will lift up my eyes.’

To succeed as one of Canada’s top universities, where new ideas are created, tested and applied through first-class teaching and research, the University of Calgary needs more of the best minds in our classrooms and labs. We’re [increasing our scholarly capacity by investing in people](#) who want to change the world, bringing the best and brightest to Calgary to form a global intellectual hub and achieve advances that matter to everyone.

About Calgary

Named a cultural capital of Canada and one of the best places to live in the world, Calgary is a city of leaders – in business, community, philanthropy and volunteerism. Calgarians benefit from the strongest economy in the nation and enjoy more days of sunshine per year than any other major Canadian city. Calgary is less than an hour’s drive from the majestic Rocky Mountains and boasts the most extensive urban pathway and bikeway network in North America.