

# Ankita Thakkar, Ph.D.

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## Post-doctoral research fellow with technical expertise in molecular biology

- 9 years' combined academia and industry research experience in the Biochemistry & Molecular biology field
- In-depth technical experience in *in vitro* assay development including enzyme and cell based assays
- Strong expertise in communication across multidisciplinary research teams, vendors and business professionals with non-scientific background
- Exceptional writing skills evident through 6 high impact peer reviewed publications with 180+ citations (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=yep2BKoAAAAJ&hl=en>)
- Expert at data analysis and visualization using GraphPad Prism, SoftMax Pro, Microsoft Excel and Flow Jo
- Recipient of a \$50,000 research grant and multiple travel awards
- 4 years of peer review experience in 7 different scientific journals and 1 editorial board membership

## EXPERIENCE

**Postdoctoral Research Fellow** in Neuroscience, Weill Cornell Medicine, NY **Sep 2016-Present**

- Culture and differentiate CRISPR edited induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) to generate neurons and its characterization using fluorescence microscopy
- Assist in managing two different projects across a multidisciplinary collaboration between 4 laboratories by allocating funds, resources and distribution of responsibilities
- Mentor research technicians, undergraduates and graduate students in experiment planning, use of best laboratory practices, troubleshooting and data presentation

**Research Associate**, University of Miami, FL **Aug 2011-Jun 2016**

- Studied the effect of different drug treatments alone or in combination through *in vitro* cell based assays like ELISA, Western blots, RNA isolation, PCR and molecular cloning
- Maintained laboratory records in accordance with the University policy
- Tested and performed troubleshooting on different equipment using manufacturer's guidelines
- Presented scientific findings at international oncology conferences, student post doc symposium and department seminars

**Research Intern**, Aveo Pharmaceuticals, MA **May 2010-Sep 2010**

- Development of human breast cancer in immunocompromised mice (HIM) models and its genotyping by DNA isolation, PCR and gel electrophoresis
- Testing of different anti-cancer therapies alone or in combination in the HIM tumor model in vivo through sub-cutaneous injections

## PUBLICATIONS

- Mitochondria/metabolic reprogramming in the formation of neurons from peripheral cells: Cause or consequence and the implications to their utility; *Neurochemistry International*, **Jun 2017**
- Will PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitor become a true salvage therapy for relapsed or refractory patients with hematological malignancies? *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Oncology*, **Apr 2017**
- Interactions of Mitochondria/Metabolism and Calcium Regulation in Alzheimer's Disease - A Calcineurin Point of View; *Neurochemical Research*, **Feb 2017**
- Vitamin D and androgen receptor targeted therapy for triple negative breast cancer; *Breast Cancer Research & Treatment*, **May 2016**
- Heat shock factor 1 induces cancer stem cell phenotype in breast cancer cell lines; *Breast Cancer Research & Treatment*, **Aug 2015**
- Taxonomy of breast cancer based on normal cell phenotype predicts outcome; *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, **Feb 2014**

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Oncology** **Jun 2016**

University of Miami, FL. **GPA - 3.96**

**M.S. in Pharmacology** **May 2011**

Northeastern University, MA. **GPA - 3.81**