Postdoctoral Research Fellow - Immunology

Merck - Boston, MA (Greater Boston Area)

Job Description

Merck is a global health care leader with a diversified portfolio of prescription medicines, vaccines and consumer health products, as well as animal health products. Today, we are building a new kind of healthcare company – one that is ready to help create a healthier future for all of us.

Our ability to excel depends on the integrity, knowledge, imagination, skill, diversity and teamwork of people like you. To this end, we strive to create an environment of mutual respect, encouragement and teamwork. As part of our global team, you’ll have the opportunity to collaborate with talented and dedicated colleagues while developing and expanding your career.

Be a part of the legacy: MRL Postdoctoral Research Fellow Program

The Merck Research Laboratories (MRL) Postdoctoral Research Fellow Program aims to be a best-in-industry program for industrial postdoctoral researchers, designed to provide you with an academic focus in a commercial environment. With the resources, reach, and expertise of a large pharmaceutical company, postdoctoral researchers will be positioned to excel in an institution committed to breakthrough innovation in research and discovery.

Position Overview:

Ion channels on the surface of B and T cells play an important role in regulating both lymphocyte function and the immune response. These proteins control the intracellular concentrations of ions, such as calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium and zinc that function as second messengers to regulate lymphocyte function. Several of these ion channels have been implicated in cell survival, differentiation, activation / proliferation and immune effector functions, including cytokine production, and immune killing. The aim of this project is to investigate the role of a specific ion channel in the adaptive immune response, to understand the mechanism of action of the relevant ion as a second messenger in lymphocyte activation and to determine how perturbation of signaling through the channel affects lymphocyte survival, differentiation and function.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

• Designing and conducting experiments using standard and innovative techniques.
• Keeping appropriate experimental records and documentation, analyzing data, troubleshooting problems and interpreting experimental results.
• Collaborating with members of other functional groups involved in the project and with academic partners.
• Collating, presenting and publishing experimental results.

Qualifications

Education Minimum Requirement:

• PhD in immunology, ion channel biology or related fields.

Required Experience and Skills:

• Expertise in immunology or ion channel and cell / molecular biology techniques.
• Knowledge and expertise of the immune system biology and / or ion channel biology.
• One or more peer-reviewed publications in a relevant research area.

Preferred Experience and Skills:
• Stronger records of publications in peer-reviewed journals would be looked upon more favorably.
• Experience in working in a collaborative multidisciplinary team is desired.
• Accomplished communication skills preferred.
• Knowledge of signal transduction pathways and the regulation of cell fate would be an advantage.

Our employees are the key to our company’s success. We demonstrate our commitment to our employees by offering a competitive and valuable rewards program. Merck’s benefits are designed to support the wide range of goals, needs and lifestyles of our employees, and many of the people that matter the most in their lives.

Merck is an equal opportunity employer, M/F/D/V – proudly embracing diversity in all of its manifestations. Former Military, Transitioning Service Members, National Guard & Reserves - We value your past and present service.

Additional Information

Posted: February 6, 2013
Type: Full-time
Experience: Entry level
Functions: Research
Industries: Pharmaceuticals
Employer Job ID: POS000108
Job ID: 4580555

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