

Postdoctoral Associate – Therapeutic Targets in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma

Department of Hematology and Oncology

University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY

The Takebe Laboratory at the University of Rochester Medical Center is seeking a highly motivated Postdoctoral Associate to join a collaborative project focused on AI-informed therapeutic targets in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC). The successful candidate will investigate the biological mechanisms of promising targets, evaluate their synergy with existing therapies, and study mechanisms of resistance. This work is supported by startup funding from Dr. Takebe and an external collaborating organization. The ideal candidate will have a strong foundation in cancer biology, substantial hands-on experience with in vitro and in vivo models, and the ability to work independently while contributing to a collaborative team. The postdoc will play a leading role in shaping the project's direction and will be encouraged to propose innovative ideas. Opportunities also exist to contribute to other ongoing PDAC projects, grant writing, and translational research.

Work Location: On-campus, Rochester, NY

Key Responsibilities

1. Design, execute, and interpret independent and collaborative experiments in accordance with laboratory and institutional policies.
2. Develop a strong understanding of the research area through literature review and training before independently undertaking major aspects of the project.
3. Maintain and expand PDAC cell culture models; develop and optimize experimental protocols as needed.
4. Perform in vitro and in vivo studies, including the use of advanced models (e.g., organoids, PDX, syngeneic systems) when appropriate.
5. Analyze data with rigorous statistical and analytical approaches; maintain accurate laboratory notebooks and organized data on the laboratory server.
6. Present findings at lab meetings, collaborator meetings, and scientific conferences.
7. Contribute to manuscripts, abstracts, and grant applications.
8. Train and mentor students and new lab members.
9. Participate in seminars and scientific activities across the University to expand research knowledge and foster interdisciplinary collaborations.
10. Contribute to a collaborative, respectful, and inclusive laboratory environment and support colleagues when needed.

Required Qualifications

1. Ph.D. in Biochemistry, Cell Biology, Cancer Biology, Experimental Pathology, or a closely related field.
2. Strong background and demonstrated interest in cancer biology.
3. At least one first-author peer-reviewed publication.
4. Hands-on experience with molecular/cellular biology techniques, cell culture, and in vivo studies.
5. Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
6. Independent, resourceful, and highly motivated.

Preferred Qualifications

1. Experience with inducible gene knockdown systems, patient-derived xenograft (PDX) models, organoids, and/or syngeneic mouse models.
2. Strong data organization and analytical skills.

Benefits:

The University of Rochester has an active Postdoc Association that provides highly enriched environment for the fellows, including career development workshops. More information about postdoc activities and opportunities is available on their webpage, <https://ccc.rochester.edu/pda/home/>

- Competitive salary and benefits package.
- Access to University of Rochester's extensive resources and research facilities
- Opportunities for collaboration with leading scholars, clinicians, and industry experts
- Support for attending academic conferences and workshops

The pay range of \$63,480 - \$77,076 represents the minimum and maximum compensation for this job. Individual annual salaries/hourly rates will be set within the job's compensation range, and will be determined by considering factors including, but not limited to, market data, education, experience, qualifications, expertise of the individual, and internal equity considerations.

Application Process:

To apply, please email the following documents to [Naoko Takebe@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Naoko.Takebe@urmc.rochester.edu)

1. A cover letter explaining your interest
2. A complete curriculum vitae containing list of peer-reviewed publications
3. Contact information for three academic references

Timeline:

The application will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. For inquiries about the position please contact [Naoko Takebe@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Naoko_Takebe@urmc.rochester.edu).

The University of Rochester is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving an inclusive and welcoming culture to advance the University's Mission to Learn, Discover, Heal, Create – and Make the World Ever Better. In support of our values and those of our society, the University is committed to not discriminating on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, military/veteran status, national origin, race, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, citizenship status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law (Protected Characteristics). This commitment extends to non-discrimination in the administration of our policies, admissions, employment, access, and recruitment of candidates, for all persons consistent with our values and based on applicable law.