

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW, AGING, TISSUE INJURY AND PRURITUS

We are seeking a highly-motivated Postdoctoral Fellow with strong leadership ability and expertise in skin aging, tissue injury and repair/fibrosis, and pruritus, experimental dermatology, and molecular biology. The successful applicant will work full-time under the supervision of Dr. David Granville PhD for a two-year term with the possibility of extension. The position start date is flexible.

JOB SUMMARY:

Granzymes are a family of serine proteases with 5 members identified in humans. With the exception of Granzyme A and Granzyme B, very little is known about the other 3 proteases, providing many opportunities to carve out a niche for drug development, patents, and publications. Our research program spans basic molecular biology and biochemistry through to target validation, proof-of-concept in animal and human models, and collaborations with clinicians and industry. Dr. Granville's laboratory has expertise in established mouse models of skin diseases related to pruritus, aging, inflammation, tissue injury, and wound healing. The Postdoctoral Fellow (PDF) will be involved in translational research investigating the pathophysiological roles of granzymes in the context of pruritus and inflammation in aging skin and/or other dermatologic conditions. The position will provide opportunities to collaborate and work in other areas of wound healing and regenerative medicine with both industry and academic collaborators. The PDF will be responsible for conceiving, designing, and implementing studies to further elucidate mechanisms of disease through the use of in vitro and in vivo models. The position is highly translational and well-suited for PDFs seeking greater involvement in taking basic bench research discoveries through to clinical application and potentially commercialization. **Applicants with well-rounded expertise in biochemistry, enzymology, proteomics and/or degradomics techniques are especially encouraged to apply.**

ORGANIZATIONAL STATUS:

The Granville Laboratory is located within the University of British Columbia (UBC), the International Collaboration for Repair Discoveries (ICORD) Centre, and the BC Professional Firefighters' Wound Healing and Regenerative Medicine Laboratory at the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (www.vchri.ca) in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. More information on the Granville Laboratory can be found at www.granzymes.com. The candidate will report to Dr. Granville directly and will play a senior leadership role in the laboratory that includes overseeing the research activities of graduate students, undergraduate students, and technicians.

WORK PERFORMED:

- Provide leadership, strategic direction, and translational research pertaining to research in chronic and/or age-related skin and other pathologies
- Design and implement research plans to investigate the pathological role of granzymes, extracellular matrix, inflammation or other pathways
- Design and conduct animal experiments, including animal handling and breeding
- Conduct in vivo testing or characterization of small molecules, knockouts or antibodies in relevant animal models
- Foster research collaborations and work jointly with academic, clinical, industry, and other partners
- Experience with cell culture (neurons) and assessment of peripheral neuronal damage and/or pruritus would be ideal
- Scientifically document lab experiments, data analysis, interpretations
- Write manuscripts, present results at internal and external meetings
- Identify funding opportunities as well as write grant proposals with supervisor as a co-applicant
- Lead and mentor junior trainees in the laboratory

Making spinal cord injury preventable, livable, and curable

CONSEQUENCE OF ERROR:

This is a senior research position that plays a critical role in the development of this novel field. The PDF is accountable for the quality and integrity of the research and data, including analyses and interpretation, as well as the effective and efficient management of research projects and deliverables. This position requires innovation, strategic planning, and adaptability. Incorrect decisions or actions may damage the reputation of the laboratory, lead to loss of credibility in this field, and be financially costly.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

The PDF will work with a high degree of independence and set priorities under broad directives from Dr. Granville. This position will also provide the candidate with a high level of exposure to translation, commercialization, and industry.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED:

The PDF will be expected to provide direction and mentorship to graduate and undergraduate students under the supervision of Dr. Granville. The PDF will also have access to a technician.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The candidate should have a solid scientific and technical background with excellent written and oral communication, interpersonal as well as organizational skills.

- Ph.D. in experimental dermatology, immunology, enzymology/protease biology, molecular and cell biology, experimental pathology, experimental medicine, or similar discipline
- Applicants with well-rounded expertise in biochemistry and/or proteomics techniques are especially encouraged to apply
- Experience and a strong track record with mouse models of dermatologic, autoimmune, aging-related and/or chronic disease
- Expertise and hands-on experience in animal studies, including all aspects of design, handling, breeding, tissue collection, histology, and analyses are essential
- Familiarity with testing/characterization of small molecule or antibodies in vivo is preferred
- Previous biochemical/cell biology experience with proteases, protease activity assays, extracellular matrix/proteoglycan biology, immunology, histology, proteomics is an asset
- Experience with statistical analyses and scientific writing; previous experience with grant writing is an asset
- A proven track record with a minimum of 2-3 first author publications in reputable journals

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES:

Self-starter; Demanding of excellence; Attentive to details; Committed while able to maintain balance and perspective; Willing to make and learn from mistakes; Person of high integrity; Honest, trustworthy, positive, and respectful; Accountable; Flexible; Gets along well with others; Good listener, straightforward communicator, team builder; Capable of working independently and in teams; Comfortable with responsibility and uncertainty; Looking to build something of value; A good sense of humour; Excellent social, networking and interpersonal skills.

If you are interested in this position, please submit a cover letter and CV in PDF format to Karen Jung at kjung@icord.org. The position will remain open until filled. ***UBC hires on the basis of merit and is strongly committed to equity and diversity within its community.***