

A postdoctoral fellow position is available in the lab of Dr. John Hagan at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) located within the Texas Medical Center (TMC). Our research is focused on elucidating the functions of a newly discovered form of post-transcriptional gene regulation mediated by 3' RNA uridylation that plays critical roles in mammalian development and disease, including cancer. Uridylation is a form of epitranscriptomics where the non-templated addition of uridine(s) controls directly mRNA stability and microRNA biogenesis.

The major interests in the lab are: (1) to elucidate the functions of the TUTases including Zcchc11 that regulates the tumor suppressor let-7 microRNA family via the oncogene and reprogramming factor LIN28A; (2) to determine how 3' RNA uridylation drives poor prognosis in breast cancer and gliomas, independent of the LIN28/let-7 pathway; (3) to translate these discoveries into potential new therapies. Projects rely upon biochemistry, cell culture studies, high-throughput genomics, and in vivo functional analyses in genetically engineered mouse models with an emphasis on breast cancer models.

Houston is the fourth largest city in the United States and is characterized by its low cost of living in comparison to other major metropolitan areas. As the largest medical center in the world, the TMC has a robust scientific community that includes multiple institutions including Baylor College of Medicine, Methodist Research Institute, Texas A&M IBT, and the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center with whom we share a joint Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS).

Qualifications: Interested applicants should be highly motivated and have a Ph.D. degree with a strong background in molecular biology and mouse studies. Prior publication in internationally recognized journals is required and candidates should be fluent in spoken and written English.

To apply: Please send a cover letter that includes a brief description of research experience and interests, a curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references in a single pdf file to: UTHPostdocNeurosurgery@gmail.com

The University of Health Science Center at Houston is an EEO/AA Employer. M/F/D/V. This is a security sensitive position and thereby subject to Education Code §51.215. A background check will be required for the final candidate.