

Postdoctoral Research Position in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

The successful applicant will join a research team that investigates the role of angiotensin receptor activating autoantibodies in the pathophysiology of preeclampsia, a serious hypertensive disorder of pregnancy. Our group has recently shown that these autoantibodies cause numerous symptoms of preeclampsia when introduced into pregnant mice (*Nat Med* 2008 **14**:855; *J Exp Med* 2009 **206**:2809; *Circulation* 2010 **121**:436; *Hypertension* 2010 **55**:1246; *Am J Hypertens* **24**:606; *J Immunol* **186**:6024; *Expert Rev Clin Immunol* **7**:659). The antibody-injection model of preeclampsia in pregnant mice that we developed provides strong experimental support for our working hypothesis that preeclampsia is an autoimmune condition in which angiotensin receptor activating autoantibodies contribute to many features of the disease. These autoantibodies represent potential presymptomatic markers and therapeutic targets for the medical management of preeclampsia. Ongoing research explores the role of these autoantibodies in the pathophysiology of preeclampsia, the immunological basis for autoantibody production during pregnancy and the mechanisms by which these autoantibodies activate the angiotensin receptor, AT1.

The preferred candidate will be a recent PhD graduate with a strong background in biochemistry and molecular biology and a publication record to indicate significant achievement. Experience in immunology is desirable but not required. Interested candidates should submit a statement of research interests, a current curriculum vitae and contact information for three individuals familiar with the applicant's accomplishments to:

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