

Career Plans

Breast cancer is a devastating disease that has affected many of my family and friends. Because of this, I am committed to understanding more about the molecular mechanisms involved in this disease. Although it is well known that hormone dependent breast cancer is less invasive and more easily treated compared to hormone independent breast cancer, it is unclear why. I am fascinated by the effects of hormone receptors in breast cancer and would like to better understand the roles they are playing in the initiation and progression of breast cancer. For this purpose, I plan to pursue a career in the hormonal regulation of breast cancer and work to become a leading scientist in the field.

My short-term goal is the completion of my dissertation on the mechanisms of estrogen receptor (ER) and peroxisome proliferator activated receptor (PPAR) crosstalk in breast cancer. This will allow me to become more familiar about breast cancer in general and the underlying mechanisms of the disease that can be used for both prevention and treatment means. It will also help me to develop technical skills needed to examine breast cancer. Furthermore, the development of hypothesis and subsequent problem solving involved in the completion of this dissertation will refine analytical and technical skills. To report my findings, I will to publish my work in at least two scientific journals before finishing my dissertation. Together the knowledge and skills gained in the completion of my dissertation, will aid in the success of my long-term goal as a scientist in breast cancer research.

Upon completion of my doctoral degree in pharmacology, I plan to continue my studies in breast cancer with a postdoctoral position at a leading research university. My goal there will be to accentuate my molecular skills with physiological skills for studying the effects of hormone receptors in breast cancer. The result of this expertise will be a more comprehensive means of analyzing breast cancer for the development of treatments. With the completion of my post doctoral training, I will gain more experience, knowledge, technical skills, and publications in the field of breast cancer.

Following my post- doctoral position, I plan to start my career at a leading pharmaceutical company where I will continue my research into hormonal regulation of breast cancer. With my strong background and experience in breast cancer research from my graduate school and post –doctoral training, I hope to be a major contributor in breast cancer research for the development of therapeutics for the benefit of humanity. I would like to eventually move up to a supervisor position, where I can use my expertise to directly oversee novel projects in breast cancer research with a team of talented scientists in the field. Mentoring and interacting with young aspiring minority scientists will also be very important to me throughout my career. By the end of my career, I hope to develop alternative hormonal treatments for breast cancer and to be a world-renowned advisor on hormonal regulation of breast cancer.