Lafora Disease Mechanisms and Therapeutic Development

Two postdoctoral positions are available for highly-motivated researchers to join the lab of Berge Minassian, M.D. in the Pediatric Neurology Division at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

The lab focuses on Lafora disease mechanisms and therapeutic development. Lafora disease is the severest form of epilepsy, striking previously healthy young adolescents and leading to ever-worsening soon-intractable and in a few years fatal epilepsy. Major progress has been done in understanding the pathogenesis of the disease, which revolves around a disturbance in neuronal glycogen metabolism. This progress places the disease at the therapeutic threshold. We are seeking two post-doctoral fellows: one to work on further elucidating the basic mechanisms of disease and one working on AAV9 mediated gene replacement and gene editing (CRISPR/Cas9) approaches.

Candidates should have a PhD (or MD with equivalent scientific training). For the study of gene therapy approaches, strong candidates will have mouse/rat experience, particularly in behavioral studies and intracerebroventricular injections, basic molecular biology techniques, and gene editing technique(s). For elucidating mechanisms of disease, the ideal candidate will have experience with molecular biology, biochemical assays such a fluorescence based reporter assays, general biochemical techniques such as western blotting, as well as enzyme kinetics.

Applicants should submit their CV, list of three references including current mentor/advisor, and a letter of research interests to:

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