Clamp technology to study the role of ghrelin in glucose homeostasis

A postdoctoral position is available in the laboratory of Jeffrey Zigman, MD, PhD, in the Division of Hypothalamic Research of the UT Southwestern Medical Center. The lab studies how hormones made in the stomach, such as ghrelin, interact with the central nervous system as well as with peripheral organs such as the islets of Langerhans, liver, pituitary, and muscle, to influence eating, body weight, blood glucose, exercise tolerance, responses to stress, and mood. The diseases we are interested in include obesity, diabetes mellitus, cachexia, anorexia nervosa, Prader-Willi Syndrome, and major depression.

For this project, we will take advantage of a unique collection of mouse genetic models targeting the ghrelin system, insulin/glucose clamp technology, as well as in vitro and ex vivo cell culture techniques to investigate the role of ghrelin in mediating glucose homeostasis in the clinical settings of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes mellitus. The clamp studies will form the basis of the postdoctoral studies and will be performed under the additional guidance of my collaborator on campus, Eric Berglund, Ph.D. Other projects in the lab focus on obesity, cachexia, mood disorders, exercise and Prader-Willi Syndrome.

Candidates must hold a Ph.D. and/or M.D. degree and are expected to be self-motivated and contribute substantively to the design, implementation, interpretation and reporting of these investigational studies. Prior experience with insulin/glucose clamp technology in rodents or an interest in learning that technology is required. Prior experience with genetically-engineered mouse models and related breeding strategies, neuroanatomical techniques, histology, and/or cell culture leading to publication in peer-reviewed journals is also recommended.

Individuals interested in joining our team of diverse, motivated, imaginative, goal-oriented, friendly, and fun investigators should send a CV, statement of interests, and a list of three references to:

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