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BIO-SKETCH OF PANKAJ K SINGH





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Synopsis

My research career began with a quest for radiation countermeasures for acute radiation syndrome with a primary focus on the development of countermeasures for ionizing radiation-induced hematopoietic and gastrointestinal syndrome. I have worked with multidisciplinary teams that include radiobiologists, cancer/molecular biologists, physicians, and chemists and utilized diverse state-of-the-art techniques. During this period, I acquired a multitude of research skills to achieve my goal of becoming an inter-disciplinary professional scientist capable of planning, executing, reviewing, publishing and receiving funding for research projects. In addition, I have devoted significant time and energy to supervise, instruct, and train summer students, laboratory assistants, and various team members of my research collaborators. I also actively participated in several non-sponsored activities which include professional activities such as attending conferences and educational seminars as well as reviewing others' research that are submitted for publication in various scientific journals.



Research objective

My primary research objective is to develop radiation countermeasure agents for hematopoietic and/or gastrointestinal syndrome, and to decipher the mechanisms of their actions. My first postdoctoral stint was at Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD, USA. During this tenure, my primary project was to evaluate the radioprotective efficacy of different drugs against acute dose of gamma-radiation.

My current appointment in the department of experimental radiation oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA is focused on investigating the use of nanoparticles for imaging and enhancement of cancer radiotherapy. Our goal at MD Anderson is to enhance the radiation dose delivered to tumors with minimal dose to the surrounding normal tissues by transiently increasing the radiation-interaction cross section of the target tissues by using high atomic number (Z) materials like gold. We are further evaluating the influence of subcellular localization and microenvironment of internalized cetuximab-conjugated gold nanorods (cGNRs) on radiosensitization of head and neck cancer cells.



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Research Interest

- Development of effective radiation countermeasure for hematopoietic and/or gastrointestinal syndrome;
- Exploring the signal transduction pathways involved in DNA damage repair with implications in radio-modification;
-
- Understanding mechanisms underlying radiation-induced carcinogenesis;
- Biological effects of radiation induced free radicals;
- Development of novel radiosensitizers for chemo-radiotherapy



Research Interests

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Academic Awards / Fellowships

- Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the **University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center**, Houston, Texas, USA (2012).
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship from **National Research Council**, National Academy of Sciences, USA (2009).
- **Junior Research Fellowship** award from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), (Jan 2003 - Dec 2004)
- **Senior Research Fellowship** award from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), (Jan 2004- Dec 2007)
- Qualified **National Eligibility Test** (2002), conducted by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- Qualified **Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering** (GATE-2002) with 89.5% Score.
- **Fellowship from Department of Biotechnology** (DBT), India, for pursuing M.Sc Biotechnology degree from IIT Roorkee (Aug. 2000 to May 2002).



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Awards at Symposia/Conferences

- **Scholars-in-Training (SIT) Travel Award** from the Radiation Research Society, Lawrence, KS, USA (2014).
- **Scholars-in-Training (SIT) Travel Award** from the Radiation Research Society, Lawrence, KS, USA (2012).
- **Best poster paper award** (2007) received at 48th annual conference of Association of microbiologist of India held at Chennai.
- **Best oral presentation award** received from INMAS (2005) held at Delhi.



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Reviewer for Peer reviewed Journals

- Alternative & Integrative Medicine
- BioMed Research International,
- BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine ,
- British Journal of Cancer,
- Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine,
- Integrative Cancer Therapy,
- International Journal of Radiation Biology,
- Journal of Environmental and Public Health,
- Journal of Medical Physics,
- Journal of Radiation Research,
- PlosOne,
- Radiotherapy and Oncology,



Editorial Board Member

- Journal of Alternative & Integrative Medicine
- Journal of Gene Technology
- Journal of Molecular Biology
- Journal of Biomolecular Research and Therapeutics
- WebmedCentral.



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Selected Publications

- Kulkarni S, Singh PK, Ghosh SP, Posarac A, Singh VK. Granulocyte colony-stimulating factor antibody abrogates radioprotective efficacy of gamma-tocotrienol, a promising radiation countermeasure. *Cytokine*. 2013 May;62(2):278-85.
- Singh VK, Wise SY, Singh PK, Posarac A, Fatanmi OO, Ducey EJ, Bolduc DL, Elliott TB, Seed TM. Alpha-tocopherol succinate-mobilized progenitors improve intestinal integrity after whole body irradiation. *Int J Radiat Biol*. 2013 May;89(5):334-45.
- Singh VK, Singh PK, Wise SY, Posarac A, Fatanmi OO. Radioprotective properties of tocopherol succinate against ionizing radiation in mice. *J Radiat Res*. 2013 Mar 1;54(2):210-20.



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Selected Publications

- Singh VK, Wise SY, Singh PK, Ducey EJ, Fatanmi OO, Seed TM. α -Tocopherol succinate- and AMD3100-mobilized progenitors mitigate radiation-induced gastrointestinal injury in mice. *Exp Hematol*. 2012 May;40(5):407-17.
- Singh VK, Fatanmi OO, Singh PK, Whitnall MH. Role of radiation-induced granulocyte colony-stimulating factor in recovery from whole body gamma-irradiation. *Cytokine*. 2012 Jun;58(3):406-14.
- Singh VK, Ducey EJ, Fatanmi OO, Singh PK, Brown DS, Purmal A, Shakhova VV, Gudkov AV, Feinstein E, Shakhov A. CBLB613: A TLR 2/6 Agonist, Natural Lipopeptide of *Mycoplasma arginini*, as a Novel Radiation Countermeasure. *Radiat Res*. 2012 May;177(5):628-42.



Selected Publications cont...

- Singh PK, Wise SY, Ducey EJ, Fatanmi OO, Elliott TB, Singh VK. α -Tocopherol succinate protects mice against radiation-induced gastrointestinal injury. *Radiat Res.* 2012 Feb;177(2):133-45.
- Singh PK, Kumar R, Sharma A, Arora R, Chawla R, Jain SK, Tripathi RP, Sharma RK. Role of Apoptotic Proteins in REC-2006 Mediated Radiation Protection in Hepatoma Cell Lines. *Evid Based Complement Alternat Med.* 2011;2011:758326.
- Singh PK, Wise SY, Ducey EJ, Brown DS, Singh VK. Radioprotective efficacy of tocopherol succinate is mediated through granulocyte-colony stimulating factor. *Cytokine.* 2011 Nov;56(2):411-21.



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Selected Publications cont...

- Singh PK, Kumar R, Sharma A, Arora R, Chawla R, Jain SK, Sharma RK. Podophyllum hexandrum fraction (REC-2006) shows higher radioprotective efficacy in the p53-carrying hepatoma cell line: a role of cell cycle regulatory proteins. *Integr Cancer Ther.* 2009 Sep;8(3):261-72.
- Singh PK, Kumar R, Sharma A, Arora R, Jain SK, Sharma RK. Pifithrin-alpha decreases the radioprotective efficacy of a Podophyllum hexandrum Himalayan mayapple fraction REC-2006 in HepG2 cells. *Biotechnol Appl Biochem.* 2009 Jul 9;54(1):53-64.
- Kumar R, **Singh PK**, Sharma A, Prasad J, Sagar R, Singh S, Arora R, Sharma RK. *Podophyllum hexandrum* (Himalayan mayapple) extract provides radioprotection by modulating the expression of proteins associated with apoptosis. *Biotechnol Appl Biochem.* 2005; 42(Pt 1): 81-92.



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Citation Indices

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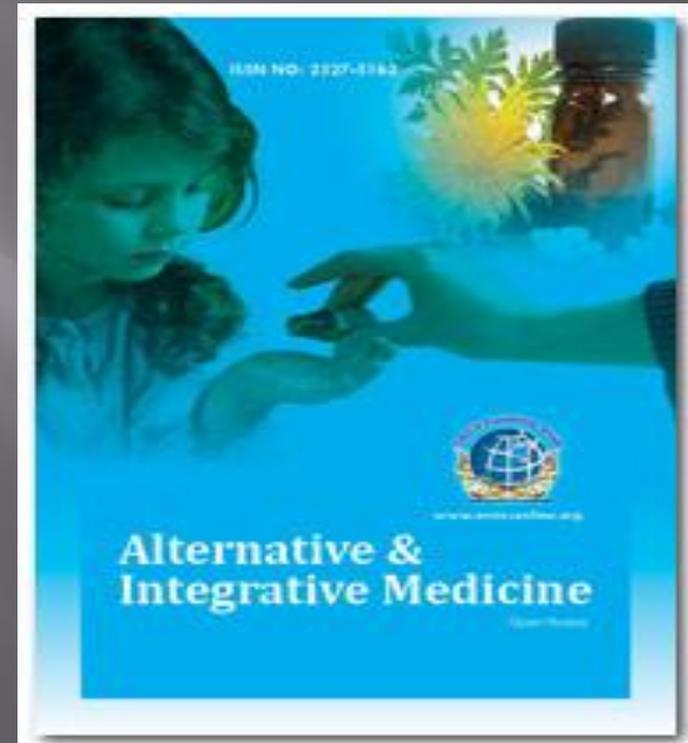
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- ❑ Journal of Community Medicine & Health Education
- ❑ Internal Medicine: Open Access
- ❑ General Medicine: Open Access
- ❑ Journal of Vascular Medicine & Surgery





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Related Conferences

- ▣ **2nd International Conference on Predictive, Preventive and Personalized Medicine & Molecular Diagnostics**



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