August, 2020

# CURRICULUM VITAE
## Ranmal Aloka Samarasinghe, M.D., Ph.D.

***Reed Neuological Building***
***710 Westwood Plaza***
***Los Angeles, CA 90095***
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**Education and Employment**
Bachelor's Degree and Post-Baccalaureate Training
BA (Economics and Biology), Swarthmore College, 1999-2003
Intramural Research Trainee, National Institutes of Health (NICHD), 2003-2005
Advanced Degrees
MD, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, 2005-2013
PhD (Neuroscience), University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, 2017-2011
Post-doctoral researcher, University of Pittsburgh, January-May 2013
Specialty Training
Resident in Internal Medicine, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, 2013-2014
Resident in Neurology, University of California, Los Angeles, 2014-2017
Subspecialty Training
Post-doctoral research fellowship in the laboratory of Dr. Bennett Novitch, 2017-Present
Fellowship in clinical neurophysiology, 2017-2020

**Licensure**
California , #A133639, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology certification, 2017.
American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology subspecialty in clinical neurophysiology, 2019

**Professional Memberships**
American Academy of Neurology, 2014-present
American Clinical Neurophysiology Society, 2017-present
American Epilepsy Society, 2018-present

**Academic and Professional Honors**
Kavalenko & Shreiner scholarship for academic achievement, Swarthmore College, 2000-2001
Graduated with High Honors in Economics and Biology, Swarthmore College, 2003
Student commencement speaker, Swarthmore College, 2003
NIMH Fellowship Program in Mental Health Research, University of Pittsburgh, 2007-2008
Dr. Harold L. Mitchell Prize in Neurology. Awarded to the graduating medical student with outstanding achievement and excellence in neurology, Pittsburgh, 2013
Bannister Award, fastest time to stroke intervention by a UCLA resident, 2016
The John-Louis Riehl Award for Outstanding Research as a UCLA Neurology Resident, 2017
American Clinical Neurophysiology Society Young Investigator Travel Award, Las Vegas, 2019
Jasper's Basic Mechanisms of the Epilepsies Conference, Travel Award, Yosemite, 2019
Park City Epilepsy Meeting Young Investigator Travel Award, Park City, 2019

**Peer Reviewed Presentations**
Posters
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Tailor, P., Tamura, T., Ozato, K. IL-10 induction in Dendritic Cells Following Toll-like Rceptor Stimulation. Abstract/Poster. International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research, annual conference. San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2004.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Lewis, M., DeFranco D.B. Glucucorticoid effects on neural progenitor cell proliferation. Abstract/Poster, Annual National MD/PhD Student Meeting, July 2009, Keystone, CO.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Lewis, M., DeFranco, D.B. Glucocorticioid Regulation of Gap Junction Function in Neural Progenitor Cells. Abstract/Poster, Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, October 2009, Chicago, IL

**Samarasinghe, R.,** Lewis, M., DeFranco., DB. Rapid glucocorticoid receptor mediated inhibition of gap junction intercellular communication and its effects on neural progenitor cell proliferation. Abstract/Poster. Tenth Annual WPIC Research Day. June 3, 2010. Pittsburgh, PA.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Lewis, M., DeFranco., DB. Transient, non-genomic action of the glucocorticoid receptor limits gap junction intercellular communication and neural progenitor cell proliferation. Abstract/Poster. Nuclear Receptors and Disease. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories. September 2010. Cold Spring Harbor, NY.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Lewis, M., DeFranco, D.B. Rapid effects of glucocorticoid receptor activation on gap junction regulation and cell proliferation in neural progenitor cells. Abstract/Poster, Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, November 2010, San Diego, CA.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Volonte, D., Lewis, M., Romero G., DeFranco D. Glucocorticoid Receptors within Lipid Rafts Activate a MAPK-Dependent, Nongenomic Signaling Pathway To Limit Gap Junction Intercellular Communication and Proliferation in Neural Stem Cells. Abstract/Poster. ENDO 2011. June 2011, Boston, MA.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Miranda, O., Mitchell, S., Ferando, I., Mody, I., Watanabe, M., Golshani, P., Lowry, W., Novitch., B. Utilizing patient-derived organoids to model neural network pathology in epilepsy . Abtract/Poster. ACNS Annual Meeting. Feb 2019, Las Vegas, NV.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Miranda, O., Mitchell, S., Ferando, I., Mody, I., Watanabe, M., Golshani, P., Lowry, W., Novitch., B. Fusion brain organoids demonstrate complex neural network and oscillatory activities. Abtract/Poster. Jasper's Basic Mechanisms of the Epilepsies Meeting. March 2019, Yoesemite, CA.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Miranda, O., Mitchell, S., Ferando, I., Mody, I., Kurdian, A., Parent, J., Watanabe, M., Buth, J., Golshani, P., Lowry, W., Novitch., B. Patient derived fusion brain organoids model neural network pathology in epilepsy. Abtract/Poster. Park City Epilepsy Meeting. October 2019, Park City, UT.

Oral Presentations
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Lewis, M., DeFranco., DB. Inhibition of neural progenitor cell proliferation and gap junction intercellular communication occurs upon rapid and transient activation of the glucocorticoid receptor. Abstract/Oral Presentation. Pittsburgh Area Nuclear Receptor Club (PANRC) Conference. April 23, 2010. Pittsburgh, PA.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Lewis, M., DeFranco., DB. Rapid effects of glucocorticoids on gap junction intercellular communication and cell proliferation in neural progenitors. Abstract/Oral Presentation (Invited talk). Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology Annual Retreat, 2010. July 9. 2010. Pittsburgh, PA.
**Samarasinghe, R.,** Lewis, M., DeFranco., DB. Membrane glucocorticoid receptor mediates non-genomic action of glucocorticoids on gap junction intercellular communication. Abstract/Oral Presentation. Great Lakes Nuclear Receptor Conference. October, 2010. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

**Research Grants and Fellowships Received**
Current Grants

**AES 20192967** Samarasinghe, Ranmal (PI) 7/2019-6/2020
Leveraging Human Brain Organoids for Therapeutics in Epilepsy
Goal: To develop a brain organoid based system for anti-seizure drug testing

**UCLA Broad** Samarasinghe, Ranmal (PI) 7/2019-6/2020
Leveraging Human Fusion Brain Organoids to Model Ictogenesis
Goal: To epilepsy patient derived iPSCs to generate an organoid model of epilepsy

Completed Grants
**R255R25NS065723-08 -NIH** Carmichael, Stanley (PI) 2017-6/2019
**T32GM008424-14-NIH** Defranco, Donald (PI) 2009-2011

**Professional Activities**

Teaching/Lectures

2017 Fall UCLA medical student neurology casebook teaching

2018 Fall UCLA medical student neurology casebook teaching

2019-December UCLA Clinical Neurophysiology weekly conference presentation, "Brain organoids to model neural network dysfunction and epilepsy."

**Bibliography**

**Samarasinghe, R.,** Tailor, P., Tamura, T., Kaisho, T., Akira S., Ozato, K. Induction of an Anti-Inflammatory Cytokine, IL-10, in Dendritic Cells After Toll-like Receptor Signaling. *Journal of Interferon and Cytokine Research*. 2006; 26: 893-900. PMID:17238832

Ho, Y*****, **Samarasinghe, R.*,** Knoch ME., Lewis M, Aizenman E, DeFranco DB. Selective inhibition of mitogen-activated protein kinase phosphatases by zinc accounts for extracellular signal-regulated kinase 1/2-dependent oxidative neuronal cell death. *Mol Pharmacol*. 2008 Oct; 74(4):1141-51. PMCID: PMC2575064. ***Both authors contributed equally to this work and should be considered co-first authors**

**Samarasinghe. R.,** Witchel, S., DeFranco, D. Cooperativity and Complementarity: Synergies in Non-Classical and Classical Glucocorticoid Signaling. *Cell Cycle*. 2011 Aug 1 (15):2819-27 PMCID: PMC3419059.

**Samarasinghe, R.,** Di Maio R., Volonte, D., Galbiati F., Lewis, M., Romero, G., DeFranco, D. Non-genomic glucocorticoid receptor action regulates gap junction intercellular communication and neural progenitor cell proliferation. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 2011 Sep 19. PMCID: PMC3189065.

**Samarasinghe, R.,** Kanuparthi, P., DeFranco, D., Di Maio, R. Transient Muscarinic and Glutamatergic Stimulation of Neural Stem Cells Trigger Acute and Persistent Changes in Differentiation. *Neurobiol of Dis*. 2014 Oct 70:252-61. PMCID: PMC4152385.

**Samarasinghe, R.,** Miranda, O**.,** Mitchell, S., Ferando, I., Watanabe, M., Buth, J., Kurdian, I., Golshani, P., Parent, J., Lowry, W., Istvan, I., and Novitch, B. Identification of neural oscillations and epileptiform changes in human brain organoids. **In revision**, *Nature Neuroscience.*