The Department of Health Disparities Research is seeking a Postdoctoral Fellow

We are looking for candidates for postdoctoral fellowships to join the Department of Health Disparities Research at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. This postdoctoral fellowship will provide individuals with the opportunity to contribute to the design, implementation, analysis, and publication of studies in cancer survivorship and cancer prevention. Under the mentorship of Dr. Qian Lu, Professor of Health Disparities Research, this fellowship will focus on studies with goals of improving patients’ outcomes and health equity, such as:

- Studies to improve patients self-reported outcomes and underlying biopsychosocial mechanisms.
- Develop tailored psychosocial interventions among understudied populations (for example, ethnic minorities, low SES, rural, adolescent and young adult [AYA] cancer survivors, elderly, sexual minorities, and those undergoing phase one clinical trial)
- Longitudinal studies to understand and predict patients outcomes
- Qualitative studies to understand patients experience and aim intervention development and evaluation
- Interventions to target health behaviors

Health equity is the absence of avoidable, unfair, or remediable differences among groups of people, whether those groups are defined socially, economically, demographically or geographically or by other means of stratification.

Qualified candidates should have a doctorate in psychology, public health, epidemiology, biostatistics, engineering, informatics, human factors, or a related field. Prior experience in cancer survivorship or cancer prevention is preferred. All candidates must have evidence of strong writing and statistical skills and published first author peer reviewed papers. This postdoctoral fellowship provides and exceptional opportunity to develop research experience, publications, and career development grant proposals in cancer prevention and cancer survivorship research.

Eligible candidates interested in this opportunity will apply, and will seek funding through the Cancer Prevention Research Training Program (CPRTP) with Dr. Lu and other faculty as sponsoring mentors. In addition, the scholar will have access to a group of dedicated mentors at MDACC whose expertise include and not limited to exercise and life style intervention, psychoneuroimmunology, technology-based intervention, and underserved populations. The mentoring team has successfully helped scholars to obtain fellowships and developmental awards. MDACC has extensive resources for post-doctoral scholars, such as weekly grand rounds, training workshops, writing assistance, library support, and statistical support.

At MD Anderson, the CPRTP prepares health scientists and clinicians to assume leadership roles as research investigators in cancer prevention and control. Trainees appointed to the program will increase their knowledge of cancer prevention and control research and practice through curriculum-based learning; obtain hands-on experience in ongoing cancer prevention and control research projects under the mentorship of established
investigators; and participate in workshops, scientific presentations, scientific writing, grant preparation, and professional development skills. Centered around mentored research in cancer prevention and control guided by experienced faculty mentors, multidisciplinary training will be accomplished through a robust training plan that is founded on rigorous quantitative methods, a specialized cancer prevention educational curriculum, an individual development plan, and career development activities. Trainees are immersed in the type of cross-disciplinary research environment characteristic of cancer prevention and control, with the objective of launching the trainee in the role of principal investigator early in his or her career. The CPRTP is committed to building a demographically and scientifically diverse research workforce.

Selected applicants will be appointed to a two-year, full-time research postdoctoral fellowship position with a competitive salary and benefits. These positions are funded by a research training grant award from the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (Award# RP170259, Drs. Shine Chang & Sanjay Shete, Principal Investigators).


For inquiries specific to working with Dr. Lu’s group, please email: qlu@mdanderson.org with your CV and visit our website at.

All application documents are due by February 15, 2021 by 11:59 p.m. CST. Thank you,

Qian Lu, PhD MD  
Professor  
Department of Health Disparities Research  
Division of Cancer Prevention & Population Sciences  
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center