



Latha Satish, PhD

Research Assistant Professor

University of Pittsburgh/Plastic Surgery

Project Title: CCT-eta as a mediator of scarless wound healing

Year Awarded: 2007

What did you learn through this research?

Research has taught me perseverance, patience and diligence. These qualities have given me much more confidence and motivation to perform better and contribute more to the wound healing field.

What can you tell us about the progress made in this area since you completed your Fellowship?

Since we started working on this project, we have obtained interesting results that have been published in various highly acclaimed journals. These results have led us to attain much more grant money through various other sources that led to expand our project.

How can this research help patients, clinicians and/or scientists?

Our hope is to bring our laboratory findings to the clinical front to treat scars of the patients, which, is physically and emotionally challenging.

How did this Fellowship help your career?

The WHSF-3M Fellowship has provided me much more visibility among the wound healing researchers paving the way for collaboration. Obtaining the WHSF-3M fellowship provided me the self-assurance to apply for various other funding opportunities.

How did you get interested in wound healing and this area in particular?

My interest towards wound healing research started when I was pursuing my bachelor's degree. I was fortunate enough to continue research in the field of wound healing through my graduate studies until today.

Tell us about some of the outcomes of your research you are most proud of and what it means for patients, clinicians and/or scientists.

I am proud and honored that I have been a part of the project, which has substantial indication that it can improve the quality of life of the patients that are suffering from scars, which is a major impediment in their life.

Approximately how many publications have you published since becoming a Fellow? Of these, how many relate to your Fellow research?

I have published over 22 papers since becoming a fellow of which, 6 manuscripts pertained to the topic that was awarded by 3M, including a review paper.

What are your future plans for your work in wound healing?

My focus and research interest is to determine if genes responsible for scarless wound healing could be manipulated in adult wounds to minimize scarring. My interest is also in studying the biological means by which, palmar fascia fibrosis (Dupuytren's contracture) could be reduced.

Who do you consider your mentors and your close associates in this project? How did you start working with them? I completed my post-doctoral fellowship under the mentorship of Dr. Alan Wells, Department of Pathology, UPMC. I joined Center for Genomic Science as a Research Associate under the guidance of Dr. Sandeep Kathju. I was promoted to a faculty position in 2 years and obtaining the WHSF-3M fellowship was one of the reasons for my advancement in career. Both Drs. Wells and Kathju are my close associates and serve as collaborators and/or co-investigators in various projects that I am currently pursuing in the laboratory.

Can you tell us about your life away from the lab?

I love spending time with my husband, 5 month old daughter and our two small dogs. I also love to watch movies and listen to music.

Please provide any additional information or comments you would like to convey to the readers.

Thanks to Wound Healing Society Foundation and to 3M for providing grant opportunities to young scientists, which is a stepping-stone in one's career.