

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Position **in Vascular Bioengineering**

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Thoracic Aortic Disease Research Lab

The Thoracic Aortic Disease Research Lab at the University of Pittsburgh is seeking a post-doctoral research fellow to join our robust team of basic scientists, bioengineers, and clinicians. Our lab established and maintains a large human aortic tissue and vascular primary cell bank to aid our NHLBI-funded investigation of the cellular and molecular mechanisms that mediate thoracic aortic aneurysms in patients with bicuspid aortic valve. Bicuspid aortic valve is the most common cardiac defect, affecting 1-2% of the general population and carries an increased risk for thoracic aortic aneurysms. The prospective candidate will have a PhD in bioengineering, or similar field of study and a strong interest and experience in cardiovascular biology. The candidate should have extensive experience in bioreactor-based culture models, 3-D scaffold-based cell culture of mammalian cells, fluid mechanics, RNA and protein isolation from tissue and cultured cells, real-time PCR, Western blotting, molecular biology, histology, immunocytochemistry and fluorescence microscopy. Experience in smooth muscle cell culture, extracellular matrix, oxidative stress pathways, and animal models is highly advantageous. The candidate should possess excellent interpersonal skills and be able to interface with students, research associates, residents, faculty and clinicians. The candidate should also exhibit excellent English written and oral communication skills and the incumbent will be expected to publish in peer-reviewed journals, present results at scientific conferences and participate in the preparation of grant applications. This position is available immediately.

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