

# Sandeep Mehta PhD

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## SKILLS SUMMARY

- **Scientific acumen** – Performed bench research in immunology focusing on vaccine development resulting in two peer reviewed papers
- **Project management** – Coordinated and monitored multifaceted research projects, lead teams and coordinated lab activities for two major laboratories at the University of Toronto
- **Effective writing and presenting** – Communicated complex scientific knowledge to diverse audiences in: academic journals, grant applications, undergraduate curriculum development and teaching, poster and conference presentations and industry oriented blogging
- **Administration** – Proven successes in managing budgets, implementing new programs under financial constraints, recruiting and hiring, and influencing policy directions
- **Technical skills** - Project management software, advanced Excel for financial applications, immunoassays, FACS, Electrophoresis, R and Minitab statistical packages, GMP and GLP

## EDUCATION

**PhD Immunology**, Department of Immunology, University of Toronto 2009–2015

- Thesis: *Recombinant anti-class II MHC antibodies containing conformationally constrained, immunogenic HIV-1 B cell epitopes*

**Certificate in Life Science Enterprise**, Continuing Studies, University of Toronto 2015

- Certificate in GMP and GLP

**Graduate Professional Skills Program**, University of Toronto 2013-2014

- *Leadership Essentials* Learned emerging leadership paradigms for the 21st century and six practices of collaborative leadership
- *Mini MBA* 10 week business fundamentals program including business case analysis and fundamentals of consulting

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

**HIV Vaccine Research**, Department of Immunology, University of Toronto 2011–2015

- Contributed to the identification of antibodies and assessed their utility in targeting HIV – 1B virus.
- Planned, managed and executed all facets of a 4 year long research project including: grant writing and ethics review, project documentation and monitoring, recruitment of research assistants, requisitioning and installation of new equipment, and scientific problem solving.
- Trained and supervised a team of 3 Master's students and 2 undergraduate students in conducting ELISA and Western Blot Immunoassays, Gel Electrophoresis, and FACS
- Coordinated all aspects of laboratory: inventory, maintenance of equipment, workflow planning, safety, and weekly research meetings ensuring smooth functioning of 2 lab teams in a shared facility.
- Results included: completion of main research within the projected timeframes, two publications in peer reviewed journals. Validated a new strategy for the regulation of antibody responses by synthetic epitopes which has significantly impacted the current direction of HIV vaccine research in Canada.

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## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE (Cont.)

**Treasurer**, Graduate Students' Union, University of Toronto 2013–2014

- Developed and prepared budgets, and monitored expenditures to implement new programming while growing reserve funds required to pass institutional financial audits for an association serving over 2000 graduate students.
- Served on a number of ad hoc committees, such as the Graduate Studies Policies Handbook Committee, to enhance the student experience at the University of Toronto.

**Member, Search Committee**, Department of Immunology, University of Toronto 2013 - 2014

- Interviewed, and hired an associate professor at the Department of Immunology as part of a departmental selection committee of 5
- Reviewed resumes, co-developed interview questions relevant to student priorities, and discussed interview ratings and results with committee members

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Toronto 2012–2015

- Delivered tutorials, held office hours and performed marking for a third year class of up to 75 students (Introduction to Immunology). Performed occasional lectures under supervision.
- Assisted in developing curriculum and an engaging lab exercise. Coordinated all aspects of the lab with technicians.
- Received positive evaluations from students and met departmental standards for achieving student learning outcomes.

**Science Writer**, Cangen Research Institute, Toronto 2010–2011

- Co-wrote an introductory immunology textbook for undergraduates and medical students with Dr. Pak Ling.
- Wrote content for a variety of additional smaller texts and blog articles on immunology research.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Mehta, Sandeep, and Cutler, B. H. (2014). Recombinant anti-class II MHC antibodies containing conformationally constrained, immunogenic HIV-1 B cell epitopes. *AIDS and Human Retroviruses*, 13, 449–459.

Mehta, S. (2010, 29 June). Overload in the laboratory: How much science is too much science? *Global Review*, 33–47. (Non-refereed)

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

2014 Rick Miller Award for Leadership in Immunology  
2009–10 Ontario Graduate Scholarship  
2009–2011 Medical Research Council Fellowship