Dr. Dipika Ramdas Kalambhe, Ph.D.

doctordipikaoffical555@gmail.com · +971 50 965 9103 · WhatsApp +91 97667 87348
dipika.pristellar.com · Google Scholar · ORCID 0009-0007-0026-4638

[Date]

Associate Professor Greg Walker
School of Pharmacy and Pharmacology, University of Otago
Dunedin, New Zealand

Dear Associate Professor Greg Walker,

I am writing to ask whether you have, or would consider supporting, a postdoctoral or research fellow appointment in your group. I note your profile advertises PhD projects; I already hold a doctorate, so I wanted to ask the question directly rather than apply to the wrong thing.

Your stated interest is in the physico-chemical principles by which a delivery system changes the absorption, disposition and fate of a bioactive. That is an accurate description of what I spent eight years measuring at the Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences. My doctoral system was a mesoporous polydopamine-based Pickering emulsion — a **polymeric** carrier — co-loading two agents whose solubility and release requirements were incompatible, optimised against drug loading, encapsulation efficiency, particle size and polydispersity, surface charge, colloidal stability and release profile, and characterised throughout by DLS, zeta potential, TEM, SEM, HPLC and UV–Vis.

Two further points of contact. First, **antimicrobials**: my filed Indian patent (No. 202421042057) is a transdermal system delivering a *Curcuma longa* flavonoid fraction for acne, and its evaluation included antimicrobial activity alongside skin permeation and in vivo safety. I understand a new class of antimicrobials is one of the three MBIE programmes you hold. Second, **translation**: I took that formulation from concept through the full evidence package to a filing, which — given that you invented a topical haemostat that reached phase two before returning to academia — I suspect you will read as the relevant credential rather than as a curiosity.

The doctoral work itself: the carrier suppressed primary tumour growth and lung metastasis in triple-negative breast cancer models, and I established the mechanism as apoptosis induction with simultaneous blockade of epithelial–mesenchymal transition and vasculogenic mimicry. Published in *Acta Pharmacologica Sinica* 46(12):3314-3326, joint first author with equal contribution formally recorded. I ran the entire in vivo programme independently, including ethics approval, dosing, biodistribution, histopathology and organ-toxicity assessment.

What I have not done: veterinary or animal-health formulation, biopharmaceutical engineering, GMP manufacture or scale-up. Your Bayer Centre work would be a new application area for me, though the physical chemistry underneath it is not.

I hold seven peer-reviewed publications attracting 324 citations, including reviews on additive manufacturing in nanoparticulate delivery and on 3D printing for oral dosage materials. My CV and a research statement are enclosed, and I would welcome a short conversation about whether a position or a co-written application is the more realistic route.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Dipika Ramdas Kalambhe
Ph.D. Pharmaceutics, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences