

# Vijaya Iyer, PhD. PMP

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## Relevant Skills

Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint	Courses: Writing in the Sciences (Stanford Online)	Subject areas: Oncology
EndNote & GraphPad Prism	Design and interpretation of clinical trials (John Hopkins University via Coursera)	Autoimmune & Rare Diseases
SnapGene	6WeekCourse on Freelance Medical Writing by Emma Nichols	Bacteriology & Infectious Disease
GIMP (beginner level)		Phage Therapy & Antibiotic resistance
Familiar with the AMA Manual of Style		

## Experience

### **Freelance Medical Writer, Owner || iyerswritings.com || 05/2018 – present**

- Specialize in simplifying bioscience for everyone
- Services include: Medical News writings, Feature articles, Scientific Manuscript writing & editing, Course Content development, Slide Decks and many more

### **Postdoctoral Research Associate Fellow || Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. || 06/2016 – 05/2018**

- Design and implement strategic experiments that have resulted in the identification of phage-based therapeutic candidates against antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections caused by *Enterococcus faecalis* & *Escherichia coli*
- Created slide decks describing project milestones and communicated project progress to industry sponsors

### **Postdoctoral Research Associate || Miller School of Medicine, UofM, Miami FL || 09/2013 - 12/2014.**

- Discovered novel genes in *Streptococcus mutans* responsible for the sugar uptake
- Interpreted research findings and drafted a research manuscript which was published in the journal *Molecular Oral Microbiology*. Also created a poster summarizing the research and presented it at an international conference organized by the *American Society for Microbiology*

### **Postdoctoral Research Associate || Kansas State University, Manhattan KS. || 01/2013- 09/2013.**

- Wrote a successful project proposal to the Institutional Review Board and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee to obtain approval for conducting animal studies

- Liaised with diverse teams, departments, and personnel & successfully developed a catheter-associated urinary tract infection model in mice to study the *in-vivo* implications of enterococcal infection

**Graduate Research Assistant || Kansas State University, Manhattan KS. || 2007-2012.**

- Studied the role of transcription factor *rpoN* in *Enterococcus faecalis* biology & pathogenesis
- Described the work in a scientifically accurate format which resulted in a first author publication in *The Journal of Bacteriology*
- Drafted multiple abstracts, designed slide decks and successfully presented the data at several internal meetings, national and international scientific conferences resulting in numerous awards for best presentations

**Graduate Teaching Assistant || Kansas State University, Manhattan KS. || 2007-2012.**

- Developed content and implemented laboratory protocols for 3 undergraduate level courses that resulted in streamlined operations in all the sessions in every course
- Gained the ability to clarify and convey scientific concepts to students
- Trained undergraduate students and technicians in laboratory safety and protocols

**Education**

Ph.D. (Microbiology) || Kansas State University || 2012

Master of Technology (Biotechnology) || Dr. D.Y. Patil University, India || 2005

Bachelor of Science (Microbiology) || University of Mumbai, India || 2003

**Awards & Affiliations**

- Professional Development Award || Project Management Institute Education Foundation - 2016
- Alvin and RosaLee Sarachek Scientific Travel Award || Kansas State University - 2012
- L. Evans Roth Award for superior graduate student research || Kansas State University - 2011
- Best Research Presentation in Biological Sciences, K-State Research Forum || Kansas State University 2010 & 2011
- ASM International conference on Enterococci Travel Award || Portland, Oregon – 2010
- Healthcare Businesswomen Association; Mid-Atlantic Region Mentoring Program - Deputy Director- 2018
- Start Talking Science - Board Member

## Select Publications

- Vujanac M\*, **Iyer VS\***, Sengupta M, Ajdic D. Regulation of *Streptococcus mutans* PTS Bio by the transcriptional repressor NigR. *Mol Oral Microbiol.* 2015; 30(4):280-294. \*Equal contribution
- Varahan S, **Iyer VS**, Moore WT, Hancock LE. Eep confers lysozyme resistance to *Enterococcus faecalis* via the activation of the extracytoplasmic function sigma factor SigV. *J Bacteriol.* 2013; 195(14):3125-3134.
- **Iyer VS**, Hancock LE. Deletion of  $\sigma(54)$  (*rpoN*) alters the rate of autolysis and biofilm formation in *Enterococcus faecalis*. *J Bacteriol.* 2012; 194(2):368-375.

## Select Presentations

- Involvement of a new phosphoenolpyruvate phosphotransferase system in fructose transport by *Streptococcus mutans* UA159. American Society for Microbiology (ASM) General Meeting. Boston, Massachusetts - 2014 (Poster)
- The Alternate Sigma Factor, RpoN, affects susceptibility to autolysis in *Enterococcus faecalis*. 3rd International ASM Conference on Enterococci, Portland, Oregon - 2010 (Poster)
- The contribution of the alternate sigma factor (RpoN) to enterococcal infective endocarditis; ASM Missouri Valley Annual Meeting - 2012
- Deletion of *rpoN* results in extracellular DNA independent biofilm formation in *Enterococcus faecalis*; 55th Annual Wind River Conference on Prokaryotic Biology - 2011
- Alternate Sigma factor (RpoN) promotes extracellular DNA (eDNA) independent biofilm formation in *Enterococcus faecalis*; K-State 16th Annual Graduate Research Forum - 2011
- The role of the alternate sigma factor (RpoN) in the biology of *Enterococcus faecalis*; K-State 15th Annual Graduate Research Forum - 2010