

# Rohini Mehta

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## **Education:**

<b>PhD</b>	Molecular Biology and Microbiology (2009 – Present) George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA.
<b>MS</b>	Microbiology (2003 – 2005) Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara, Gujarat, India
<b>BS</b>	Microbiology, Biochemistry and Botany (2000 – 2003) Mysore University, Mysore, Karnataka, India

## **Research Experience:**

<b>Intern</b>	Infectious Disease Dept. (June 2010 – August 2010) J. Craig Venter Institute, Rockville, MD, USA <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Protein interactions of paralogous proteins : a proxy for protein function evolution</li></ul>
<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b>	Molecular Biology and Microbiology Dept.(2009 – Present) George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Validation of endogenous reference genes for qRT-PCR analysis of human visceral adipose tissue.</li><li>Differential gene expression profiling of brown adipose tissue specific genes in visceral adipose tissue of lean and obese individuals.</li><li>Gastric Tissue Gene Expression Associated with Obesity-related Non-alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH).</li></ul>
<b>Research Assistant</b>	Molecular Biology and Microbiology Dept. (2008 – 2009) George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Influence of genetic variability in a study on 'Effect of physical activity on cognition'</li></ul>
<b>Project Assistant</b>	Protein Chemistry & Technology Dept. (2006 –2008) Central Food Technological Research Institute, India

- Analysis of genetically modified soya and genetically modified maize and related GM products
- Development and validation of analytical methods for detection of Lathyrus sativus adulterant in legume based food products

#### **Intern**

INDUS Biopharmaceuticals, India (May 2005)

- Analytical techniques in recombinant protein purification and analysis

#### **MS Thesis Project**

Microbiology Dept. (2003- 2005)

Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara, Gujarat, India

- Role of Pectin Lyase and Polymethylgalacturonase from *Aspergillus niger* in apple juice clarification

### **Research Skills:**

#### **Experimental systems**

Yeast, E.coli, Human tissues (liver, adipose tissue, gastric tissue, blood), plant tissues

#### **Molecular Biology**

Conjugation, Transformation, qRT-PCR, DNA sequencing, Southern blotting, Yeast 2 hybrid

#### **Protein Purification**

Affinity Separation, RP-HPLC,

#### **Microbiology**

Microbiological assays, Bacteriological and fungal media Preparation

#### **Immunology**

ELISA, Western Blot

### **Teaching Experience:**

#### **Teaching Assistant**

Molecular Biology and Microbiology Dept. (Summer 2010)  
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA.

#### **Teaching Assistant**

Molecular Biology and Microbiology Dept. (Fall 2008)

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA.

**Lecturer**

Graduate Biotechnology Dept. (2005- 2006)

J.S.S College of Science and Arts, Mysore, Karnataka, India

**Publications:**

1. **Rohini Misra**, Asha Martin and Lalitha R. Gowda. Detection of 3-N-oxalyl-L-2,3-diaminopropanoic acid in thermally processed foods by reverse phase high performance liquid chromatography. 2009, 22(7-8), 704-708, *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis*.
2. **Rohini Mehta** et al. Validation of endogenous reference genes for qRT-PCR analysis of human visceral adipose samples. 2010, 11:39, *BMC Molecular Biology*.

**Scholarships:**

1. **Presidential Scholarship Award**, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA (2009 - 2012).
2. **Lectureship Eligibility Award**, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, India (2006 & 2007).
3. **Academic Scholarship Award**, Maharaja Sayajirao University, India (2004).
4. **Outstanding Academic Performance Award**, Mysore University, India (2000-2003).

**Oral Presentations:**

1. *Validation of endogenous reference genes for qRT-PCR analysis of human visceral adipose samples*, Virginia Academy of Science, Harrisonburg, VA.
2. *Validation of endogenous reference genes for qRT-PCR analysis of human visceral adipose samples*, Student Research Day, George Mason University, 2009. (Awarded outstanding oral presentation)
3. *DNA Barcoding*, Association of Microbiologists of India, 2007. (Awarded best presentation)
4. *Genetically Modified Foods*, National Science Day Celebrations, CFTRI, 2007. (Awarded best presentation)
5. *Thrust Areas of Microbiology*, Association of Microbiologists of India, 2002. (Awarded best presentation)

### **Poster Presentations:**

1. Profiling and validation of reference genes in the visceral adipose tissue. DDW.2010
2. Differential gene expression profiling of brown adipose tissue specific genes in visceral adipose tissue of lean and obese individuals. DDW.2010
3. Determination of the neurotoxin 3-N-oxalyl-L-2,3-diaminopropanoic acid of *Lathyrus sativus* in thermally processed foods legume based products. Nutrition society of India, 2007.

### **References:**

*Available on request.*