

Biodata

Name: Naga Muralidhar Merugu

Designation: Scientist- B

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Academic Qualifications:

Degrees	Subjects	Institute and University	Academic Year	Achievements
Ph.D	Biochemistry	ICMR-NIN, Osmania University, Hyderabad	2022	
M.Sc	Animal Biotechnology	Hyderabad Central University, Hyderabad	2008	First Class
B.Sc	Biochemistry	Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur, AP	2006	First Class

Academic/ research experience:

Scientist-B (Non-Medical) at ICMR-NIIH since 2018, Molecular Immunohaematology

Specialization/ Areas of Interest: Molecular Genetics & Molecular Immunohaematology

Projects: As PI =3, As Co-PI = 1

As Principal Investigator (PI)

1. Studies on ABO histo–blood group genes and ACE2 as potential genetic susceptibility factors to SARS-CoV-2 infections.
2. Molecular studies of Keap1-Nrf2 signaling axis in the pathophysiology of Sickle cell disease: an exploratory study.
3. Studies on the role of CD47/SIRP α -interaction in regulation of erythrophagocytosis

As Co-Principal Investigator (PI)

4. A study to assess the prevalence of Vitamin B12 deficiency in pregnant women in tribal area

Publications

1. **Muralidhar MN**, Smvk P, Battula KK, Nv G, Kalashikam RR. Differential response of rat strains to obesogenic diets underlines the importance of genetic makeup of an individual towards obesity. **Sci Rep.** 2017 Aug 22;7(1):9162. doi: 10.1038/s41598-017-09149-6. PMID: 28831087; PMCID: PMC5567335.

2. Smvk P, **Muralidhar MN**, D M DY, Kondeti S, Kalashikam RR. Strain specific variation underlines the disparity in stress response of rats to calorie dense diets in the pathophysiology of obesity. **Steroids**. 2020 Aug;160:108653. doi: 10.1016/j.steroids.2020.108653. Epub 2020 May 11. PMID: 32407856. **(Equal First Author)**
3. **NAGA MURALIDHAR MERUGU**, RAGHUNATH MANCHALA and RAJENDER RAO KALASHIKAM. Nutri (Epi) Genomics and Metabolic Syndrome. **Proc Indian Natn Sci Acad** 82 No. 5 December 2016 pp. DOI: 10.16943/ptinsa/2006/48877
4. Dinesh Yadav DM, **Muralidhar MN**, Prasad SMVK, Rajender Rao K. Pre-pubertal diet restriction reduces reactive oxygen species and restores fertility in male WNIN/Obese rat. *Andrologia*. 2018 Mar;50(2). doi: 10.1111/and.12849. Epub 2017 Jul 18. PMID: 28718974.
5. Thomas AE, Inagadapa PJN, Jeyapal S, **Merugu NM**, Kalashikam RR, Manchala R. Maternal Magnesium Restriction Elevates Glucocorticoid Stress and Inflammation in the Placenta and Fetus of WNIN Rat Dams. *Biol Trace Elem Res*. 2018 Feb;181(2):281-287. doi: 10.1007/s12011-017-1058-3. Epub 2017 May 27. PMID: 28551889.
6. Kondeti S, D M DY, **Muralidhar MN**, S M V K P, Nemani H, Kalashikam RR. Attenuation of FGF21 signalling might aggravate the impairment of glucose homeostasis during the high sucrose diet induced transition from prediabetes to diabetes in WNIN/GR-Ob rats. *Biomed Pharmacother*. 2021 May;137:111252. doi: 10.1016/j.biopha.2021.111252. Epub 2021 Jan 30. PMID: 33524785.

Awards and Achievements:

- DBT- Travel grant: Obesity Week for international conference, at Boston, USA (2014).
- UGC-SRF (2013) and JRF (2011)
- Qualified joint CSIR-UGC test for JRF and NET in 2010.