



Research in one sentence

Voltage-gated ion on channels as novel targets for breast cancer.

What is your uniqueness in your research?

I am a biologist working on voltage-gated ion channels. Based on scientific evidence, we hypothesized that upregulating ion channels could be a key to reducing cancer and it is going to have a huge potential across all types of cancers if proven.

Background of joint research with Japanese Co-PI

My Co-PI is Prof. Maturana Andres Daniel from Nagoya University, and our topic of joint research is Challenging the paradigm: activating T-type calcium channel isoform Cav3.1 for breast cancer therapeutics.

He published a research article that was in line with my research interests and I was looking for collaborators then. I contacted him to apply this grant on Friendship Project Phase 1, and we got a good match. During COVID-19 we had online meetings that is how we initiated the collaboration.

What are the tips to have collaborated with Co-PI for so long?

I would say it is communication.

We have had lots of online meetings to discuss our research. Perhaps, the only positive thing we can get from COVID19 pandemic is that we were not hesitant to schedule online meetings and could communicate faster.



What are benefits from collaboration with Japanese Co-PI?

Collaborating with Japanese Co-PI brings multiple benefits. We can collaborate for both research and for student exchange. It is very beneficial for students to get this exposure to a different lab in a different country so that even they can decide for the future and can get international research experience as well. As for research it always helps to complement with unique techniques.

Prospects regarding India-Japan collaboration

We would be happy to have more collaborations and are always looking for opportunity.

Do you recommend JICA Research Grant under FRIENDSHIP 2.0 to the other faculty members?

Yes absolutely. If faculty can find a potential Japanese collaborator, it is a very efficient grant in terms of release of funding. JICA FRIENDSHIP Project Phase2 takes care of a lot of paperwork which substantially reduces our burden. I fully recommend it.

