



# Opening for Postdoctoral Fellow in The Luftig Lab at Duke University

The Luftig laboratory at Duke University School of Medicine seeks a highly motivated postdoctoral researcher with a strong background in virology, molecular cell biology, and/or biochemistry to join our research group studying oncogenic viruses.

<https://sites.duke.edu/luftiglab/>

Our lab focuses on how the human herpesvirus, EBV, co-opts cellular signaling pathways and transcriptional networks to drive activation and uncontrolled proliferation of human B cells. Our work models the earliest steps in viral oncogenesis and aims to understand how the establishment of EBV latency mimics normal B-cell activation and maturation.

We use many different complementary approaches to study the interaction between EBV and the host. We are open to new ideas and creative approaches to tackle the most challenging problems in the field. We have superb shared resources at Duke, including collaborators, that elevate our work by providing technical advice and unique perspectives to approaching biological problems. Our recent accomplishments include:

- Discovery of a new temporal model for EBV transformation – defining regulation of survival and transcriptional control from initial infection through latency establishment in primary human B cells (Price, *eLife* 2017; Price, *PLoS Path* 2015, Price, *J Virol* 2012)
- Defining the innate tumor suppressor barriers to EBV-mediated B-cell transformation including the DNA damage response (DDR), activated as a consequence of metabolic stress and limiting deoxyribonucleotide pools (Hafez, *Oncogenesis* 2017; McFadden, *PNAS* 2016; Luftig, *Ann Rev Virol* 2014; Nikitin, *Cell Host and Microbe*, 2010)

New projects in the lab also include studies of the interplay between EBV and *Plasmodium falciparum* leading to endemic Burkitt lymphoma, gastric epithelial carcinogenesis, single cell studies of B-cell infection and live-cell imaging.

The laboratory provides a robust training environment for postdocs and other trainees. It is of the utmost importance that rigorous scientific inquiry be supported with equally rigorous mentoring. This includes opportunities to present your work both internally and at regional, national, and international meetings; an expectation of training junior lab members as techniques and concepts are mastered; and a strategic plan for career development whether in academia or beyond.

Applicants are invited to send their curriculum vitae, summary of past work, and contact information for three references to Dr. Micah Luftig via this posting on BrassRing: <https://tinyurl.com/yb49wck3>). Please contact Micah at [micah.luftig@duke.edu](mailto:micah.luftig@duke.edu) with any questions.

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