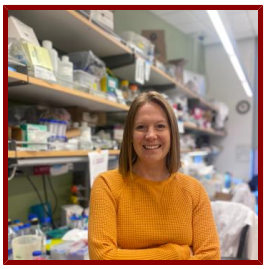
Stanford



Cara Rada

Postdoctoral Scholar, Hematology

Bio

BIO

I am a biomedical researcher focusing on modeling the neurovascular unit for the treatment of neurological disorders including infection, brain metastasis and neurodegeneration. I enjoy mentoring students, making bad science puns and winning rec sports leagues.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- T32 Postdoctoral Training Grant in Hematology, Stanford University (2021-2023)
- AHA Postdoctoral Fellowship, American Heart Association (2023-Present)
- Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, TRDRP (2018-2020)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Trainee, American Heart Association (2018 - present)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy, University of California San Diego (2020)
- Bachelor of Arts, Wartburg College (2010)
- PhD, University of California-San Diego , Biomedical Sciences (2020)

STANFORD ADVISORS

- Calvin Kuo, Postdoctoral Faculty Sponsor
- Calvin Kuo, Postdoctoral Research Mentor

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

I develop human brain models to study neurological infection, cancer metastasis, and neurodegeneration. My research focuses on the brain’s blood vessels and brain resident immune cell, microglia, and investigates how alterations in these components of the brain microenvironment can have deleterious effects.

LAB AFFILIATIONS

- Calvin Kuo, Kuo Lab (11/2/2020)
- Calvin Kuo, Kuo Lab (11/2/2020)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Regulation of the Blood-Brain Barrier in Health and Disease.** *Cold Spring Harbor perspectives in medicine*
  Rada, C. C., Yuki, K., Ding, J., Kuo, C. J.
  2023

- **GPR124 regulates murine brain embryonic angiogenesis and BBB formation by an intracellular domain-independent mechanism.** *Development (Cambridge, England)*
  Yuki, K., Vallon, M., Ding, J., Rada, C. C., Tang, A. T., Vilches-Moure, J. G., McCormick, A. K., Echeverri, M. F., Alwahabi, S., Braunger, B. M., Ergün, S., Kahn, M. L., Kuo, et al
  2024

- **Therapeutic blood-brain barrier modulation and stroke treatment by a bioengineered FZD4-selective WNT surrogate in mice.** *Nature communications*
  Ding, J., Lee, S., Vlahos, L., Yuki, K., Rada, C. C., van Unen, V., Vuppalapaty, M., Chen, H., Sura, A., McCormick, A. K., Tomaske, M., Alwahabi, S., Nguyen, et al
  2023; 14 (1): 2947