Stanford



Sakura Tanaka

Postdoctoral Scholar, Psychiatry

Bio

BIO

Dr. Tanaka is a postdoctoral scholar advised by Dr. Nirao Shah in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. She received her PhD in Marine and Estuarine Environmental Sciences from the University of Maryland Baltimore County in 2022. After transitioning from aquaculture science to neuroscience, she now studies how reproductive states reshape the neural circuits that govern the body's behavioral and physiological demands, integrating molecular biology, bioinformatics, neuroscience, and reproductive biology.

INSTITUTE AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Maternal & Child Health Research Institute (MCHRI)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Overseas Researchers, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (2024)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Master of Science, Hokkaido University (2018)
- Bachelor of Science, Hokkaido University (2015)
- Doctor of Philosophy, Univ of Maryland Baltimore County (2022)

STANFORD ADVISORS

- Nirao Shah, Postdoctoral Faculty Sponsor

LINKS

- Dr. Nirao Shah Laboratory: https://med.stanford.edu/nirao.html
- Linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/in/sakura-tanaka-470582228/

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Role of gonadal soma-derived growth factor (gsdf) on sex-differentiation in Nile tilapia, Oreochromis niloticus.** *General and comparative endocrinology*
  Arai, T., Tanaka, S., Sakon, M., Gao, H., Ijiri, S.
  2026: 114884
- **Gonadotropin releasing hormone - gonadotropes interactions revealed by pituitary single-cell transcriptomics in zebrafish.** *Endocrinology*
  Tanaka, S., Yu, Y., Levavi-Sivan, B., Zmora, N., Zohar, Y.

2024

- **Loss of function of Vasoactive-intestinal peptide alters sex ratio and reduces male reproductive fitness in zebrafish.** *Endocrinology*
  Yu, Y., Tanaka, S., Wong, T. T., Zohar, Y., Zmora, N.
  2024

- **Chemogenetic Depletion of Hypophysiotropic GnRH Neurons Does Not Affect Fertility in Mature Female Zebrafish** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MOLECULAR SCIENCES*
  Tanaka, S., Zmora, N., Levavi-Sivan, B., Zohar, Y.
  2022; 23 (10)

- **Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide Indirectly Elicits Pituitary LH Secretion Independent of GnRH in Female Zebrafish** *ENDOCRINOLOGY*
  Tanaka, S., Zmora, N., Levavi-Sivan, B., Zohar, Y.
  2022; 163 (2)

- **Effects of Infectious Diseases on Population Dynamics of Marine Organisms in Chesapeake Bay** *ESTUARIES AND COASTS*
  Jesse, J. A., Agnew, M., Arai, K., Armstrong, C., Hood, S. M., Kachmar, M. L., Long, J. T., McCarty, A. J., Ross, M. O., Rubalcava, K. D., Shaner, J., Tanaka, S., Wood, et al
  2021; 44 (8): 2334-2349