

Durai Sellegounder

Personal information: Durai was born and brought up in Tamilnadu, starting his primary school in a small village Durai has crossed many hurdles to complete his education. Durai was interested in science from his school days and participated in several science competitions. His hobbies include cricket, music, and traveling.

Education: Durai completed his masters in Biotechnology from Annamalai University, Chidambaram in Tamilnadu. He received his Ph. D from Alagappa University, Tamilnadu. His thesis research focused on “Establishing *C. elegans* as a model to study host-microbe interactions and exploit the model system for screening anti-infectives from marine natural resources”. Durai had a short stint of postdoctoral training at the University of Hyderabad before moving for his postdoctoral training in the USA. Durai is a recipient of Senior Scholarship in Science from Lady Tata Memorial trust, travel grant from ICMR and DBT for attending conferences overseas and Dr. D S Kothari postdoctoral fellowship from UGC, Govt., of India. Durai is currently working as a postdoctoral research associate at the Elson. S. Floyd College of Medicine, Washington State University, Spokane. His current research focus is to understand the role of neuropeptides and its receptors in regulating immunity and aging in *C. elegans*.