

DHANYA K NAMBIAR

Brief Biography

Personal information- Dhanya Nambiar was born in Kerala, however, she lived across a wide range of Indian cities owing to her father's career in Indian Army. She had great allure for the surrounding nature since her childhood, which eventually led her to pursue a research career in biological sciences. Other than doing science, Dhanya always enjoyed mentoring and teaching. She headed the social service committee at her college during her undergraduate years and also served as member of the Manipal Rotary club. She continued her desire to mentor kids through Teach for India Initiative and Uday Foundation in Delhi. Dhanya enjoys travelling, cricket, hiking and cooking. Dhanya is married to Manish Chamoli, who is also a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Buck Institute for Aging, Novato, USA. They live in San Mateo, California.



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Education and Profession- Dhanya did an Integrated B.Sc. - M.Sc. program in Medical Biotechnology at Manipal University and this was where her dream of becoming a scientist took shape and form. After completing her Master's program, Dhanya qualified the exams and received both the CSIR-Junior Research fellowship (JRF) and DBT-JRF conducted by the Govt. of India. Through her fellowships, she joined for a Ph.D. program at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, where she pursued her interest in Cancer Biology. During the next 5 years in Delhi, she worked to understand how cancer cells became resistant to treatment approaches, especially radiation therapy. During her Ph.D. she was awarded with the Fulbright Doctoral Research Scholarship, which helped her to continue her research interest at University of Colorado, Denver, USA. Following her Ph.D., she joined the Dept. of Radiation Oncology at Stanford University as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in June 2015. Since then, she continues to work on understanding how cancer cells evade body's immune response and spreads to different organs. She is interested in finding novel targets/pathways which could improve radiation/immune- therapeutic responses for cancer treatment.

Why and how I would like to help FEA. Dhanya found about FEA through Manish and Dr. Kapahi. Dhanya believes that one of the best ways to contribute to the society is to mentor and educate the children/youth, as it not only changes their lives for the better but also inspires them to carry forward the change to the next generation. The mission of FEA is very much aligned to Dhanya's interests. She is highly motivated to provide support and guidance to the students at FEA.

Stanford CAP Profile : <https://profiles.stanford.edu/dhanya-nambiar>