

# Hunter College of the City University of New York

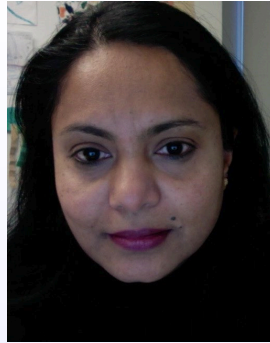
## Department of Biological Sciences

### Spring 2023 Inga Richter Seminar Series

This seminar will be held **IN PERSON**

Shahana S. Mahajan, PhD

Associate Professor, Medical Laboratory Sciences  
Hunter College, City University of New York



#### Riluzole as a Potential Therapeutic Agent for Osteosarcoma

Metastasis in osteosarcoma is presented at the time of diagnosis in 20% of cases or develops during the course of treatment in many patients. Our lab is interested in investigating drugs to treat metastatic osteosarcoma and to develop effective drug delivery via the use of nanoparticle. Our lab has demonstrated Riluzole to be an effective drug in inhibiting proliferation and inducing apoptosis in both human and mouse metastatic osteosarcoma. Our lab efforts are focused on 1) investigating molecular targets of Riluzole during the induction of apoptosis; 2) investigating the effect of Riluzole in reducing metastasis *in vivo*; 3) identifying new genes involved in the metastatic process which will serve as the targets for new drugs; 4) delivering siRNA via nanoparticle to halt cell proliferation and tumor growth *in vivo*. Our lab has recently demonstrated a novel mechanism by which Riluzole induces apoptosis in metastatic osteosarcoma. Overall, our findings of Riluzole's effects on metastatic osteosarcoma may support Riluzole as a potential chemotherapeutic agent for treatment of the cancer.

**Monday, February 6, 2023**

**12:30pm**

**Hunter College 926HN**

**In-person**

**Host: Maria Figueiredo-Pereira, PhD**