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Rahul Vejiragu
Diagnostics Fellow

Novel Antigens Lateral Flow

"I decided to pursue genetics, because I wanted to do a degree in the life sciences that was also ripe for research potential. Genetics is such a crucial science in medicine because understanding genetic science can allow us to develop more effective treatments for a plethora of illnesses and diseases."

Rahul is pursuing a genetics degree at Texas A&M University with a graduation date in May 2022 and plans to work within the field of academic medicine, researching the intersection between public health needs and the medical technologies created to address them.

Having done research in A&M's College of Medicine and in the A&M Bush School of government exploring global health, Rahul wanted to explore how the fields interact by doing additional research outside the academic setting in an effort to improve the lives of people all over the world.

An Aggie Research Scholar in the Texas A&M Department of Medical physiology, Rahul investigates the effects of enhanced renal lymphangiogenesis on acute kidney injuries. While noting that all of the science professors he has had throughout his undergraduate education fostered his interest and passion for science, Rahul credits his experience working in a research lab as being instrumental in making him realize his passion for engaging in science rather than just reading about it. In particular he was influenced by Dr. Baranwal who helped mentor him on his current project and Dr. Rutkowski, who acts as the PI of his lab.

Scalable healthcare is the greatest challenge Rahul sees facing his generation. He is confident that better drugs and technologies will be developed but is concerned about whether the advancements will reach the people who need them the most.

Rahul plays four different instruments and enjoys making music in his spare time and he hopes to one day go trekking through Mongolia, and his motto is "Just because you fall on the ground doesn't mean you need to stay there."