

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

Simpa Salami, M.B.B.S., M.P.H., assistant professor of urology, Department of Urology, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of urology, with tenure, Department of Urology, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

M.P.H.	2009	Harvard University School of Public Health
M.B.B.S.	2006	University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo, Nigeria

Professional Record:

2017 – present	Assistant Professor of Urology, University of Michigan
2015 – 2017	Clinical Lecturer of Urology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Salami provides clinical teaching and research mentorship to undergraduates, graduate students, medical students, residents, and fellows. His teaching primarily takes place in the clinic, on rounds in the hospital, and in the operating room. He directs the department's mock oral boards program and routinely lectures trainees in the areas of renal and adrenal cancer. He is also a faculty lead in robotics training for the residents in the annual robotic surgery training curriculum hosted by Intuitive Surgical Systems in Atlanta, Georgia. His teaching evaluations have been excellent. He has served on one dissertation committee.

Research: Dr. Salami runs a translational research laboratory that is focused on developing and evaluating tissue and urine-based biomarkers to facilitate precision therapeutic strategies for patients with prostate and kidney cancers. He has been successful in obtaining funding from federal and private foundations including the National Institutes of Health, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Department of Defense, as well as a University of Michigan-funded partnership grant with Peking University. He has been granted one patent and has another in process. He has authored 71 peer-reviewed publications, with a large proportion of them as first or senior author. He has presented his work on 18 occasions through invited presentations and has presented his work at podium and poster sessions at major national and international meetings including the American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Urological Association, European Association of Urology, and Society of Urologic Oncology. In recognition of his success and his strong potential for a successful career as an independent-surgeon scientist, he was recently awarded the 2020 American Urology Association Urology Care Foundation Rising Star Award, and the 2020 Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Fellowship Award by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Additionally, he was named a 2022 Rogel Cancer Center Scholar, and the Brian and Rosaline Chamberlain Emerging Scholar.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Cani AK, Hu K, Liu CJ, Siddiqui J, Zheng Y, Han S, Nallandhighal S, Hovelson DH, Xiao L, Pham T, Eyrich NW, Zheng H, Vince R Jr, Tosoian JJ, Palapattu GS, Morgan TM, Wei JT, Udager AM, Chinnaiyan AM, Tomlins SA, Salami SS, "Development of a Whole-Urine, Multiplexed, Next-Generation RNA Sequencing Assay for Early Detection of Aggressive Prostate Cancer," *Eur Urol Oncol* 21: 46-48, 2021. PMID: 33812851
- Salami SS, Tosoian JJ, Nallandhighal S, Jones TA Jr, Brockman S, Elkhoury FF, Bazzi S, Plouffe KR, Siddiqui J, Liu CJ, Kunju LP, Morgan TM, Natarajan S, Boonstra PS, Sumida L, Tomlins SA, Udager AM, Sisk AE Jr, Marks LS, Palapattu GS, "Serial Molecular Profiling of Low-Grade Prostate Cancer to Assess Tumor Upgrading: A Longitudinal Cohort Study," *Eur Urol* 456-465, 2020. PMID: 32631746
- Salami SS, Kaplan JB, Nallandhighal S, Takhar M, Tosoian JJ, Lee M, Yoon J, Hovelson DH, Plouffe KR, Kaffenberger SD, Schaeffer EM, Karnes RJ, Lotan TL, Morgan TM, George AK, Montgomery JS, Davenport MS, You S, Tomlins SA, Curci NE, Kim HL, Spratt DE, Udager AM, Palapattu GS, "Biologic Significance of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Invisibility in Localized Prostate Cancer," *JCO Precis Oncol* 3: 2019. PMID: 32914029
- Salami SS, Singhal U, Spratt DE, Palapattu GS, Hollenbeck BK, Schonhoft JD, Graf R, Louw J, Jendrisak A, Dugan L, Wang Y, Tomlins SA, Dittamore R, Feng FY, Morgan TM, "Circulating Tumor Cells as a Predictor of Treatment Response in Clinically Localized Prostate Cancer," *JCO Precis Oncol* 3: 2019. PMID: 32832835
- Salami SS, Hovelson DH, Kaplan JB, Mathieu R, Udager AM, Curci NE, Lee M, Plouffe KR, de la Vega LL, Susani M, Rioux-Leclercq N, Spratt DE, Morgan TM, Davenport MS, Chinnaiyan AM, Cyrta J, Rubin MA, Shariat SF, Tomlins SA, Palapattu GS, "Transcriptomic Heterogeneity in Multifocal Prostate Cancer," *JCI Insight* 3(21): e123468, 2018. PMID: 30385730

Service: Dr. Salami has a strong record of service at the institutional and national levels. Regionally, he serves on the Rogel Cancer Center Emerging Leaders Council and as the co-director of the Rogel Cancer Center Liquid Biopsy Shared Resources. He is the co-director of the Michigan Urology Academy, the Department of Urology's pipeline initiative to increase diversity in the urology workforce. He is also a member on several national committees for societies such as the Society of Urologic Oncology, the National Medical Association, and the American Urological Association. Nationally, he serves on grant review study sections including the American Urology Association, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, and the Prostate Cancer Foundation, and as ad hoc for the American Urological Association and the NIH National Cancer Institute. Dr. Salami currently sits on two editorial boards and is an ad hoc reviewer for 18 journals, including *PNAS* and *JAMA Oncology*.

Dr. Salami has developed a robust clinical practice focused on prostate and kidney cancer care. He provides outstanding care for patients and has built strong relationships with referring physicians across the state. Clinically, he is viewed as an authority in prostate cancer care, especially for the use of genomic biomarkers in the evaluation of prostate cancer risk and its impact on treatment allocation. This is evidenced by consistent invitations to moderate and present on these topics at regional and national meetings. Further, he continues to contribute immensely towards sustaining the partnership between our institution and MyMichigan Health by providing expert clinical care to patients in this part of the state.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “Urology has a particular need for such experts but has a dearth of individuals with the depth of training and publication track record of Dr. Salami...Two of his recent papers demonstrate his strengths as a surgeon-scientist...He has also been successful in obtaining peer reviewed funding as principal investigator, an achievement that is uncommon among practicing urologists...He is in the top tier of urologic oncologists at his level and is on track to become a leader in our field.”

Reviewer B: “His research work demonstrates innovation and program development...When examining his curriculum vitae, he has 45 publications since joining the faculty in 2017. Of these, the majority are as co-author, but 8 are either as primary or communicating author. These highlight his involvement in team-based science which in this modern era is valued with regard to promotion. In summary I would deem this published work provided as being high-profile and impactful. ”

Reviewer C: “Throughout his 5 years as Assistant Professor he has been relentless in building an innovative research program focused on prostate cancer. I have observed him at national meetings and see that his work is well received, and he is a superb speaker. He has properly focused his research on prostate cancer and has published several high impact papers relevant to clinical practice with immediate opportunities for translation into clinical practice.”

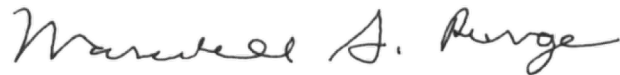
Reviewer D: “He has made the successful transition from a promising respected independent investigator, received highly competitive extramural funding, established a robust collaborative framework, mentored clinical and research trainees, and further diversified the already accomplished division of urologic oncology at Michigan. He would be a strong asset to any research-intensive academic urology department.”

Reviewer E: “Dr. Salami’s bibliography is impressive at such an early stage in his career, with 67 publications, many in high impact journals. More important than quantity, Simpa has published high quality and impactful work... it is clear that Simpa has worked in a highly collaborative manner with his colleagues at Michigan and around the country. On the technical side, his facility with genomics and bio-informatics is unusual in our field and these skills will keep him in good stay over the coming years.”

Reviewer F: “Notably, Dr. Salami has...made key contributions to studies evaluating the impact of racial disparities in urologic clinical care. To support this work, he has secured independent grants to ensure longstanding impact, and with his scientific track record and productivity indicates he will continue to excel prospectively. Thus, his national prominence is well established as a result of these major activities... He has proven himself to be a wonderful steward of the science in his independent faculty position.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Salami has developed a successful career as an academic urologist. He is an independently funded physician-scientist who has already been recognized for his impactful discoveries in the field. Dr. Salami is highly regarded by his peers and has garnered a national reputation as a prostate cancer researcher with a focus on genomic biomarkers and has been an effective leader and educator at our institution and beyond. I am pleased to recommend Simpa Salami, M.B.B.S., M.P.H. for promotion to associate professor of urology, with tenure, Department of Urology, Medical School.



Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs
Dean, Medical School

May 2023