

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

Sriram Venneti, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., associate professor of pathology, with tenure, Department of Pathology, and associate professor of pediatrics, without tenure, Department of Pediatrics, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to professor of pathology, with tenure, Department of Pathology, and professor of pediatrics, without tenure, Department of Pediatrics, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2006	University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
M.B.B.S.	1999	Medicine, Undergraduate and Medical School Program, Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute, Bangalore, Karnataka India

Professional Record:

2020 – present	Associate Professor (with tenure), Department of Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2020 – present	Associate Professor (without tenure), Department of Pediatrics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2018 – 2020	Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2014 – 2020	Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Venneti performs extensive and varied teaching activities. He is the course director for Neuropathology 858, and teaches in Pathology 581, Pathology 862, and Neuroscience 616. This has involved curriculum design and development in addition to didactic presentations. He has mentored clinical fellows, residents, medical students, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, and undergraduate students. As a further testament to his mentorship, two of his current trainees have received independent fellowship awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and several others are now in academic careers around the world. In 2023, the graduate students in the Cellular and Molecular Biology Ph.D. program recognized his contributions with the Faculty Mentorship Award.

Research: Dr. Venneti is an exceptionally strong researcher of epigenetic drivers of pediatric brain cancers and their interface with metabolic pathways who rapidly developed a strong national and international reputation based on his substantial contributions to pediatric neuro-oncology. He has advanced the cancer metabolism field by introducing a new conceptual paradigm and by having his work lead to clinical trials as well as new clinical tests that were adopted by the World Health Organization. He has been continuously funded for this work including from the NIH, The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research, Alex's Lemonade Stand, Chad Tough Foundation, and Hyundai Hope on Wheels among others. His current funding as a principal investigator totals more than \$9.9M. He has authored 93 peer-reviewed manuscripts in top tier journals such as *Cancer Research*, *Cell Reports*, and the *Journal of Pathology*. He has been invited on 67 occasions to present his work nationally and internationally including in Germany, Brazil, Switzerland, France, and Canada. He has

received several national awards for research, including the Hyundai Hope Research Scholar Award in 2020.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Mota M, Sweha SR, Pun M, Natarajan SK, Ding Y, Chung C, Hawes D, Yang F, Judkins AR, Samajdar S, Cao X, Xiao L, Parolia A, Chinnaiyan AM, Venneti S, “Targeting SWI/SNF ATPases in H3.3K27M Diffuse midline gliomas,” *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 2023 May 2;120(18): e2221175120. PM37094128
- Sweha SR, Chung C, Natarajan SK, Panwalkar P, Pun M, Ghali A, Bayliss J, Pratt D, Shankar A, Ravikumar V, Rao A, Cieslik M, Wilder-Romans K, Scott AJ, Wahl DR, Jessa S, Kleinman CL, Jabado N, Mackay A, Jones C, Martinez D, Santi M, Judkins AR, Yadav VN, Qin T, Phoenix TN, Koschmann CJ, Baker SJ, Chinnaiyan AM, Venneti S, “Epigenetically defined therapeutic targeting in H3G34R/V high-grade gliomas,” *Science Translational Medicine* 13(615): eabf7860, 2021. PM34644147
- Panwalkar P, Tamrazi B, Dang D, Chung C, Sweha S, Natarajan SK, Pun M, Bayliss J, Ogradzinski MP, Pratt D, Mullan B, Hawes D, Yang F, Lu C, Sabari BR, Achreja A, Heon J, Animasahun O, Cieslik M, Dunham C, Yip S, Hukin J, Phillips JJ, Bornhorst M, Griesinger AM, Donson AM, Foreman NK, Garton HJL, Heth J, Muraszko K, Nazarian J, Koschmann C, Jiang L, Filbin MG, Negrath D, Kool M, Korshunov A, Pfister SM, Gilbertson RJ, Allis CD, Chinnaiyan AM, Lunt SY, Blüml S, Judkins AR, Venneti S, “Targeting integrated epigenetic and metabolic pathways in lethal childhood PFA ependymomas,” *Science Translational Medicine* 13(614): eabc0497, 2021. PM34613815
- Chung C, Sweha SR, Pratt D, Tamrazi B, Panwalkar P, Banda A, Bayliss J, Hawes D, Yang F, Lee HJ, Shan M, Cieslik M, Qin T, Werner CK, Wahl DR, Lyssiotis CA, Bian Z, Shotwell JB, Yadav VN, Koschmann C, Chinnaiyan AM, Blüml S, Judkins AR, Venneti S, “Integrated Metabolic and Epigenomic Reprograming by H3K27M Mutations in Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Gliomas,” *Cancer Cell* 38: 1-16, 2020. PM32795401
- Panwalkar P, Pratt D, Chung C, Dang D, Le P, Martinez D, Bayliss JM, Smith KS, Adam M, Potter S, Northcott PA, Mascarenhas L, Shows J, Pawel B, Margol A, Huang A, Judkins AR, Venneti S, “SWI/SNF complex heterogeneity is related to polyphenotypic differentiation, prognosis, and immune response in rhabdoid tumors,” *Neuro Oncol* 22(6): 785-796, 2020. PM31912158/PMC7283032

Service: Dr. Venneti has an outstanding service record. Internationally, he has served as a grant reviewer for several international study sections and chair of the Society for Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Cancer Metabolism Seminars. Nationally, he has served on several committees including his role as the co-chair for the American Association for Cancer Research Cancer Metabolism Symposium and the Chad Carr DIPG Workshop. He is one of seven scientists invited to the Joseph Biden White House Moonshot Brain Tumor Forum and has served on several national study sections. Dr. Venneti is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Neuropathology* and *Experimental Neurology* and is an ad hoc reviewer for several journals including *Cancer Cell*, *Nature*, and *Brian Pathology*. Institutionally, he has served on the Pathology Graduate Program admissions committee since 2015. He has chaired the Pediatric Brain Tumor Focus Group since 2019 and has been the scientific director for the Chad Carr Pediatric Brain Tumor Center since 2022. He was appointed as the Al and Robert Glick Family Research Professor of Pediatrics in 2021.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “Sriram has been very productive during his time as an Assistant and Associate Professor. He has published numerous very impressive papers, all in excellent journals.”

Reviewer B: “Dr. Venneti has received continuous NIH funding to support his independent research efforts. He has also been the recipient of significant pediatric foundation grants. He has published the results of his work in top tier cancer science journals and has also presented his work at national and international meetings.”

Reviewer C: “Dr. Venneti’s work impresses me in part because he is one of the few scientists I know with truly excellent basic science skills who can carry his observations into top-notch translational research and even interventional trials. Most of his studies that I have read include data obtained directly from patients or patient-derived samples. This suggests that his lab’s work will have a lasting impact with true relevance to human cancer.”

Reviewer D: “His publication record is excellent, as he has 94 total publications with approximately 25 of the coming since his last promotion in 2020—this is outstanding productivity during very trying times for all of us. Among the representative publications are papers in the very top journals, including Cancer Cell, Science Translational Medicine, PNAS, and NeuroOncology.”

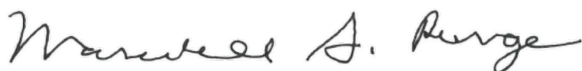
Reviewer E: “Dr. Venneti has been active as a teacher...he has served as a mentor to a large number of undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and visiting scholars. He has also served on thesis committees and lectures in a range of didactic courses.”

Reviewer F: “He is an outstanding translational scientist who is doing important work at the intersection of discovery science and clinical medicine. He has contributed findings that have real potential to make an impact in the clinic.”

Reviewer G: “Dr. Venneti’s research accomplishments are truly remarkable, and his publication record, coupled with his ability to secure substantial research funding, is a testament to his outstanding achievements...Dr. Venneti has demonstrated exceptional achievement in all aspects of his career, and I am confident that he will continue to establish a strong reputation in the cancer research field.”

Summary of Recommendations:

Dr. Venneti’s research accomplishments are truly remarkable, and his publication record, coupled with his ability to secure substantial research funding, is a testament to his outstanding achievements. He is an outstanding educator, clinician, and scholar who has made significant contributions to the department and the university. I am pleased to recommend Sriram Venneti, M.B.B.S., Ph.D. for promotion to professor of pathology, with tenure, Department of Pathology, and professor of pediatrics, without tenure, Department of Pediatrics, Medical School.



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

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