



**iJOBS Career Panel: Contract Research Organizations (CROs)**  
**Monday, December 7, 2020**  
**10:30 AM**



**Xiaotang (Jessica) Ma, PhD**  
**Clinical Pharmacology Scientist**  
**Frontage Laboratories, Inc.**  
**973-818-8372**  
[xm62@njit.edu](mailto:xm62@njit.edu)

Xiaotang (Jessica) Ma is now a Clinical Pharmacology scientist working at Frontage Laboratories, Inc. She graduated with a PhD degree in Biomedical Engineering at New Jersey Institute of Technology last December, and joined Frontage Laboratories this January. Her PhD study was to develop a peptide hydrogel with regenerative medicine to treat traumatic brain injury in animal models. She also did a graduate internship last summer at Amgen, to build a machine learning model for adverse effects assessment. Her current job is to do Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic analysis, modeling and simulation in the CRO, and help pharmaceutical companies to make decisions in clinical trials study design.



**Srilatha Simhadri, PhD**  
**Scientist II, WuXi AppTec**  
**Cranbury, NJ**  
[srilatha\\_simhadri@wuxiapptec.com](mailto:srilatha_simhadri@wuxiapptec.com)  
**609-865-9531 (m)**

I completed both my MS and PhD at Rutgers Univ, the former from the department of Microbiology & Molecular Genetics, and my PhD from the department of Cellular & Molecular Pharmacology. Between getting these two degrees, I worked for about seven and a half years at a CRO. I currently am employed at another CRO as a Scientist in the department of in vitro Biology. Along with other members in the group, I run assay validations and compound screens in a high-throughput format for several therapeutic targets. The best part of my job is that no day is the same! Interestingly, the founder of the company I currently work for also worked at my former company (though I haven't met him here yet).



**Miguel Cabrera, PhD**  
**Clinical Project Manager**  
**Target Health**  
**Phone: 212.681.2100 Ext 304**  
**Email: [miguelcabrera1988@gmail.com](mailto:miguelcabrera1988@gmail.com)**

Miguel Cabrera is a Clinical Project Manager at Target Health, LLC. In this role, he is currently managing 2 clinical trials focusing on CNS disorders. He joined Target Health in 2018 as an

intern in the Clinical Operations Department. Upon completion of his internship, he was hired as a Clinical Operations Specialist in 2019 and then promoted to Clinical Project Manager in 2020. Prior to working at Target Health, he received his PhD in Endocrinology and Animal Biosciences (Advisor: Dr. Dipak Sarkar) from Rutgers University. His doctoral thesis focused on the neurotoxic effects of fetal alcohol exposure on the development of the stress axis.



**Gabriele Vincelli, PhD**

**Senior Scientist**

**Evotec**

[Gabriele.Vincelli@evotec.com](mailto:Gabriele.Vincelli@evotec.com)

Gabriele Vincelli completed his Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology from the University of Bologna (Italy) in 2007 and his Master of Science in Molecular Biotechnology from the same university in 2010, with a thesis on E. coli DNA replicase. For his graduate studies, he joined the Pharmacology department of the University of Bologna, studying the mechanisms through which inflammation alters opioid signaling pathways. During this period, he spent one year at Rutgers University, studying interactions between synaptic proteins involved in the onset of autism. He received his doctoral degree in Biochemical and Biotechnological Sciences in 2014. He then moved back to Rutgers University for his post-doctoral fellowship, studying mechanisms of DNA repair and their impact on cell cycle and cancer. Always believing in the power of multi-disciplinarity for the advancement of science and having developed a broad skillset, Gabriele decided to join the CRO industry to apply his expertise at the service of different pharmaceutical industries. In 2019, he joined Evotec as a Senior Scientist, currently working on cell line development.



**Andrew Napper, PhD**

**Vice President of Discovery Sciences and Princeton Site Head**

**Evotec**

[andrew.napper@evotec.com](mailto:andrew.napper@evotec.com)

**609-968-1387**

Andrew Napper is a native of England. After a BA and MA in Chemistry from the University of Oxford, he moved to the USA for a Ph.D. in Chemistry focused on enzymology in the lab of Steve Benkovic at Penn State University. Andrew moved directly from his Ph.D. to a start-up biotech company in Maryland, and then after two years to Boston/Cambridge where he spent 14 years at Genzyme and various smaller biotech companies. In 2005 he joined the University of Pennsylvania to direct a new high-throughput screening lab in the NIH Molecular Libraries Screening Center Network, and in 2009 continued in academic/non-profit drug discovery for a further 8 years at the Nemours/A.I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, DE. After one year at a small biotech in the San Francisco Bay Area, Andrew joined Evotec in 2018 as Vice President of Discovery Sciences and Princeton Site Head. Andrew currently leads a team of 60 assay, cell science, protein science, and structural biology scientists in Princeton supporting pharmaceutical and biotech companies and academic drug discovery.

