

Pankaj B. Desai, Ph.D.
University of Cincinnati



Pankaj B. Desai is currently Professor of Pharmacokinetics and Biopharmaceutics and Director, Drug Development Graduate Program, College of Pharmacy, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH. Dr. Desai received his B.S. degree (1982, Birla Institute, India) and M.S. (1984, Gujarat University, India) and Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences (1990, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC). He joined UC in 1995 after serving as an assistant/associate professor at the University of Louisiana, Monroe, LA from 1990 - 1995. His research interests include pre-clinical and clinical studies on drug metabolism, transport and pharmacokinetics. The current focus of his laboratory is on translational/experimental therapeutics research to facilitate the development and optimizing the clinical use of anti-cancer drugs. Dr. Desai directs a vigorous, extramurally-funded research program and has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications. His research has been funded by NIH, Komen Foundation, American Cancer society and various pharmaceutical companies. He has mentored over 30 MS/Ph.D students and Post-Doctoral research fellows. Dr. Desai was the principal architect of the novel graduate curriculum in drug development program at UC College of Pharmacy launched in 2004. Approximately 80 students have earned an MS degree from this program thus far with current enrollment of 20 students.

Dr. Desai is an active member of several organizations including American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS), American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and the International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics. He has held numerous leadership positions at the national/international level including serving as the chair of the Drug Metabolism Focus Group of AAPS (2001-2003), Chair, PPDM Abstract Screening Committee (2010-2012) and Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect/Chair of the Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics and Drug Metabolism section of the AAPS. He is currently a scientific member of the Schulman Associates Institutional Review Board and also serves as an *ad hoc* reviewer for numerous scientific journals and for the Experimental Therapeutics Study Section, Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program and the National Cancer Institute/NIH.

Dr. Desai has received numerous teaching and research excellence awards at both University of Louisiana and University of Cincinnati. The teaching awards include Rho Chi Teacher of the Year awards in 2002 and 2008 at UC. He has also been the recipient of some of the most prestigious university wide awards. These include the Researcher of the Year Award at ULM in 1994 and the President's Excellence Award at UC in 2006.

Dr. Desai also serves as a consultant to several small and large pharmaceutical/biotech companies to assist in drug discovery and development efforts, especially those related to pre-clinical lead optimization, clinical candidate selection efforts and clinical pharmacology studies (Pharmacokinetics/Bioavailability/Bioequivalence/Drug-Drug Interactions/Pharmacogenomics).