



Ronen Sumagin, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Department of Pathology
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Education:

Dr. Sumagin received his B.S. in Biotechnology and Biological Sciences from Ort Braude College in Israel and completed his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Rochester in 2008. His doctoral work defined how ICAM-1 spatial organization regulates leukocyte-endothelial interactions and vascular permeability. He pursued postdoctoral and early faculty training at Emory University, where he transitioned into mucosal immunology and intestinal inflammation.

Professional Experience:

Dr. Sumagin joined Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in 2014, where he is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology and a member of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center. He has established a highly productive and continuously funded research program supported by the NIH, American Cancer Society, Crohn's & Colitis Foundation and other agencies. He serves in leadership roles across national societies, including the American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP Council) and the Society for Leukocyte Biology and is an Associate Editor at the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*.

Research Interests:

For nearly two decades, Dr. Sumagin's research has focused on innate immune mechanisms regulating mucosal inflammation, tissue repair and colorectal cancer. His laboratory has made key contributions to understanding neutrophil and macrophage biology, including how these cells coordinate epithelial barrier function, drive tissue injury and promote resolution or tumorigenesis depending on context. Using advanced intravital imaging, spatial transcriptomics and mechanistic models, his group has uncovered how immune cell trafficking, phenotypic plasticity and microenvironmental cues shape disease progression. His work has also identified novel mechanisms underlying resistance to biologic therapies in inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and revealed therapeutic targets to enhance mucosal healing and limit cancer development.

Training Commitment:

Dr. Sumagin has a long-standing commitment to mentoring trainees at all levels, including undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral fellows. He has mentored multiple award-winning trainees and serves as a preceptor on NIH-funded training grants (T32 programs) in immunology, rheumatology and cancer biology. His teaching emphasizes creating an inclusive and rigorous scientific environment that fosters independence, critical thinking, and career development.

Statement of Interest and Contribution to the SLB Dr. Sumagin has been an active and engaged member of the SLB, with sustained contributions spanning service, publishing and community building. He currently serves on the SLB Publications Committee, where he is engaged in developing strategies to increase both the quality and quantity of manuscript submissions to the society's flagship journal *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, enhance the journal's impact and improve its visibility to the broader immunology community. In addition to his service role, Dr. Sumagin contributes to JLB, as an Editorial Board member and frequent reviewer. His scientific work is highly recognized within the field, including authorship of one of the most highly cited papers in the journal (over 1000 citations), reflecting both the impact and visibility of his research within the leukocyte biology community. Through these roles, he has actively supported the promotion, quality and scientific influence of the journal.

As a candidate for Councilor, Dr. Sumagin aims to build on this foundation by advancing several key priorities: (i) further expanding SLB membership through targeted outreach and increased engagement of trainees and international investigators; (ii) enhancing the visibility and impact of SLB and its journal through strategic promotion and integration with emerging areas of immunology; (iii) strengthening career development and mentorship initiatives; and (iv) contributing to the organization of high-impact scientific meetings. His combined experience in leadership, publishing and community engagement positions him to effectively support SLB's continued growth and mission.