



# Sankalp JAIN



**Finishing year:** 2018

**Supervisor:** Gerhard Ecker,  
Faculty of Life Sciences,  
University of Vienna

**Thesis title:** Ligand-based and  
Structure-based Studies to  
Understand the Molecular Basis  
of Inhibition of ABC Transporters  
Expressed in the Liver.

**Current Position and Employer:**  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow;  
Division of Preclinical Innovation  
Early Translation Branch, NCATS,  
NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA

**MolTag alumni page:**

[Sankalp Jain \(univie.ac.at\)](https://univie.ac.at)

**Social networks:**

[Sankalp Jain | LinkedIn](#)

[Sankalp Jain \(@Sankinator\) / Twitter](#)

## How would you summarize your thesis results in 3 sentences?

My Ph.D. focused on structure-based drug design studies on three major ABC transporters—BSEP, BCRP and P-glycoprotein—that helped in identifying the molecular features responsible for the inhibitory activity of ligands at these transporters.

## What did you do after your PhD?

Currently I am a postdoctoral research fellow in the Early Translation Branch at NCATS-NIH. I serve as a computational chemist, specializing in chemoinformatics, machine learning and molecular modeling. I apply and develop artificial intelligence-based machine learning prediction and classification models and perform virtual screening for various therapeutic endpoints.

## What was the impact of the MolTag program on your further career?

Moltag brings experts/researchers from diverse (yet related) domains of drug-design together; **this really helped me in expanding my knowledge and skills in those areas.**

## Did you keep connections with some former colleagues?

For Sure! The people and connection we made during the MolTag period happens to stay connected 😊

## What did you particularly like about the MolTag program?

What I liked most are the **guest lectures and journal clubs** organized for MolTag. And also the retreats were the best part of MolTag, where we can exchange science over great food and drinks 😊

## What is your recommendation for current MolTag PhD students?

Well my recommendation would be to take the complete benefit of the MolTag program by attending the lectures and presentations. **Also do focus on networking from different conferences and project meetings.**

