

## Francine Baker

Postbaccalaureate  
DCEG Shady Grove

### Education

M.S., Biology Candidate, University of the District of Columbia/Georgetown University Partnership Program

B.S., Public Health Science, University of Maryland School of Public Health

### Scientific Interests

- Infectious disease and immunology with a special interest in immuno-oncology
- Health disparities in research and in public health education/promotion

### I applied to iCURE because...

I applied to iCURE for an opportunity to continue my graduate school research in an environment that would support not just my academic growth, but also my professional growth and development.

### My favorite traditions/holidays...

My favorite cultural tradition is holiday breakfast, especially Thanksgiving and Christmas. Being from Jamaica, holiday breakfast is everything. The spread is almost as big as dinner with everything being fresh, hot, and, best of all, homemade.

### My hometown is...

I was born in Jamaica, West Indies, and grew up in New York.

### In my spare time, I enjoy...

I love road trips...let's just get in the car and drive! Destination TBD.... I enjoy reading books about medicine, public health, and diseases and discussing them with my family. My favorite ones so far are *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, *She has Her Mother's Laugh*, *The Emperor of All Maladies*, and *Being Mortal*.

### A few of my favorite things...

- My all-time favorite movie is *The Shawshank Redemption*.
- My favorite place in the whole wide world is the beach.
- I'm obsessed with the color purple (not the movie).

## Ludmila Prokunina-Olsson, PhD

Chief, Senior Investigator  
Laboratory of Translational Genomics  
DCEG Shady Grove

### Words to live by...

"Help me to do it myself," which goes in both directions—I help you; you help me.

### What is your favorite thing about working at NCI?

The opportunity to address important questions

### In my spare time, I enjoy...

I like to travel, spending time with my family, gardening, and knitting (but, unfortunately, no time for it anymore)

### My favorite traditions/holidays...

Celebrating Midsummer, which is an old tradition in Sweden