Louise Stone

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About

PhD Title: The affects of extracellular matrix proteins on the expression of Cytoglobin in Hepatic Stellate Cells

Supervisors: Dr Nik Hodges (University of Birmingham) and Dr Mark Graham (MG Toxicology Consulting)

Hepatic Stellate Cells (HSCs) play a major role in scar formation on injury to the liver, when they become activated and secrete Extracelluar Matrix (ECM) proteins. The recently discovered globin, Cytoglobin (Cygb) has been linked to HSC activation state and may therefore be important in the process of scar formation. It has been shown that ECM can also affect HSC on activation state, we are therefore investigating if ECM has effect on Cygb expression in HSCs.

Qualifications

MRes Evolutionary Biology: Distintion (University of Glasgow)
BSc Marine Biology: 2:1 (Bangor University)

Biography

Louise undertook a BSc in Marine Biology at Bangor University and continued her studies at Glasgow University gaining a Distinction in her MRes in Evolutionary Biology focusing, on the farming of Atlantic Salmon. She then worked as a Research Technician on The AMBIO project under Prof. Callow at the University of Birmingham then as a Research Assistant for Dr. Jill Baker at the Institute of Cell Signaling at the University of Nottingham before returning to Birmingham to conduct her PhD.

Research

Liver Disease, Hepatic Stellate Cells and Cytoglobin

Other activities

Louise greatly enjoys communicating science; she is currently editor of the Core Concepts Section of the **Oxbridge Biotech Roundtable Review (http://www.oxbridgebiotech.com/review/)** , a role which she has held since July 2013. She was also shortlisted for The Oxbridge Biotech Roundtable Science Writing Prize 2013, and won the University of Birmingham, School of Biosciences Communication Competition 2013. She is an active STEM Ambassador, taking part in many school led science activities, including a two day STEM based activity session out in the Lickey Hills with Bishop Challoner School from Kings Heath. She also and has also organized and delivered an interactive 'Meet the Scientist' activity day at ThinkTank Birmingham with a display about DNA.

Publications

Stone, L., Graham, M., Hodges, N. Influence of Extracellular Matrix proteins on celluar phenotype and and cytoglobin expression in immoratlised hepatic stellate cells. Astra Zeneca Science Safety Showcase. 2013

Gharbi, K., Glover, K. A., **Stone, L. C**., MacDonald, E. S., Matthews, L., Grimholt, U. & Stear, M. J. 2009. *Bmc Genetics,* 10.