

SAMER CHAOUKI HALABI

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Citizenship: Lebanese

Languages: English and Arabic

EDUCATION

May 2012- July 2015

Ph.D. in Biochemistry

University of Cambridge

Supervisor: Professor Nick Gay

Project: characterizing the role of BCAP which has been shown to associate with p85, the regulatory subunit of PI3K that regulates its function and has been reported to be a negative regulator of inflammation induced by TLR and immune system activation. Results characterize the role of BCAP in the cross-talk between the TLR and the PI3K pathways; BCAP and p85 were both expressed in insect cells and their complex purified and studied. By applying LC-MS/MS, novel phosphorylation sites were identified. In addition, crystallization of a BCAP domain was done revealing its 3D structure.

2004- 2009

M.Sc. in Biochemistry

Beirut Arab University

Supervisor: Professor Mohamed El-Sayed Mostafa

Project: studying the effect of Cyclooxygenase-2 inhibition using curcumin on the gene expression of molecular markers of angiogenesis and metastasis, in the breast cancer. The study was conducted using a rat model of breast cancer by injecting the rats with the carcinogen DMBA. Curcumin was shown to decrease the level of all the studied markers in the tumor versus normal mammary tissue, indicating its possible action in inhibiting angiogenesis and metastasis of breast cancer.

Note that during the time of preparation of my Master's degree, there were frequent interruptions due to war clashes in Lebanon between 2005 and 2008.

2003- 2004 **Diploma in Biochemistry**
Beirut Arab University

1999- 2003 **B.Sc. in Biochemistry**
Beirut Arab University

AWARDS

2012- 2015 Merit Scholarship for Higher Technology Studies,
Cambridge Trust (in collaboration with the Islamic
Development Bank).

2011- 2015 Full Merit Scholarship for Higher Technology Studies,
Islamic Development Bank (for 3 years).

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Physical techniques

Analytical Ultracentrifugation, Dynamic Light Scattering, Surface Plasmon Resonance, Isothermal Titration Calorimetry, Protein crystallization.

Molecular and cellular techniques

Gene cloning, recombinant protein expression and purification from bacteria, yeast, insect and mammalian cells, Yeast two-hybrid screen, pull-down assays, RT-PCR, immunoblotting, protein extraction and assay, Zymography method, histology section preparation, enzymology, ELISA, CYP450 assay.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University teaching:

2014 University of Cambridge, School of Life Sciences/School
of Plant Sciences, Lab Demonstrator.

2013-2014 University of Cambridge, School of Life Sciences, Project
Management and Supervision of Part III Project.
Screening for novel binding partners of LRRK2, a protein
associated with Parkinson's disease, from human spleen
cDNA library by using Yeast two-hybrid assay.

2006- 2012 Beirut Arab University, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Medicine, and Faculty of Pharmacy, Lab Instructor of Metabolism, Enzymology, Bioorganic Chemistry, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Clinical Biochemistry, and Advanced Molecular Biology.

2008-2012 Lebanese International University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Lab Instructor of Cell and Molecular Biology, Plant Physiology, and Microbiology, Food Chemistry, General Biology II, and Freshman Biology.

High school teaching:

2008-2009 Tanoukhih National School, Secondary School Teacher of Biology.

2006-2008 Lebanese American School, High School Teacher of Biology, Chemistry, Math and Physics.

2005-2006 Orientation and Education School, High School Teacher of Chemistry and Math.

2004-2005 Lebanese School, Elementary School Teacher of Biology and Chemistry.

PUBLICATIONS

- Characterization of B cell Adaptor for Phosphoinositide 3-kinase (BCAP) and its Isoforms in Innate Immunity. Samer C. Halabi, Martin Moncrieffe and Nick Gay. (In preparation.)
- Effect of Cyclooxygenase-2 Inhibition by Curcumin on the Gene Expression of Molecular Markers of Angiogenesis and Metastasis in the Breast Cancer. Samer C. Halabi and Mohamed El-Sayed Mostafa. (In preparation.)

REFERENCES

Prof. Nick Gay – Department of Biochemistry – University of Cambridge.
(Current supervisor) Tel: 0044(0)1223 334976 e-mail: njg11@cam.ac.uk

Prof. Mohamed El-Sayed Mostafa- Faculty of Science - B.A.U.
(Former supervisor) Tel: 009617985050 ext: 3310 e-mail: mohamed.moustafa@bau.edu.lb

Dr. Martin Moncrieffe – Department of Biochemistry – University of Cambridge (Current research collaborator)

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