

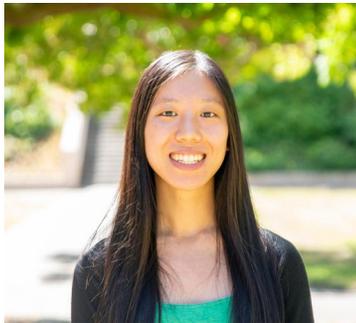
MMI 291 Seminar Series

Current Theme: Interdisciplinary Research
Spring Quarter 2025 – CRN 47397

Join us for Medical Microbiology and Immunology
Department research presentations

Friday Seminar at 12:10-1 p.m.

Genome and Biomedical Sciences Facility, Room 1005



Jessica Huang, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Scholar

Janine LaSalle Research Lab

Research Presentation Title: “Role of a novel micropeptide in hypoxia-induced oxidative stress”

Description of Research: Although the brain only makes up 2% of our body mass, it consumes 20% of the oxygen that we breathe in. Insufficient oxygen levels and subsequent oxidative stress are implicated in many diseases as well as neurodevelopmental disorders such as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). ASD has a complex etiology involving genetic, environment, and gene-environment interactions. The LaSalle lab has discovered a novel gene that has decreased expression in ASD placenta and brain. This gene is primate specific and encodes a neuronal, nuclear-localized micropeptide called NHIP (neuronal hypoxia inducible, placental-associated). Its expression increases upon exposure to cobalt chloride, a hypoxia mimetic. This suggests that NHIP may play a protective role during hypoxia-induced oxidative stress. Our goal is to characterize the role of NHIP in oxidative stress and develop it as a therapeutic.

Research Interests: neurodevelopmental disorders, oxidative stress

April
25



April 25, 2025
12:10 – 1 p.m.
GBSF
Hybrid Meeting

Medical Microbiology
and Immunology
School of Medicine

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We hope to see you there!