

Metastasis Research Society

NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 2009

EDITORS: ANN CHAMBERS AND LYNN MATRISIAN

Interactions between the MRS and Chinese Metastasis Researchers.

Yibin Kang, of Princeton, has served as an emissary to metastasis researchers in China. The 8th Chinese Tumor Metastasis Meeting will be held in Tianjin, China on July 3-6, 2009. The MRS will collaborate with the leadership of this meeting. Yibin Kang, Rik Thompson and Kazuyuki Itoh will represent the MRS board to attend, and Rik will serve as a co-chair. We outlined several potential collaborative goals:

- Could the Chinese metastasis research organization annually create a list of their top doctoral candidates, so that we can more efficiently process applications from that country for postdoc positions?
- Can we learn more about the translational and clinical trial programs in China?
- In turn, we hope that a representative of this organization will attend and participate in the 2010 MRS meeting.

For further information on this meeting, please visit the conference website at <http://www.2009ctmrs.org/> or contact: Ms. Guojing Zhang [medp8083@gmail.com].

Make Sure Your Colleagues Maintain their MRS Memberships.

MRS memberships for 2009 are due. As of this printing, only current members will receive the newsletter. Please pass the information below to your colleagues to ensure that they continue to support this society.

Dues can be paid by check, in US dollars.

Send check to:

Metastasis Research Society

c/o D.R. Welch

293 Strathdon Pl

Vestavia Hills, AL 35242-0523

Annual dues are as follows:

Researchers: \$ 105

Postdocs: \$ 75

Students: \$ 50

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MRS 2010 Update:

As you know, the MRS will partner again with the AACR for a joint meeting in 2010. Two venues are currently under discussion: the east coast of the US or Lisbon, Portugal. The latter site results from the extraordinary ambassadorship of David Lyden, of Cornell, for Portugal's Champalimaud Foundation. We hope to have a final site by the next newsletter.

Translation anyone?

By Lynn Matrisian

Interested in figuring out what is needed to translate your basic science discoveries into clinical trials? Check out the "Pathways to Clinical Goals", published in *Clinical Cancer Research* 14,5663-5713, 2008 (available at clincancerres.aacrjournals.org without subscription, thanks to AACR).

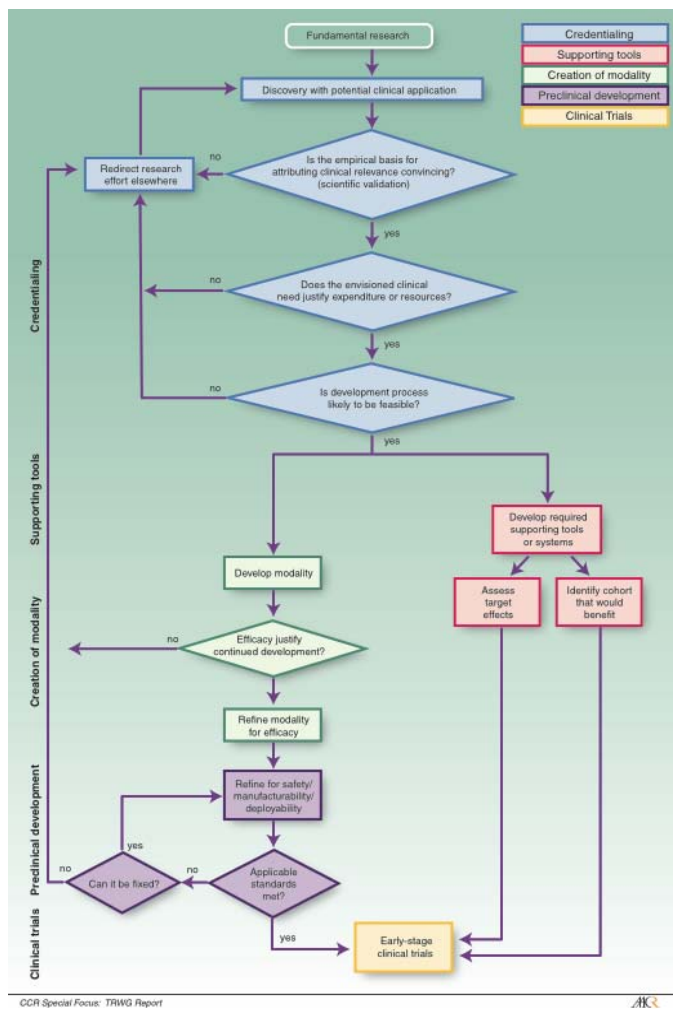


Fig. 1. Generic developmental pathway to clinical goal. The generic TRWG pathway is depicted as a flowchart, a schematic process representation widely used in engineering. Rounded rectangle at the top, origin of the process. Square-cornered rectangles, activity steps. Diamonds, conditional tests or decision steps. Unidirectional arrows, direction of the activity sequence, and the direction of transfer of supporting tools from their parallel paths to the main path of modality development. The initial steps of the pathway (blue) are required to proceed through the pathway, with the blue diamonds representing the credentialing steps of scientific validation, clinical need, and feasibility. Subsequent steps include the development of supporting tools (red), the creation of the modality (green), preclinical development (purple), and early stage clinical trials (yellow). From Hawk et al, *CCR* 14: 5664-5671, 2008.

OK, it looks a little daunting – not many of us are used to looking at engineering flow charts (Figure 1). But the Pathways to Clinical Goals provide a framework for evaluating current translational research opportunities, and identifying what needs to be done to take that concept to the point of testing in early phase clinical trials.

There are 6 Pathways identified by the NCI’s Translational Research Working Group. Two focus on assessing cancer – one by imaging techniques and the other using biospecimens (tissue, serum, etc). Four Pathways concentrate on the development of interventions, including Agents (drugs and biologics), Immune Response Modifiers, Interventive Devices (surgery, radiation, etc), and Lifestyle Alterations. The Introduction and Overview paper (pgs 5664-5671) is a great place to start, with details on the similarities and differences in each of the pathways in subsequent articles.

Each Pathway starts with three diamonds – information that needs to be assessed to make a decision to proceed through the pathway. How robust is the scientific validation of this concept? What is the clinical need? Is it feasible? A series of green boxes describe the steps necessary to create the modality – for example generate and refine a lead compound in the Agents Pathway, and devise a credentialed assay in the Biomarkers Pathway. The steps involved in Preclinical Development (purple boxes) are required before Clinical Trials (yellow boxes) can be performed. Red boxes indicate Supporting Tools that are needed – for example, animal models, cohorts, the development of assays to identify responsive patients, etc. Identifying steps that need to be performed (boxes), decisions that need to be made (diamonds), and how they are connected (arrows) provides a tool to assist in mapping out the steps and identifying the collaborators and resources needed to get where you want to go.

Metastasis Research Society members are devoted to understanding and devising new ways to detect, prevent, and treat metastases, the deadliest aspect of cancer. Let’s see if we can focus our efforts in type 1 translational research (from “bench to bedside”) for even greater benefit. The Pathways are not static, but are meant to evolve and to expand or collapse depending on the specific purpose. Give the Pathways a try...they just may help accelerate translational research efforts in the metastasis field!

Introducing Catherine Ebbs

By Ann Chambers

I invited my colleague and good friend Catherine Ebbs to write the following for the MRS newsletter, because I thought Catherine’s insights would be extremely helpful to MRS scientists. Catherine is a breast cancer survivor. She also is a mother, wife, former teacher, retired professor, and co-founding member and former director of Rowbust, a breast cancer survivor dragonboat racing team representing the London, Ontario region. Catherine has her M.Ed. from the University of Windsor, and her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in Education/Reading and Literacy - who better than Catherine to try to keep a group of scientists speaking and writing in understandable, lay language! Following her breast cancer diagnosis, she retired to spend more time with her family,

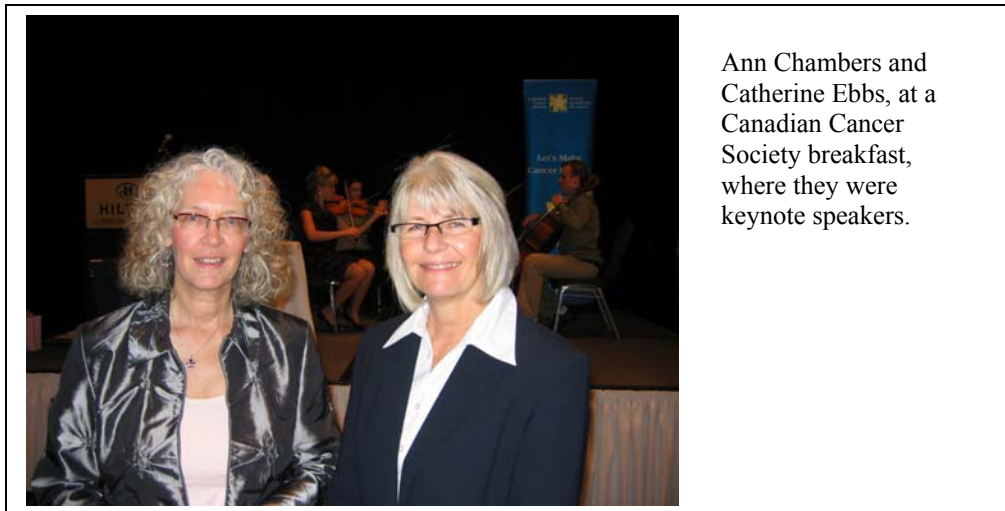
finished a grueling regimen of treatments, and became very active in the breast cancer community in London, Ontario.

Since 2005, I have been very fortunate to have Catherine as the Lay member of breast cancer metastasis research program project grant that I direct, funded by the Canadian Breast Cancer Research Alliance. I asked Catherine to share some of her experiences with working with a group of research scientists and trainees, as she and we evolved to develop a role for a breast cancer survivor as an integral member of our research team. From the scientists' point of view, this has been a highly successful experiment, and I wanted other members of the metastasis research community to learn something about the exciting journey on which Catherine is leading us.

A Meeting of Minds: Breast Cancer Survivors and Student Researchers Together

By Catherine Ebbs

Scientific research can be overwhelming, particularly when what you have worked on for a period of time has not come to fruition in the way that was planned. How do eager, talented, young, scientific student researchers rejuvenate their enthusiasm and motivation after the inevitable “failed” experiment? One answer for such a dilemma came from a novel opportunity made available to a group of new student researchers. In the spring of 2008, a small group of student researchers gathered together to have dinner and to chat with some very interested breast cancer survivors from a local dragonboat team. What ensued provided the students with the necessary enthusiasm and motivation needed to persist when experimental outcomes are less than satisfactory to them. Not only did renewed enthusiasm occur but also much more occurred for both students and survivors as the sharing of journeys took place. Here is their story.



The opportunity was made possible through a unique aspect of a much larger scientific study. Dr. Ann Chambers, Distinguished Oncology Scientist at the London Regional Cancer Program, Canada Research Chair in Oncology at the University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada, and Director of the Pamela Greenaway Kohlmeier

Translational Breast Cancer Research Unit is the principal investigator of the study. In 2005, a grant from the Canadian Breast Cancer Research Alliance was awarded to a group of interdisciplinary scientists to study breast cancer metastasis through the lymph nodes. On page 10 of the application instructions was a small but significant request to delineate the “role and representation of persons living with or at risk of breast cancer”. Thus began a unique, pilot experiment in the lay participation of Catherine Ebbs, a local breast cancer survivor, on a scientific research project.

Together with the scientists, Catherine brainstormed what her participation on the interdisciplinary team might look like. It has varied from helping the scientists explore ways of expressing their scientific terms in lay language, to setting up a website, arranging speaking engagements, attending conferences, participating in the monthly scientific meetings, organizing focus group meetings with local survivors and the one of which this article writes, a student researcher/breast cancer survivor evening.

The evening was held at the home of one of the survivors who happens to make excellent chili. The students were not only enticed by a chance to have a free, delicious meal in a welcoming home atmosphere but were both as honoured and eager to meet with the



Student researchers and breast cancer survivors shared their stories over dinner.

breast cancer survivors as the survivors were to meet with them.

There were a total of seven student researchers and seven breast cancer survivors. The evening began with a welcome activity. A series of personal statements about each of the student

researchers and survivors were circulated among the group and they spent about twenty minutes matching the statements up to a particular person. All enjoyed the experience and getting to know one fact about each other. Student researchers were then paired with breast cancer survivors. The pairs were invited to partake of and chat over dinner. The conversations were continuous, lively and flowing. Survivors shared stories of diagnosis and treatment and of life after treatment and student researchers shared stories of recent research efforts. For over an hour and a half the pairs chatted and enjoyed dinner and storytelling alike.

BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR _ “We were talking at our table about how powerless you feel when this disease enters your body and you don’t know what is going to happen and when you get that sense of power back you can almost do anything.”

STUDENT RESEARCHER – We went into a local business and talked to employees and asked do you have any breast cancer patients and even there they said well no we don’t think that they would want to be seen.”

BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR – They are going up to paddle in the Yukon River and they don't know if they are going to stay healthy. They are going up there to do this phenomenal race and that's what a lot of the breast cancer survivors do. The ones that I have met are incredibly courageous and pretty powerful women. Nothing stops them. There are now survivors climbing Kilimanjaro. ”

Personal sharing occurred across many fronts. Issues of power were discussed, e.g. personal loss of power at diagnosis for the breast cancer survivors. Treatment regimens and ensuing symptoms were shared. Late nights in the laboratories, failed experiments and feelings of frustration were expressed. Examples of community awareness of breast cancer were revealed. Examples of the experiences of dragonboat racing and fundraising for other survivors in other communities were shared e.g. raising funds for the women of Nunavut for a mammogram machine through a trip to paddle in the Yukon with the Canadians Abreast team.

A Meaningful Opportunity

They were then all asked to join together as a single group and debrief of the evenings' conversations and the experience as a whole. What follows are statements from the breast cancer survivors and student researchers alike reflecting upon the evening:

STUDENT RESEARCHER - “Attending the student and survivor night was very refreshing for me. The end goal of my research is always in the back of my mind, but while doing experiments day to day, it's very easy to get caught up in the little details. Days can be very frustrating when experiments don't go as planned and the end goal can seem very far away. The women I met at the survivor night were an inspiration. They are so strong and so supportive, of each other and of us students. After meeting the survivors, I find that whenever I get frustrated dealing with the little details of my experiments, I think of them and then all the frustration seems a very small price.”

STUDENT RESEARCHER – “When you're frustrated (in your work) you see the faces of the survivors.”

BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR – “You are in there, you are doing this (your research) and that's phenomenal so thank you for doing that.”

STUDENT RESEARCHER - “The student survivor night really helped me put a face to what the research we are doing is all about. I know this seems corny but meeting these women and hearing their amazing stories was inspiring and made me realize how little I do in my own life. To think these women survived such an ordeal as breast cancer and went on to travel the world on behalf of survivors, completing rowing challenges that make me, a healthy young man, cringe to think about was an experience I won't forget. They taught me, if only for a brief moment, not to sweat the small stuff. Even though my research may not be going the way I want it, there are people out there who are rooting for me that I've never even met, and now some I have.”

BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR – “I really appreciate it. Until you have been threatened with losing it all, you appreciate, it is unbelievable how much appreciation you have for that (the research). It means a whole lot.”

STUDENT RESEARCHER - “...This kind of communication is really important, pretty powerful and unique. I've never been anywhere where I've actually seen this connection. It's funny because that's the whole point. The whole point in our research is to see this, to

see the survivors and what has happened and I've never actually seen this kind of a connection anywhere else. I think that it is unique and should be spread to more institutions..."

BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR - "When I close my eyes tonight and say a prayer thanking whomever I believe in that I am still here, it will be your faces that I will see and will know OK they are in their labs working their little hearts out to find new treatments...."

STUDENT RESEARCHER - Getting to know the personal stories of breast cancer survivors has put the work I do each day into perspective. It has given purpose to my research, and reminded me how important cancer research is to thousands of families across Canada and in the world. Thousands of women each year are diagnosed with breast cancer, and have to deal with the physical struggles associated with chemotherapy, surgery, and lifelong follow-up testing. Emotionally, they have to face the difficult task of telling their loved ones, and facing the realities of living with a possibly terminal disease. The more awareness that is raised, and the more research that is conducted, the more these women can live a healthy and happy life, absent of fear from breast cancer. The women I met on the breast cancer survivor/student night were a huge inspiration-some of the most motivated, brave and confident women I have ever met. I am so happy to have had the opportunity to meet them. "

In Conclusion

...'put the work I do each day into perspective' ... 'given purpose to my research' ... 'the whole point of our research is to see this (the survivors)...' this kind of communication is really important, pretty powerful and unique...'helped me put a face to what the research we are doing is all about...'

As the statements from the student researchers and breast cancer survivors indicate the evening was a powerful experience for all. The students asked at the end of the evening if they could come together with us again. They expressed a desire to share the experience with others. They suggested that this experience be repeated in other institutions. They asked to be involved in the events in the community that the breast cancer survivors were involved in; for example, the dragonboat festival.

We offer this experience as an example of the powerful sharing that can occur between two very distinct groups of individuals who share a common thread – their connection to breast cancer. For the student researchers, perspectives became clearer and more real. Purposes were enhanced. End goals were clarified and strengthened. Reserve was strengthened. Enthusiasm was renewed. Equally powerful were the statements of the breast cancer survivors who expressed their thanks to the student researchers for the research work that they were doing. The survivors thanked the student researchers for the opportunity to tell their stories, to develop awareness of the journey during and after a breast cancer diagnosis, particularly the opportunities to tell the student researchers of remarkable and powerful physical and mental feats in which breast cancer survivors were engaged after treatment.

This sharing experience moved beyond the walls of the institution, beyond the pages of a textbook, beyond the clinical laboratories and encouragement of advisors into the realm of those affected by the very disease these student researchers were studying. Faces were

added to microscopes and cells. Statements of anguish, appreciation and hope were embedded into inquiring minds. Stories of difficult mental and physical accomplishments were absorbed by young thinkers and feelings of hope were soaked into weary bodies.

Will we repeat this experience? You bet!

Introducing Metastasis Researchers

By Ann Chambers

This month, I would like to introduce two young investigators who recently have taken up faculty appointments at my institution – Dr. Lynne Postovit and Dr. Moshmi Bhattacharya. Metastasis research is alive and well at the University of Western Ontario!

Lynne-Marie Postovit, PhD

Dr. Lynne-Marie Postovit was recently appointed as an assistant professor in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology in the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Western Ontario. Lynne obtained an Honours BSc in Life Sciences from Queen's University in Kingston Ontario. She then completed her PhD in Anatomy and Cell Biology at Queen's University under the supervision of Dr. Charles Graham. During her doctoral studies Lynne used a paradigm from the cardiovascular sciences and applied it to cancer research to discover a previously unknown mechanism of oxygen (O₂) sensing and gene regulation, whereby certain hypoxia-induced phenotypes are up-regulated in response to a reduction in nitric oxide (NO) signalling. Thus, supplying exogenous sources of NO could mitigate hypoxia-induced phenomena such as tumour invasion and metastasis. These findings have since led to a clinical trial in which NO donors are being used to allay prostate cancer progression.



Dr. Lynne-Marie Postovit

Lynne continued to focus on cancer progression during her postdoctoral studies in the laboratory of Dr. Mary Hendrix at the Children's Memorial Research Center in Chicago. In the Hendrix lab, Lynne used unique developmental models to examine commonalities between tumour cells and embryonic microenvironments, with the supposition that the multipotent nature of aggressive cancer cells would enable them to both modulate and respond to embryonic signals. With this approach, Lynne and her colleagues discovered that aggressive tumour cells express a stem cell associated factor called Nodal. Moreover, they found that Nodal is an important mediator of tumorigenesis and a potential biomarker for metastatic progression in melanoma and breast cancer patients. Lynne and her colleagues also used a 3-D model to examine the effects of human embryonic stem cell (hESC)

microenvironments on cancer cell phenotypes. With this model, they determined that exposure of tumour cells to hESC microenvironments results in decreased Nodal expression, due largely to the deposition of the Nodal inhibitor, Lefty. Significantly, hESC-derived Lefty could inhibit melanoma and breast cancer tumourigenicity by preventing proliferation and inducing apoptosis.

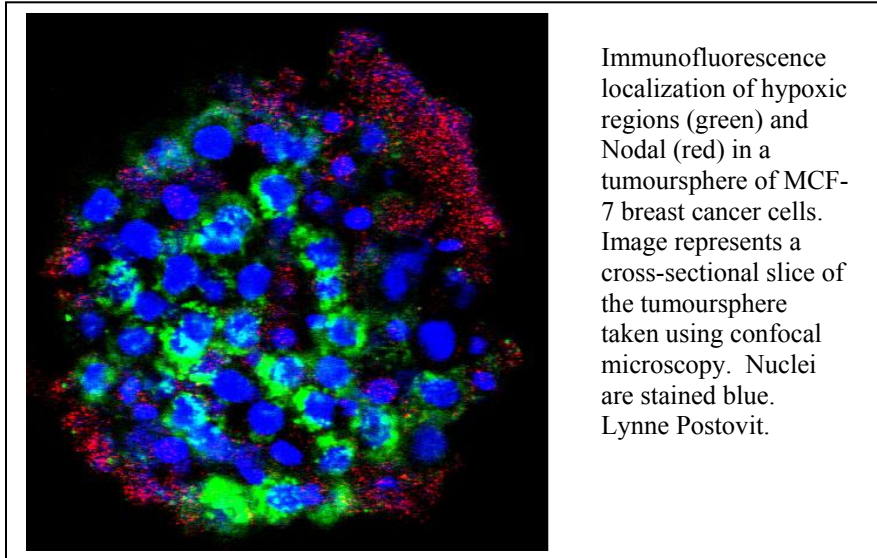


The Postovit Lab and friends as team “Scientific Striders” at the Annual CIBC Run for the Cure Race. Back row (l-r): Jiahui Liu, Guihua Zhang, Tamara Stock, Jenna McBryan, Vik Mohindra, Neena Lala, Scott Findlay, Amelia Nuhn. Front row (l-r): Daniela Quail, Meghan Taylor, Lynne Postovit and Rodeo (team mascot).

Dr. Postovit’s current research program builds upon her past experiences by examining the role of the microenvironment in the regulation of stem cell phenotypes and metastatic potential. Using state-of-the-art equipment acquired through a Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grant, her laboratory group is growing 3-D tumours in bioreactors with the aim of studying how 3-D growth affects tumour plasticity, heterogeneity and metastatic potential. They are also examining how microenvironmental factors such as oxygen regulate the expression of stem cell associated genes like Nodal, and are trying to determine the role of such microenvironments in the acquisition of metastatic potential. Dr. Postovit hopes that these studies will lead to the discovery of novel targets for the prevention and treatment of metastatic disease.

Dr. Postovit is the recipient of numerous awards including doctoral and postdoctoral scholarships from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) and the Arthur A Hamm award from the Canadian Association of Anatomy, Neurobiology and Cell Biology. Her research program is currently funded by grants from the CFI, the CIHR and the University of Western Ontario. She is an author on 2 patents relating to the treatment of cancer, and has published over 20 manuscripts in the area of cancer cell biology. She

is a member of the American Association for Cancer Research, the American Society for Cell Biology, and the Metastasis Research Society.



Lynne participates in numerous fundraising activities, including the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation's Run for the Cure, and is extremely interested in public policy, especially in the areas of research and education. In her spare time, she enjoys dining with friends, playing volleyball and running.

Selected Recent Publications:

- 1. Postovit LM**, Margaryan NV, Seftor EA, Kirschmann DA, Lipvasky A, Wheaton WW, Abbott DE, Seftor REB, and Hendrix MJC. (2008). Human embryonic stem cell microenvironment suppresses the tumourigenic phenotype of aggressive cancer cells. *PNAS*: 105(11):4329-34.
- 2. Postovit LM**, Abbott D, Payne SP, Wheaton WW, Margaryan NV, Amir S, Sullivan R, Innsen M, Csiszar K, Hendrix MJC, and Kirschmann DA. (2007) Hypoxia-reoxygenation: a dynamic regulator of lysyl oxidase facilitated breast cancer migration. *Journal Cell Biochem*: 103(5):1369-78.
- 3. Hendrix MJC**, Seftor EA, Seftor REB, Kaseemeier-Kulesa J, Kulesa PM, and **Postovit LM**. (2007) Reprogramming metastatic tumour cells with embryonic microenvironments. *Nat. Cancer Rev.*: 7(4):246-55.
- 4. Postovit LM***, Topczewska JM*, Margaryan NV, Sam A, Hess AR, Wheaton WW, Nickoloff B, Topczewski J, and Hendrix MJC. (2006) Embryonic and tumourigenic pathways converge via Nodal signaling: Role in melanoma aggressiveness. *Nature Medicine*: Aug.12(8):925-32. *Authors contributed equally.

Moshmi Bhattacharya, Ph.D.

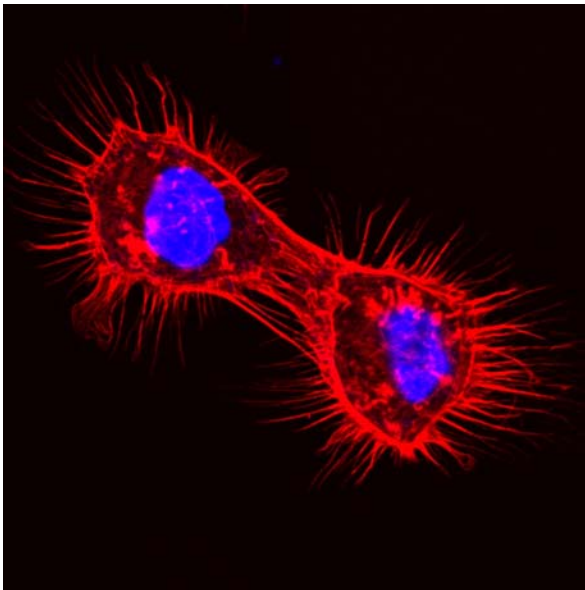
Dr. Moshmi Bhattacharya is a molecular pharmacologist and has been an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology since May 2005, at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada. Moshmi obtained an Honors



Moshmi Bhattacharva. Ph.D.

B.Sc. in Biochemistry from the University of West Indies, Trinidad. She then completed her Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Therapeutics at McGill University, Montreal, Canada in the laboratory of Dr. Sylvain Chemtob at the St. Justine Hospital Research Centre. She discovered that G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs), which are targeted by 60% of all currently used pharmaceuticals, are localized not only at the cell surface, but also at the nucleus, a discovery that led to a paradigm shift in the field of GPCR signalling. She then embarked upon a postdoctoral fellowship under the direction of Dr. Stephen Ferguson in the laboratory of Molecular Imaging and Cell Biology at the Robarts Research

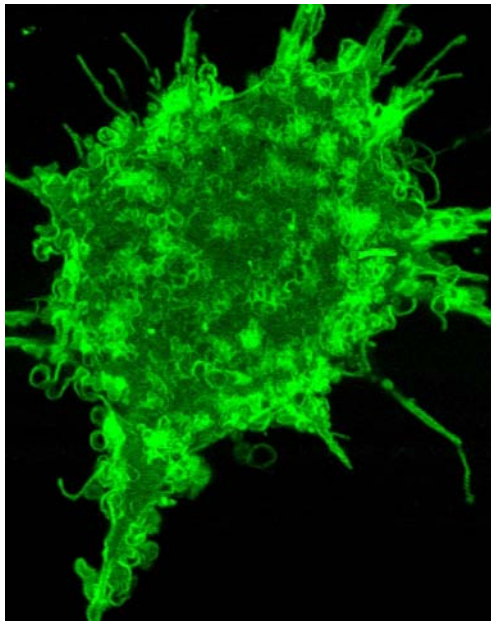
Institute, London, Ontario. During this period, Moshmi's novel research findings revealed that key regulatory proteins in the GPCR signalling pathway can regulate the cytoskeleton. This led to her interest in the dysregulation of GPCR signalling in diseases such as cancer.



Confocal fluorescent microscopy image of MDA-MB-231 cells stained with rhodamine-phalloidin (red) to mark the cytoskeleton and nucleus (blue), showing retraction fibres as cells become motile. Moshmi Bhattacharya.

Dr. Bhattacharya's current research focuses on understanding the molecular mechanisms by which certain GPCRs expressed in breast cancer cells can regulate the processes of cell migration and invasion, processes that lead to metastasis. Her research program uses various

molecular, cellular and imaging techniques to study gene expression and protein-protein interactions in normal (non-malignant) cells and cancer cells. She uses advanced microscopy techniques including laser scanning confocal microscopy to visualize in real-time, the dynamic spatial and temporal characteristics of fluorescently-tagged proteins within living cancer cells. Dr. Bhattacharya is keenly interested in studying the function of these proteins in vivo. Therefore, current efforts are focused on establishing animal model studies with excellent collaborators, to determine tumorigenicity and metastasis, using breast carcinoma where the expression of these proteins have been silenced.



Confocal fluorescent microscopy image of MDA-MB-435 cells expressing GFP protein to show membrane ruffles of motile cells. Moshmi Bhattacharya.

Dr. Bhattacharya was the recipient of doctoral and postdoctoral awards from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). She currently holds of a University Faculty Salary Award from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). Her research program is funded by grants from the CIHR, the Canadian Breast Cancer Research Alliance, NSERC and the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). She is a

member of the American Association for Cancer Research, the Metastasis Research Society, the American Society for Cell Biology and the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.



Bhattacharya Lab (from left), Adel Aziziyeh (M.Sc., Pharmacology, graduated Dec. 2008), Cynthia Pape (Bhattacharya Lab Technician), Moshmi Bhattacharya, Ph.D. (Principal Investigator, Assistant Professor), Mistre Alemayehu (Ph.D. candidate, Physiology), Matt Zajac (M.Sc. candidate, Pharmacology), Timothy Li (M.Sc., Physiology, graduated Dec. 2008). Absent: Jennifer Boyd, Jeff Law.

Outside the research lab, Dr. Bhattacharya enjoys swimming, hiking, gardening, astronomy and movies. However, currently her spare time is taken up being mom to her toddler son, and trying to keep him from playfully terrorizing their 13-year old yellow Labrador retriever.

Selected recent publications:

1. Li TT, Alemayehu M, Aziziyeh AI, Pape C, Pampillo M, Postovit LM, Mills GB, Babwah AV, Bhattacharya M. (2009) β -arrestin/Ral signalling regulates lysophosphatidic acid-mediated migration and invasion of human breast tumor cells. Accepted Mol. Cancer Res., Jan 2009 (in revision)
2. Aziziyeh AI, Li TT, Alemayehu M, Pape C, Pampillo M, Babwah AV, Possmayer F, Bhattacharya M. Dual role of Ral GTPases and GRK2 in regulating Lysophosphatidic Acid Receptor Signalling. Cell Signal (submitted)
3. Bhattacharya M, Wang J, Ribeiro FM, Dixon SF, Feldman RD, Hegele RA and Stephen S G Ferguson. (2006). Analysis of a missense variant of the human N-formyl peptide receptor that is associated with agonist-independent beta-arrestin association and indices of inflammation. Pharmacogenomics J. 2007 7:190-199.

Notes from Britain:

Sue Eccles

Join the British Association for Cancer Research (BACR) and enjoy the benefits listed below:

- Reduced fees for BACR Special Conferences and Workshops
- Opportunities for networking and establishing collaborations with leaders in cancer research from both academia and industry
- A platform to present original clinical and experimental data
- Opportunities to apply (subject to eligibility) for a variety of travel, meeting and career bursaries (see web page: Fellowships & Bursaries) and subject to eligibility opportunities to apply for our prestigious awards: (see web page: BACR Awards)
- Automatic free membership of the European Association for Cancer Research EACR meetings including ECCO and eligibility to apply for EACR Awards/Fellowships

Further details at:

<http://www.bacr.org.uk/cancer-research/bacr-membership>

Meetings of Interest:

BACR/EACR Summer Symposia:
Chromatin and Cancer
6 - 8 July 2009

Transcription and Cancer
8 - 10 July 2009

Churchill College, Cambridge, UK Registration Now Open:
The link to the meeting web site is:
<http://www.bacr.org.uk/bacr-eacr-symposia-2009>

"Microenvironment, Motility and Metastasis"
July 5-8.

Beatson International Cancer Conference. Deadlines for abstracts, registration etc May 8th.

Website <http://www.beatson.gla.ac.uk/conf>.

Letters to the Editor:

Dear Pat,
I have read with great interest your newsletter as usual.

For your information, I noticed that when you list the multicentre projects in Europe does not include two Consortia coordinated by myself and funded by EU , namely

- STROMA Selective targeting of angiogenesis and of tumor stroma , (FP6) with 16 participating labs concluded in 2008, and more important, cef r(funded under FP6
- ADAMANT (FP7) Antibody Derivatives as Molecular agents for Neoplastic Targeting with 9 participating labs started in April 2008, <http://www.adamant-fp7.eu/>

Best regards
Raffaella Giavazzi
ADAMANT Coordinator
Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research Via La Masa, 19 I - 20156 Milano
Phone +39(0)2 39014231 or 39014230 Fax +39(0)2 39014734 www.marionegri.it
www.adamant-fp7.eu

May Newsletter Editors: Suzanne Eccles and Motowo Nakajima