

ECNP Research Internship 2019

Intern:

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Host:

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Thanks to the ECNP Research Internship program, I was able to visit the laboratory of Professor Nicoletta Brunello at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to Professor Nicoletta Brunello and the friendly team of the laboratory for the warm welcome and useful communication.

My internship took place at the Department of Life Sciences from 04-02-2019 to 16-02-2019. During the internship, I studied the methods of extraction of total RNA from nervous tissue, reverse transcription, real-time PCR. In general, the internship was devoted to studying of methods for analyzing the effect of inflammation on the expression of kinurenin metabolic pathway genes and depressive behavior. I would like to express special thanks to Cristina Benatti for her important recommendations and tips, especially on real-time PCR, which will be useful for my future work. In addition, I met assistant professor Giuseppe Cannazza, who introduced me to the method of high performance liquid chromatography with mass spectrometric detection. This very sensitive method will allow identification of a large number of chemical compounds and can be used for metabolic studies.

The acquired skills and knowledge will help me in my future work at my Institute. In addition, I hope for further mutually beneficial cooperation with the laboratory of Professor Nicoletta Brunello. I believe that a short-term ECNP internship is a small but very important step in my scientific career. I am grateful to ECNP for this opportunity to work with highly qualified scientists in the field of neuroscience. This is an important and noble mission. And for future ECNP research interns, I want to emphasize that this is a great way to meet well-known scientists and to improve our knowledge of psychotic disorders.

