

Viet Hang Le

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SUMMARY

A neuroscientist focusing on networks amongst neurons and between neurons and cancer cells. My work aims to unravel the mechanism underlying brain diseases and cancers.

EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

March 2022 – Present, Cold Spring Harbor, NY

Project 1: Investigate the underlying role of Oligophrenin-1 in epilepsy and sleep disruption

- Use viral technology to modify genes to identify potential therapeutic strategies.
- Investigate the mechanism of epilepsy in different brain regions and identify specific cell types affected in brain disorders caused by Oligophrenin-1 mutation in humans.

Project 2: Investigate the reciprocal effects between the brain and tumors

- Dissect the interacting network between neurons and cancer cells using models of brain and pancreatic cancer.
- examine the promoting effect of nerve networks on tumor growth and develop gene therapy to slow down tumor growth.

PhD Researcher

University of Aberdeen

January 2017 – February 2018, Aberdeen, United Kingdom

Research title: Effect of exposure to different diets on the hippocampus that leads to cognitive impairments via Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) signalling.

- Using whole-cell patch clamp to measure the change in hippocampal neurons' activities
- Using qRT-PCR to profile the mRNA expression of BDNF and TrkB in different brain regions and identify changes following different nutritional manipulations
- Performing memory tests and using metabolic chamber to monitor mice's activities following different nutritional manipulations

Undergraduate researcher

University of Nottingham

September 2015 – April 2016, Nottingham, United Kingdom

- Research title: Broncho-activity of Tiger Milk Mushroom extract on isolated smooth muscles.
- Extract active compound in Tiger Milk Mushroom extract.
- Examine the pharmacological mechanism of action in treating asthma.

EDUCATION

PhD in Medical Sciences

University of Aberdeen • Aberdeen, United Kingdom • 2022

Bachelor in Biomedical Sciences with Honours

University of Nottingham • Nottingham, United Kingdom • 2016 • First Class

INVOLVEMENT

Co-Chair of In-House Education

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory • Women in Science and Engineering • January 2013 – Present

- Organizing film screenings, and journal clubs to raise awareness about equality and inclusivity within the Lab.
- Leading scientific – lab etiquette orientation for young trainees attending short-term projects in the lab.

Chair of External Affairs

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory • Postdoctoral Liaison Committee • January 2023 – Present

- Organizing career panels, and socializing events to expand the network of postdocs in the lab and support their exploration of various career options, both within academia and beyond.

SKILLS

Neuroscience research, cancer research

Technical Skills: Gene cloning, viral technology, stereotaxic surgery, Gene Therapy