

Curriculum Vitae



Alia Abukiwan

Contact Information

Name **Alia Abukiwan**
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Objective

What stimulates me, personally, is that one can use genetics as a tool to create things that can revolutionize health and society. I hope to make discoveries that will have a positive impact on human life. Important to me are honesty, loyalty and to find a creative vision in my work and intellectual pursuits.

The idea of using genetics as a creative tool with the potential to forge a revolution in social health motivates me to work towards discoveries that I hope will become catalysts for positive change in human lives. Honesty and loyalty are qualities that I hold in high esteem as I strive to develop the creative vision in my work and intellectual pursuits.

Education

2014 – present PhD in Experimental Surgery at the Molecular Oncosurgery Division, University of Heidelberg as a student of the Helmholtz International Graduate School for Cancer Research in Heidelberg (DKFZ)
Thesis Title Dexamethasone-induced microRNA regulation of pancreatic cancer progression
Supervisor Prof Dr Ingrid Herr

2012 – 2013 Communications workshops

2008 – 2012 Master's degree (MSc) in Molecular Bioscience – Developmental Biology, University of Heidelberg
Thesis Title Validation of miR-137 target genes and investigation of their functions in melanoma
Supervisor Prof Dr Stefan Eichmüller, DKFZ

- 1999 – 2002** Bachelor's degree of Biological science, Al-al biet University, Almafraaq, Jordan
 Thesis Title Applications of using DNA fingerprinting in Health and Society
 Supervisor PD Dr Adnan Jern
- 1997 – 1999** Paramedical diploma. Medical Laboratory Technician, Amman Training College Special qualification: Medical Laboratory Technician
- 1995 – 1997** Higher School Certificate, Amman, Jordan

Employment History

- 2002 – 2003** Medical Technician. Medlabs consultancy group, Jordan

Courses and Projects

- April 2012 – November 2012** Validation of miR-137 targets gene and investigation of their functions in Melanoma, DKFZ, Heidelberg
 (project)
- January 2012 – March 2012** Non-coding RNA, German Cancer Research Center DKFZ, Heidelberg
 (course)
- May 2010 – July 2010** Mutation analysis in SHANK2 gene for Mental retardation and Schizophrenia patients, Institute of Human Genetics, Heidelberg University
 (project)
- February 2010** Genetics of Human Disorders and Development, practical course, Institute of Human Genetics, Heidelberg University
 (course)
- November 2009 – January 2010** Translational potential of DDX3X transcripts with different 3'UTR processing, Molecular genetics and fertility department, University Hospital of Gynaecology, Heidelberg
 (project)
- June 2009** Proteins, Biochemistry Center (BZH) , Heidelberg University
 (course)
- May 2009** Nucleic acid, Biochemistry Center (BZH), Heidelberg University
 (course)

February 2009 (course)	From RNA to expression patterns, European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), Heidelberg
December 2008 (course)	Advanced Biochemistry: expression and study of signaling and adhesion proteins, Institute of Zoology, Heidelberg University

Teaching and Supervision

October 2014 Lecture Course	Lecturer and Supervision The basic of Cell and Molecular biology Life science Lab / the German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg
September 2014 – May 2015	Supervisor MSc students from the Cancer program at DKFZ: Project design, tutorials, seminars, reports, revision, and evaluation Division Oncosurgery research / University of Heidelberg
May 2015 Lecture Course	Lecturer and Supervision The Basics of Cell and Molecular biology Life science Lab / the German cancer research center Heidelberg
June – July 2015 Course	Supervision and assessing Animal Replacement / Reduction: Personalized models for pancreatic cancer on chick eggs instead of mice MSc Cancer program students / DKFZ Division Oncosurgeruy research / University of Heidelberg
June – July 2016 Course	Supervision and assessing Animal Replacement / Reduction: Personalized models for pancreatic cancer on chick eggs instead of mice MSc Cancer program students / DKFZ Division Oncosurgeruy research / University of Heidelberg

Awards

1999

One of the top ten students in paramedical studies in Jordan in the National General Collage Exam (equivalent to GRE exam). The ministry of higher education, Jordan

2000

Followship for Excellence in Biological studies, from al- albeit university, Jordan

Workshops and Conferences

2016

21 March – 23 March Poster presenter : ARC'16 Qatar Foundation Annual research Conference

2015

21 May – 22 May Chairing and Co- organized 4th Heidelberg Forum for Young Life Scientists

2014

30 June – 4 July Attended the Initial Course for Ph.D Students, DKFZ

22.June – 25 June Participation in the international conference “Non – coding RNA – from Basics Mechanisms to Cancer”, Heidelberg (DKFZ)

12 May – 13 May Attendance of Ingenuity Products User Group meeting, Heidelberg

8 April – 23 July: Participation in Basic Principles of Biostatistics

1 April Attendance of the 43rd Heidelberger Grand Round “Antiangiogenic Tumor Therapy – Novel Insights and Trnaslational Approaches” NCT, Heidelberg.

27 March Training in Roche “LightCycler 480 Real Time PCR Systems”

23 March Attendance of the career day for Clinical Research and Regulatory Affairs.

Oral Presentations

2012

Validation of miR-137 target genes and investigation of their functions in melanoma

DKFZ, Heidelberg

2014

Dexamethasone-induced microRNA regulation for pancreatic cancer progression

INF 365, University of Heidelberg

Scientific Poster

2015

Dexamethasone-induced microRNA regulation for pancreatic cancer progression

Alia Abukiwan, Nathalie Bauer, Zhefu Zhao, Axel Benner, Ingrid Herr
·Molecular OncoSurgery, Section Surgical Research, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany .²German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany

PhD Poster Session at DKFZ

2016

Dexamethasone-induced microRNA regulation for pancreatic cancer progression

Alia Abukiwan, Nathalie Bauer, Zhefu Zhao, Axel Benner, Ingrid Herr, Molecular OncoSurgery, Section Surgical Research, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany .²German Cancer Research Center (DFKZ), Heidelberg, Germany

ARC'16 Qatar Foundation Annual research Conference

Publications

1. Luo C., Tetteh P.W., Merz P.R., Dickes E., **Abukiwan A.**, Hotz-Wagenblatt A., Holland-Cunz S., Sinnberg T., Schittek B., Schadendorf D., Diederichs S. and EichmüllerEichmüller S.B., miR-137 Inhibits the Invasion of Melanoma Cells through Downregulation of Multiple Oncogenic Target Genes, J. Invest. Dermatol., 2012
2. Hao S., Luo C., **Abukiwan A.**, Wang G., He J., Huang L., Weber C.E., Lv N., Xiao X., Eichmüller S.B., He D. miR-137 inhibits proliferation of melanoma cells by targeting PAK2. *Exp Dermatol.* 2015

3. Fan P., Liu L., Yin Y., Zhao Z., Zhang Y., Amponsah P.S., Xiao X., Bauer N., **Abukiwan A.**, Nwaeburu C.C., Gladkich J., Gao C., Schemmer P., Gross W., Herr I.. MicroRNA-101-3p reverses gemcitabine resistance by inhibition of ribonucleotide reductase M1 in pancreatic cancer. Cancer letter 2016
4. Nwaeburu C.C., Bauer N., Zhao Z **Abukiwan A.**, Gladkich J., Benner A., Herr I., Up-regulation of microRNA Let-7c by quercetin inhibits pancreatic cancer progression by activation of Numbl, 2016 (submitted)
5. **Abukiwan A.**, Bauer N., Gladkich J., Nwaeburu C.C., Benner A., Herr I., Dexamethasone-induced miR-**X** regulation for pancreatic cancer progression, 2016 (manuscript in prepration)

Scientific Interests

1. Molecular biology of cancer
2. Non-coding RNAs
3. Epigenetics
4. Functional genomics
5. Human genetics
6. Gene target therapy
7. Stem cells

Special Skills

1. Management of activities in women's and mother's centers
2. Co-founder and Chairman of Arabic Women in Germany
3. Scientific interpreter in nature publishing group (Nature Middle East)
4. Peer reviewer: Experimental Dermatology Journal

Others

English	Fluent
German	Fluent
IT competencies	Windows, Microsoft Office, Wordpress, Adobe Illustrator.