Manitoba Neuroscience Network

2014/2015 Seminar & Visiting Speaker Series

Friday, January 30th, 2015 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Hassan Marzban

Assistant Professor, Department of Human Anatomy & Cell Science, College of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Manitoba

Topic: Cerebellar Development In Health and Disease; the role of lysosomal acid phosphatase 2 (Acp2)

Location: PX236/238 PsycHealth Bldg., Bannatyne Campus

Brief Biosketch: Dr. Marzban received his BSc in Physiotherapy from the Iran University of Medical Sciences, followed by an MSc in Human Anatomy from Mashhad University of Medical Sciences. He then completed his PhD in Anatomical Sciences from the Department of Human Anatomy, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran. Prior to joining the University of Manitoba, Dr. Marzban was recruited as an assistant professor in the Medical School at the Tehran University of Medical Sciences. He joined Dr. R. Hawkes' laboratory as visiting scientist and subsequently he was recruited as an assistant professor (research) at the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy, University of Calgary. Dr. Marzban's research interests are to understand cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in cerebellar development, with a focus on neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases. Mouse models with mutations in genes, such as ACP2 and SNCA, are used in his research.

Dr. Marzban's research interests are focused on cerebellar development and understanding the cellular and molecular mechanism of the cerebellar neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases. His research involves the cerebellum as a model system for studying the normal and abnormal development of the nervous system. Dr. Marzban believes that the temporal and spatial dynamics of cerebellar development are exquisitely controlled and as a model, this structure combines the simplicity of spinal cord development with the complexity of cerebral cortical formation. Mouse models with a spontaneous mutation in the Acp2 (lysosomal acid phosphatase 2) gene cause a neurodevelopmental disorder called naked-ataxic (nax). Dr. Marzban's group investigates the developmental roles of Acp2, SNCA, P75, autophagy and caspase signaling molecules in the cerebellum. His research program aims to understand the specific molecular mechanisms underlying cerebellar neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegeneration to provide a foundation for development of therapeutic treatment targets and, ultimately, prevention of nervous system diseases.

For more information, contact the MNN Office at
(T) 235.3939 or email: mnn@sbrc.ca

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