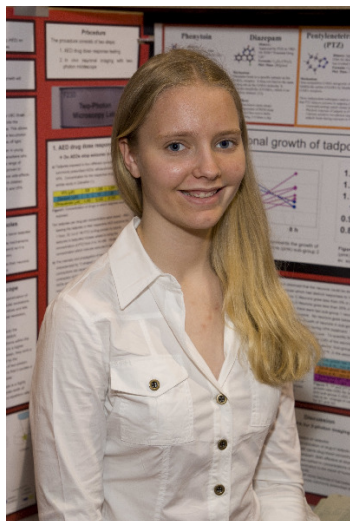


## CWSF 2008 - Ottawa, Ontario



### Claire Edgcumbe

#### Ceasing Seizures

**Division:** Life Sciences / None

**Category:** Intermediate

**Region:** Greater Vancouver

**City:** Vancouver, BC

**School:** Kitsilano Secondary

**Abstract:** The purpose was to determine the effects of valproate, an antiepileptic drug, on neuronal growth in vivo in the brains of tadpoles. Consistent with prior in vitro valproate studies, a trend was shown that valproate increases neuronal growth. Furthermore, it was noted that there appears to be two sub-groups - defined by the competitive nature of the cells - that respond differently to valproate treatment.

#### Biography

Claire first got involved in non-competitive Science Fairs participating with her brother in Science Celebration in the early elementary years. Later, her grade 6 and 7 teacher organized fun "Défis Techno" on some Friday afternoons. These challenges included building one-man boats out of cardboard and garbage bags which they floated (or sank) in the community pool. They also had their own class Science Fairs, Virtual Science Fairs. Claire represented Kitsilano Secondary School at the Vancouver District Fair in Grade 8. In the summer before grade 10 she worked at the Haas Lab at the UBC Brian Research. She learned techniques and did background reading to prepare for her 2008 project. Claire enjoys many sports including field hockey, basketball and soccer as well as camping and canoeing with her family. She won the Grade 8 Female Athlete of the year award at her high school and has participated in many school musical and Drama productions, including going on tour to elementary schools. This year Claire started a Kitsilano Model United Nations Club. In this club student's meet to discuss global issues and represent different countries on mock UN councils.

#### Awards

#### Value

The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	\$1 000
Bronze Medal - Health Sciences - Intermediate Sponsor: Canadian Institutes of Health Research	\$300
Total	\$1 300

