

CWSF 2010 - Peterborough, Ontario



Abicumaran Uthamacumaran

Kicking Cancer With KAI-1

Division: International

Category: Intermediate

Region: Montreal

City: Montréal, QC

School: Académie Marymount

Abstract: The effects of upregulating the metastasis suppressor gene KAI-1 was characterized in uveal melanoma throughout various in vitro assays, confocal microscopy, immunohistochemistry and immunoblotting techniques. This application significantly reduced the metastatic potential and tumorigenic properties of the tumour cell lines. In conclusion, it's a novel therapeutic target in cancer research.

Biography

Since the age of three, I knew that I wanted to pursue a career in the health sciences. In grade 5, I went to Japan for an International robotic competition and, in 2006 I went to Germany for another science competition and won gold. Last year's project "Cracking cancer with CRK (found an anti-metastatic therapeutic) won third place at the International Science and Technology Fair in Reno, Nevada. This year, with my project that aimed to develop a novel cancer therapeutic target won a total of 14 grand awards at the regional and provincial science fairs along with gold medals. Other than my outstanding performance in academics and my great passion for the sciences, I also have great interests for the arts because to me, they are juxtaposed. I've been in medical research since the age of thirteen, and I also help out the community as an IB student (ex: Leadership/environmentalist programs, youth coalition against smoking, hospital volunteering, etc). I associate humanist principles (ex: equality), factors associated to my daily life and scientific propositions such as the chaos theory, in my cancer research. Getting an M.D/PHD and hopefully, a Nobel Prize in Medicine in the future is my ultimate goal.

Awards

Value

Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science Award Intermediate Sponsor: Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science	\$750
Australian National Youth Science Forum Award	\$2 500
The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Gold Medallist - \$4000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	\$4 000
Gold Medal - Health Sciences - Intermediate Sponsor: Canadian Institutes of Health Research	\$1 500
Total	\$8 750

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