

## CWSF 2014 - Windsor, Ontario



### Manasi Parikh

#### Prevalence of Neuropsychiatric Disorders in Patients with Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome

**Challenge:** Health

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Peel

**City:** Mississauga, ON

**School:** Glenforest S.S.

**Abstract:** Empirical experience from geneticists and reports from patients suggests that neuropsychiatric disorders are common in Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS), a rare genetic connective tissue disorder. This study demonstrates that in a large cohort of patients with EDS, psychiatric disorders are five times more common than in the general population. Recognizing clinical red flags predisposing EDS patients to psychiatric disorders will aid in its prevention and treatment.

#### Biography

Hard working, passionate and curious with an eye for innovation, I am a grade 12 student in the International Baccalaureate Program at Glenforest Secondary School. I am a budding advocate for charities and volunteer as a youth team leader at the hospital. I have been chosen for research internships at institutions like the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital and Ryerson University. I have a keen interest in genetics, neuroscience and stem cell research and would like to pursue an MD. PhD. program in future. I am an avid reader of the Scientific American and love to travel. Due to my prior research experience, I got the inspiration for my project while being a research volunteer at the Adult Genetics Clinic at Mount Sinai hospital, here I had the opportunity to join a research team lead by Dr. Joyce So and conduct this study. I hope to find a biological marker, which predisposes patients to, a neuropsychiatric disorder and/or rare genetic syndromes. As for future scientists taking on the wondrous journey of science fair, all you really need is an idea. After which, combine hard work, determination and a true love for scientific processes to be successful.

#### Awards

#### Value

Excellence Award - Senior - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Nuclear Waste Management Organization	\$100
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship Senior Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Ottawa	\$1 000
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$1 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2 100</b>