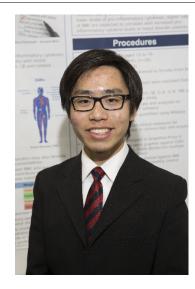




CWSF 2019 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



Matthew Zhou

Effects of BMI and SSRI Use on Inflammation in Adolescents with Mood Disorders

Challenge: Health Category: Senior

Region: Thames Valley
City: London, ON
School: Central S.S.

Abstract: Youth mental health disorders affect 1 in 5 children in Ontario alone. This

project aims to identify markers of mood disorder progression in

adolescents by investigating relationships between peripheral inflammation and clinical characteristics. The results of this study demonstrate the importance of monitoring BMI in psychiatric conditions to direct healthier lifestyle choices. In doing so, treatment plans for mood disorder patients

can be better optimized.

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My name is Matthew Zhou and I am a Grade 12 student at London Central Secondary School. My interests include music, mathematics, chess, and science. I started playing piano at the age of six and I have won several awards at both regional and provincial competitions, including a Gold medal for the top Grade 10 RCM mark in Ontario. My interest in mathematics has led me to win multiple awards in math contests. I also enjoy playing chess and I have won many prizes in regional chess tournaments. My strong passion for the life sciences has allowed me to win various awards at past Canada-Wide Science Fair competitions. This year, I received the inspiration for my science fair project due to my interest in adolescent mood disorders. Youth mental health is a major concern in society; I aimed to investigate characteristics of the early developmental stages of psychiatric conditions in hopes of improving current standards for disease profiling. With my strong interest in life sciences, I hope to pursue a career in medicine. My advice for any newcomers to the science fair is to never ignore ideas that seem too difficult. With hard work and dedication, anything can be achieved!

Awards	Value
Excellence Award - Senior - Silver Medal	
Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Dalhousie University Faculty of Science Entrance Scholarship	\$2 500
Senior Silver Medallist - \$2500 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: Dalhousie University, Faculty of Science	
UBC Science (Vancouver) Entrance Award	\$2 000
Senior Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: The University of British Columbia (Vancouver)	
University of New Brunswick Canada-Wide Science Fair Scholarship	\$2 500
Silver Medallist - \$2500 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: University of New Brunswick	
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship	\$2 000
Senior Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: University of Ottawa	
Western University Scholarship	\$2 000
Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship	
Sponsor: Western University	
Total	\$11 000





