

Dr. Sonia Siddiqui

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Personal Data:

Father's Name Dr. Mohammad Siddiq Siddiqui
Nationality Pakistani
Religion Muslim

Academic Qualification:

2008 Ph.D. in Neuroscience
 Department of Cell morphology and Molecular neurobiology,
 International Graduate of Neuroscience (IGSN) Ruhr-University
 Bochum, Germany.

Thesis: Modulation of Retinal Neurite Outgrowth by Glial Derived
Extracellular Matrix Proteins: Tenascin-C and Chondroitin Sulphate Proteoglycans.

2002 M.Phil in Neuropharmacology
 Department of Biochemistry, University of Karachi

Thesis: Neurochemical and behavioral effects of 1-(1-Naphthyl) Piperazine.

1996 M.Sc. in Biochemistry. **First division**
 University of Karachi, Karachi
 (Biochemical Neuropharmacology, Biophysics, Biochemical techniques, Nutrition,
 Clinical Biochemistry as special courses)

Thesis: Effects of Caffeine, Diazepam and their co-administration on Glucose, Total &
Free Tryptophan levels in Plasma.

1995 B.Sc. (H) in Biochemistry. **First division**
 University of Karachi, Karachi (Neuropharmacology, Physiology, Chemistry, Clinical
 Biochemistry and Nutrition as special courses)

1992 Intermediate, Science (Pre-Medical). **First division**
 P.E.C.H.S. Govt. Girls College, Karachi
 (Zoology, Botany, Physics and Chemistry)

Research Experience:

Dec 2001-Oct 2002 Served as a Medical Technologist at the Aga Khan University Hospital,
Karachi.

Jan 2001-Nov 2001 Worked as a Research Assistant at the Aga Khan University and Hospital Karachi. **Title of the project:** Isolation and identification of renal stone proteins and their role in calcium oxalate crystallization.

Work Experience:

1997 - 1998 Co-operative teacher in the Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Karachi.

Expertise:

- HPLC (U.V., EC and Fluorescence detectors), Spectrophotometer
- Electrophoresis (PAGE, Agarose), DNA Extraction and PCR
- ELISA, Cell culture and *In-Situ* hybridization
- Rat brain dissecting technique, Gel chromatography
- Cryostat for tissue sectioning, Immunohistochemistry, Immunostaining, Western blotting
- Video, Laser and Electron microscope
- Molecular cloning and Electroporation
- Internet knowledge

Publications:

1- Sonia Siddiqui, Andrea-Horvat Bröcker and Andreas Faissner. 2009. The Glia-Derived Extracellular Matrix Glycoprotein Tenascin-C promotes Embryonic And Postnatal Retina Axon Outgrowth Via The Alternatively Spliced Fibronectin TypeIII Domain TNfnD. *Neuron Glia Biology. In Press*

2- Sonia Siddiqui, Andrea-Horvat Bröcker and Andreas Faissner. 2009. Comparative Screening of Glial Cell Types Reveals Extracellular Matrix that Inhibits Retinal Axon Growth in a Chondroitinase ABC-resistant Fashion. *Glia. In Press*

3- Farhat Batool, Sonia Siddiqui and Darakhshan Jabeen Haleem. 2001. Neurochemical and Behavioral Profiles of 1-(1-Naphthyl) Piperazine in Rats. *JCPSP 11: 50-56.*

4- Darakhshan. J. Haleem, Z.S.Saify, Sonia Siddiqui, Farhat Batool. 2001. Pre and post Synaptic Responses of 1-(1-Naphthyl Piperazine) Following to Stress in Rats. *Prog. Neuropsychopharmacol & Biolpsychiat 26:1-8.*

5- Erum Nizami, Sonia Siddiqui, Anila Yasmeen and Darakhshan J. Haleem. 1997. Increases of Hippocampal Serotonin Metabolism following Caffeine, Diazepam and their co- administration in rats. *3rd ISSBP Symposium.*

6- Z.S. Saify, Shamim Akhtar, Sohail Hassan M.Arif, Faheem Ahmed and Sonia Siddiqui 2000. A study on fatty acid composition of fish oil from two marine fish, *Eusphyra blochii* and *Carcharhinus bleekeri*. *Pak J Pharmaceut Sci 13: 5-12.*

7- Z.S. Saify, Sohail Hassan, M.Arif, Faheem Ahmed, Kamran A.Chisti and Sonia Siddiqui. 2000. A comparative study of Omegas' fatty acid obtained from marine fish and bezafibrate alone and in combination as hypolipidemic agent. Pak. J. Pharmaceut. Sci 13:1-11.

Participation in conferences and workshops:

- Mar, 2007 The 7th Meeting of the German Neuroscience Society
and 31st Göttingen Neurobiology Conference. Göttingen, Germany
- Feb, 2005 The 6th Meeting of the German Neuroscience Society
and 30th Göttingen Neurobiology Conference. Göttingen, Germany
- Feb 2000 International Conference organized by Department of Biochemistry,
University of Karachi.
- May 2001 Workshop on DNA extraction and its amplification by PCR organized by
the Aga Khan University, Karachi
- Sept 2001 Molecular Biology Workshop on Current Challenges in Oncology,
organized by the Aga Khan University, Karachi
- Feb 2001 Attended Symposium on “Untapped Fisheries Resources of Pakistan”.

Paper and Poster presentation:

- 2007 The 7th Meeting of the German Neuroscience Society
and 31st Göttingen Neurobiology Conference. Göttingen, Germany
- 2005 Poster Presentation at the 6th Meeting of the German Neuroscience Society
and 30th Göttingen Neurobiology Conference. Göttingen, Germany
- 2001 Oral presentation on Increased Atherosclerosis in Apo-E and LDL-
receptor gene knock-out mice as a result of Human Cholesteryl Ester
Transfer Protein Transgene Expression, presented at The Aga Khan
University and Hospital.
- 1997 Poster Presentation in National Conference organized by Department of
Biochemistry, University of Karachi, Karachi

AWARDS:

- 1993 Shield was presented on best seminar presentation on “Protein synthesis”
University of Karachi, Pakistan.

- 1998 Fellowship was awarded for two years during my M.Phil. from University of Karachi. Pakistan.
- 2002 Ph.D. Scholarship was awarded for three years from the IGSN graduate school, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany.
- 2006 STIBET Ph.D. thesis writing scholarship was awarded, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany.