HUPO-BSPR Report

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**Brief abstract**

The results from my studies showed that using an immunocapture and MALDI-ToF-MS method I was able to capture BNP molecular forms in plasma samples from patients with cardiovascular diseases (acute heart failure and acute myocardial infarction).

Measuring these molecular forms in two large cohorts (n=904, n=1078) the results showed that the molecular forms were able to predict outcomes for patients and show prognostic abilities at 6 months, 1 year and at 2 years. These were comparable to conventional measurements.

BNP molecular forms provide beneficial prognostic information for CVD patients in-line with current clinical protocols. Further understanding of specific BNP forms offers the potential to improve personalised risk stratification in acute cardiac episodes.

**What this conference meant**

This was my first attendance at an international conference and I was mesmerised with the number of people from different parts of the world using mass spectrometry for different proteomic applications.

I was fortunate enough to present my findings which appealed to many individuals especially in the US. Such people approached me and exchanged contact details for future endeavours. I was actually surprised to see people from parts of the world that I would not have expected for them to have the analytical mass spectrometry appeal and travel such a distance such as Pakistan, my mother land. I made many friends with Professors and senior researchers from Pakistan who also invited me to visit their labs.

The focal part for the event for me is the vendors and sponsors, without whom this event would simply not be able to proceed. There were many vendors at the event, many of which I have previously known. I was able to chat to the vendors about my project and ask questions about how to improve my study, enhance my personal portfolio and careers advice. This was most important since I was able to build rapport with such companies for the future.

I was quite nervous heading off to Dublin since this was my first solo flight without family but all in all I have realised that Dublin is a really nice place to spend the weekend. For the same cost as a rail ticket to London and 45 minute flight it is certainly a city I will visit more often. Not only was that but the conference setup fantastic. The staff were helpful, venue was spot on and most of all the weather was not too bad.

I would recommend this conference to anyone in the mass spectrometry field mainly because it is an international conference and brings the major industries and researchers onto one platform. I look forward to attending in the future!

I would like to thank BSPR for giving me the opportunity to be a recipient of the travel grant and able to attend this conference. I hope our relationship will continue as I progress into my final year of my PhD and beyond.