Date of last update: 15th March 2023

EBENEZER ASIEDU

Email: ebenezer.asiedu@vai.org | ebenezer.a

Telephone: (+1) 616-666-0293 Portfolio: https://ebenasiedu.github.io/

Education

2022-Present PhD Student

Van Andel Institute Graduate School

Grand Rapids, MI, USA

2015-2019 Biochemistry (BSc)

University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana

Dissertation: Stabilization of ascorbic acid through liposomal encapsulation

Supervisor: Francis Abrokwah (PhD): fabrokwa@ucc.edu.gh

Research and Teaching Experience

2022 - 2023 Rotation Student

Van Andel Institute Graduate School

- Investigated the DNA methylome of colorectal cancer mice expressing Dnmt1 hypomorphs. (*Laird Lab*)
- Investigated the epigenetic modifiers that are differentially expressed in HEK293T cells
- Cloned, transfected, and expressed KDM5C in T cells. Characterized transduction efficiency by flow cytometry and western blotting. (*Krawczyk Lab*)

Supervisors: Peter Laird (PhD): peter.laird@vai.org Qiang Zhu (PhD): qiang.zhu@vai.org

Connie Krawczyk (PhD): connie.krawczyk@vai.org

2020 - 2022 Research Assistant

Kumasi Center for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR), Ghana

Performed bioinformatics and computational studies.

expressing the C9orf72 dipeptide repeats. (*Zhu Lab*)

- Prepared manuscripts for journal publication.
- Assisted research on lymphatic filariasis stigmatization.

Supervisor: Alexander Kwarteng (PhD): senkwarteng@yahoo.co.uk

2019-2020 **Teaching Assistant**

Department of Biochemistry, University of Cape Coast, Ghana

- Taught undergraduates practical courses (microscopy, spectroscopy, and electrophoresis)
- Assisted lecturers with supervision and tutoring of undergraduates.
- Marked and graded undergraduate examinations.

2018-2019 Undergraduate Research

Stabilization of ascorbic acid through liposomal encapsulation.

- Conceptualized and designed research.
- Isolated egg phospholipids.
- Prepared liposome-encapsulated ascorbic acid.
- Analyzed encapsulated ascorbic stability.

Supervisor: Francis Abrokwah (PhD): fabrokwa@ucc.edu.gh

Research Interests

Immunology, Epigenetics, Neuro-oncology, Neurodegeneration, Microglia, Bioinformatics

Research Works

Under peer-review

Asiedu, E., et al., (2023). Genomic analyses reveal molecular factors associated with an inverse relationship between glial tumorigenesis and neurodegeneration in Alzheimer's disease. Scientific Reports

Published

 Asiedu, E., Larbi, A., Adankwah, E., Yambah, K. J., Obiri-Yeboah, D., Kwarteng, A.
 Transcriptome profiling reveals unique biological mechanisms and gene signatures
 associated with cerebral malaria. (2022). *Gene Reports* 28.
 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.genrep.2022.101650

Role: Conceptualized study, performed all analysis, wrote manuscript

 Kwarteng, A., Asiedu, E., Koranteng, K. K. & Asiedu, S. O. Highlighting the Relevance of CD8+ T Cells in Filarial Infections (2021). *Frontiers in Immunology* 12, 1–11._ https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2021.714052

Role: Prepared figures, wrote manuscript

Kwarteng, A., Asiedu, E., Sylverken, A., Larbi, A., Mubarik, Y., & Apprey, C. (2021). In silico drug repurposing for filarial infection predicts nilotinib and paritaprevir potential inhibitors of the Wolbachia 5'-aminolevulinic acid synthase. Scientific Reports, 1–14. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-87976-4

Role: Conceptualized study, performed all analysis, wrote manuscript

 Kwarteng, A., Sylverken, A., Asiedu, E., & Ahuno, S. T. (2021). Genome editing as control tool for filarial infections. *Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy*, 137, 111292. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biopha.2021.111292

Role: Prepared figures, wrote manuscript

Kwarteng, A., Asiedu, E., Sylverken, A. A., Larbi, A., Sakyi, S. A., & Asiedu, S. O. (2021).
Molecular characterization of interactions between the D614G variant of SARS-CoV-2
S-protein and neutralizing antibodies: A computational approach. *Infection, Genetics and Evolution*, 91, 104815. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.meegid.2021.104815

Role: Conceptualized study, performed all analysis, wrote manuscript

 Fordjour, F. A., Asiedu, E., Larbi, A., & Kwarteng, A. (2021). The role of nuclear factor kappa B (NF-κB) in filarial pathology. *Journal of Cell Communication and Signaling*, 15(2), 185–193. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12079-021-00607-5

Role: Prepared figures, reviewed manuscript

Kwarteng, A., Asiedu, E., Mubarik, Y., Katawa, G., & Asiedu, S. O. (2021). Exploring
 Onchocerca volvulus Cysteine Protease Inhibitor for Multi-epitope Subunit Vaccine
 Against Onchocerciasis: An Immunoinformatics Approach. *Int. J. Pep. Res. Ther*, 1–
 14. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10989-021-10224-w

Role: Conceptualized study, performed all analysis, wrote manuscript

 Kwarteng, A., Asiedu, E., Sakyi, S. A., & Asiedu, S. O. (2020). Targeting the SARS-CoV2 nucleocapsid protein for potential therapeutics using immuno-informatics and structure-based drug discovery techniques. *Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy*, 132, 110914. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biopha.2020.110914

Role: Conceptualized study, performed all analysis, wrote manuscript

- Asiedu, E. (2020). Designing Effective Small Interfering RNA for Post-Transcriptional Silencing of Human GREM1: A Comprehensive Bioinformatics Approach. *Preprint*. https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.01.23.917559
- Asiedu, E. (2019). *In-Silico* Methods for Investigating the Effect of Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms on the Structure and Function of Proteins: A Review. *Preprint*. 2019120131. https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints201912.0131.v1

Skills

- Programming:
 - R, Python
- Bioinformatics:
 - Transcriptomics Data Analysis
 - DNA methylation data analysis
 - Histone modification data analysis
 - Protein Structure Modeling and Simulation
 - In silico drug screening
 - Immuno-informatics
 - Machine Learning
- Molecular biology assays:
 - Western Blotting
 - PCR
 - Flow Cytometry
 - Gel Electrophoresis
 - CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing
 - Cloning transfection, transduction assays
 - Protein Expression
- > Non-technical
 - Teamwork, Time management, organizational, critical thinking, quick learner, presentation, leadership, conflict resolution, stress management, problem solving.

Fellowship & Scholarship Awards

Doctoral:

Van Andel Institute Graduate School PhD Fellowship (2022)

Travel:

> AACR Student and Early Career Investigator Scholarship (2021)

To support the attendance of the 14th AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved held on October 6-8. 2021

Leadership Services

President: August 2018-May 2019

Biological Sciences Students' Association of Ghana (BIOSSTAG), University of Cape Coast Chapter

Professional Development Training

- Epigenomics analysis, Canadian Bioinformatics Workshop (CBW), September 2021
- ➤ Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS 2), Canadian Panel on Research Ethics, April 2021

Webinar Talks

Immunological Society of Ghana 3rd Webinar on the current trends in COVID-19: "Immunoinformatics applications to SARS-CoV 2 epitope vaccine design"

Volunteering Services

> Outreach speaker, February 2019-May 2019

Toured high schools to discuss and excite the students' interests in biology related courses at the tertiary level.

Professional Association

- American Association of Cancer Reseach (AACR)
- Ghana Biochemistry Students Association (GHABSA)
- Biological Sciences Students Association of Ghana (BIOSSTAG)

Referees

Alexander Kwarteng (PhD)

Senior Lecturer

Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology,

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana

E-mail:

senkwarteng@yahoo.co.uk

Francis Abrokwah (PhD)

Senior Lecturer

Department of Biochemistry, University of Cape Coast,

Ghana

E-mail: fabrokwa@ucc.edu.gh

Paz Polak (PhD)

Vice President

Computational Biology

C2i Genomics

E-mail: pazpolak@gmail.com