Research Associate: Merouane Bencherif

Education:

Institution and Location	Degree	Year Conferred	Field of Study
Aix en Provence, France and Algiers, Algeria	B.S.	1972	Mathematics and Physics
Institute of Medical Sciences Algiers, Algeria	Premed	1974	Premedical
Medical School, University of Algiers, Algiers, Algeria	M.D.	1979	Medicine
University of Texas Austin, Texas	TOEFL, GRE	1980	English
University of Virginia Charlottesville, VA	Ph.D.	1986	Biophysics

Research and/or Professional Experience:

1978 Member of a medical team from the Algerian National Institute of Health for the prevention and treatment of contagious diseases in remote areas of the Sahara desert. Provided reports to the Ministry of Health on findings related to public health.

1979 Worked on several projects in Cardiology, Traumatology, Gynecology and Pediatrics as partial requirements for the Medical Doctorate Degree. Data collected during a three-month period regarding the incidence of various diseases was analyzed and reported with reference to its public health implications.

1980 TOEFL, GRE, University of Texas, Austin, Texas

1981-1986 Teaching Assistant and Graduate Student, Department of Physiology, Program in Biophysics, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, Dr. Rafael Rubio, Advisor. Worked on the involvement of purines in synaptic function with specific reference to the control of polyphosphoinositide metabolism. These studies were designed to elucidate mechanisms underlying the neuromodulatory effect of adenosine on synaptic transmission.

1986-1987 Research Associate, Department of Physiology, Program in Biophysics, University of Virginia, Dr. Rafael Rubio, Advisor. Continued work on purinergic modulation of polyphosphoinositide metabolism with reference to synaptic mechanisms.

1987-- Postdoctoral Research Associate, Laboratory of Neurochemistry, Division of Neurobiology, Barrow Neurological Institute, Phoenix, Arizona, Dr. Ronald J. Lukas, Advisor. Studies on nicotinic and muscarinic acetylcholine receptors structure and function, fundamental properties of second messenger signaling in neuron-like clonal cell lines, and mechanisms of neuronal transformation using those clonal lines.

Publications: (partial list)

Bencherif, M., Rubio, R. and Berne, R.M. The pre and postsynaptic contribution of adenosine release in the rabbit sympathetic ganglion. Biophysical Journal 47(2), 474a, 1985.

Bencherif, M., Berne, R.M. and Rubio, R. The release of purines by the frog sympathetic ganglion is the result of activation of postsynaptic elements. J. Physiology (London) 371, 274P, 1985.

Bencherif, M., Rubio, R. and Berne, R.M. Mechanisms and site of release of adenosine in nervous tissue. The Physiologist 28, 1985.