

# Lina Karina Nerio Morales

PhD Candidate

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology • University of Kansas

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Kansas**

*PhD in Pharmacology and toxicology*

**Current GPA: 4.0**

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

*August, 2022 – Present*

**University of Kansas**

*MSc in Pharmacology and toxicology*

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

*August, 2020 – August, 2022*

**Universidad Nacional de Colombia**

*Bachelor in Pharmacy*

**Bogotá, Colombia**

*August 2010 – April, 2016*

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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**Lester Gibbs Travel Award**

*2025 Lester Gibbs Travel Award*

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

*July 2025*

**Mossberg Honors Symposium Award**

*2025 Mossberg Honors awards*

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

*January 2025*

**Doctoral Student Research Fund Award**

*Doctoral student research funding*

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

*October 2023*

**Hodgie Bricke Memorial Scholarship Fund**

*Conference travel funding*

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

*October 2022*

**Fulbright – Passport to Science**

*Fulbright scholar cohort 2020*

**Bogotá, Colombia**

*September, 2019 – August, 2022*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**The University of Kansas**

*Graduate Research Assistant*

*PI: Adam S Smith*

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

*August, 2022 – Present*

**Neuropeptide regulation of pair bond formation in a model of social defeat**

Assess the function of the neuropeptide corticotrophin releasing factor in the regulation of pair bond formation in defeated prairie voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*)

**Kinoxis Therapeutics Pty Ltd**

Research Assistant

PI: Adam S Smith/ Michael Bowen

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

December, 2021 - April, 2024

**Pharmacological and pharmacokinetic evaluation of two prospective compounds in a social defeat model of female prairie voles**

Assessed the pharmacokinetic properties and pharmacological effects of two prospective compounds on social deficits and oxytocin receptor expression in defeated female prairie voles in collaboration with the Australian company

**The University of Kansas**

Master's Thesis Candidate

PI: Adam S Smith

**Lawrence, KS, USA**

August, 2020 – August, 2022

**Social defeat and oxytocin receptor regulation of social avoidance and stress related signaling proteins**

Assessed the function of the neuropeptide oxytocin in the regulation of social avoidance in defeated prairie voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*) as a model of social anxiety

**Universidad Nacional de Colombia**

Undergraduate's Thesis Candidate

PI: Javier Rincón Velandia

**Bogotá, Colombia**

July, 2014 - December, 2015

**Extraction and physicochemical characterization of curuba fixed seed oil**

Extracted the fixed seed oil from curuba (*Passiflora mollisima*) and investigated the physicochemical properties, antioxidant activity and pharmaceutical application in heterodisperse formulations

**Universidad Nacional de Colombia**

Research Assistant

PI: Maritza Adelina Rojas Cardozo

**Bogotá, Colombia**

August, 2013 – July, 2014

**Phytochemical study of the bark of *Acacia farnesiana* used traditionally for the treatment of malaria**

Evaluated the polyphenol content in fractions extracted from the bark of *Acacia farnesiana* with the development of a spectrophotometric method

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**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Pfizer Colombia**

Sr Centralized Data Management Associate

**Bogotá, Colombia**

August, 2019 – August 2020

**Pfizer Colombia**

Centralized Data Management Associate

**Bogotá, Colombia**

August, 2018 – August 2019

**Pfizer Colombia**

Regulatory Strategist Analyst

**Bogotá, Colombia**

March, 2017 – August 2018

**Pharmetique Labs**

Analytic Integration Analyst II

**Bogotá, Colombia**

January, 2016 - March, 2017

**Pharmetique Labs**

Intern – Validation Analyst

**Bogotá, Colombia**

July, 2015 - January, 2016

## PUBLICATIONS

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Tickerhoof, M.C., **Nerio Morales, L.K.**, Goff, J. Vitale E. M., Smith A. S. (2025) Extended amygdala corticotropin-releasing hormone neurons regulate sexually dimorphic changes in pair bond formation following social defeat in prairie voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*). *Neuropsychopharmacology*, doi.org/10.1038/s41386-025-02067-6

**Nerio-Morales L.K.**, Boender A.J., Young L.J., Lamprea M.R., Smith A.S. (2024) Limbic oxytocin receptor expression alters molecular signaling and social avoidance behavior in female prairie voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*). *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 18. doi.org/10.3389/fnins.2024.1409316

Bonilla, D.M., Mendoza, Y., Moncada, C.E., Murcia, O., Rojas, A.P., Calle, J., Pinzón, R., **Nerio L.** (2016). Effect of essential oil of *Rosmarinus officinalis* on *Porphyromonas gingivalis* cultivated *in vitro*. *Revista Colombiana de Ciencias Químico Farmacéuticas*, 45(2), 275-287. doi.org/10.15446/rcciquifa.v45n2.59942

## PRESENTATIONS

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**CRF-mediated plasticity in the VTA–NAC circuit underlies stress-induced changes in social attachment**

<i>Poster</i>	Society for Social Neuroscience 2025	<b>Lisbon, Portugal</b> <i>September, 2025</i>
<i>Poster</i>	Society for Neuroscience 2025	<b>San Diego, CA, USA</b> <i>November, 2025</i>

**Regulation of corticotropin-releasing factor on avoidance and social attachment in defeated prairie voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*)**

<i>Poster</i>	Colombian School of Neuroscience 2025	<b>Bogotá, Colombia</b> <i>April, 2025</i>
<i>Seminar</i>	Mossberg Honors Symposium 2025	<b>Lawrence, KS, USA</b> <i>January, 2025</i>
<i>Poster</i>	Society for Neuroscience 2024	<b>Chicago, IL, USA</b> <i>October, 2024</i>
<i>Poster</i>	Mossberg Honors Symposium 2024	<b>Lawrence, KS, USA</b> <i>January, 2024</i>
<i>Poster</i>	Society for Neuroscience 2023	<b>Washington D.C., USA</b> <i>November, 2023</i>

**Social defeat and oxytocin regulation of social avoidance and stress-related signaling proteins in female prairie voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*)**

<i>Seminar</i>	National University of Colombia	<b>Bogotá, Colombia</b> <i>April, 2025</i>
<i>Seminar</i>	Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia	<b>Tunja, Colombia</b> <i>December, 2024</i>
<i>Seminar</i>	Master Class, Universidad Popular del Cesar	<b>Virtual Conference</b> <i>November, 2024</i>
<i>Seminar</i>	Master Class, Universidad de la Costa	<b>Virtual Conference</b> <i>November, 2024</i>
<i>Seminar</i>	Master Class, Fundación Universitaria Área Andina	<b>Virtual Conference</b> <i>November, 2024</i>

<i>Poster</i>	Society for Neuroscience 2022	<b>San Diego, CA, USA</b> <i>August, 2022</i>
<i>Seminar</i>	International School of Neuroscience 2021	<b>Bogotá, Colombia</b> <i>December, 2021</i>
<i>Poster</i>	Society for Neuroscience 2021	<b>Virtual Conference</b> <i>November, 2021</i>
<i>Poster</i>	Vole Meeting 2021	<b>Boulder, CO, USA</b> <i>August, 2021</i>
<b>Gene Knockdown</b>		
<i>Seminar</i>	Tertulia Metodológica	<b>Virtual Conference</b> <i>October, 2021</i>
<b>Phytochemical study of the bark of <i>Acacia farnesiana</i> collected in two seasons of the year</b>		
<i>Poster</i>	XII Colombian Congress of Phytochemistry	<b>Cartagena, Colombia</b> <i>May, 2014</i>

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

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<i>Society for Social Neuroscience</i>	<i>May, 2025 - Present</i>
<i>Colegio Colombiano de Neurociencias</i>	<i>September, 2021 - Present</i>
<i>Society for Neuroscience</i>	<i>July, 2021 - Present</i>

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

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<b>Foundation Breaking Chains</b>	<b>Bogotá, Colombia</b>
<i>Academic Tutor</i>	<i>October, 2018 – March 2020</i>

## **SKILLS**

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<b>Language:</b>	Spanish (Native) English (Proficient)
<b>Software:</b>	SPSS, Python, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher)