

Read. Wash. Win(ner)!



Tecan is pleased to announce the winner of the first ever Tecan Detection Award. The award is designed to celebrate the innovation and ingenuity of our loyal customers, and we have been overwhelmed by your response to this inaugural competition. We received a lot of strong entries (look out for some of these in future issues of the Tecan Journal), and we would like to thank all those who submitted abstracts of their work. Choosing just a single winner was very difficult, but we would like to congratulate Dr Francisco Quintana from the Center for Neurologic Diseases at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts, for his pioneering work on the progression of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) using human and zebrafish antigen microarrays.

MS is a neurological disease caused by an autoimmune response to the central nervous system, however there is currently no reliable method to monitor the participation of innate and adaptive immune response in different stages of the disease. Dr Quintana's team has used a systems biology approach to study the role of immune response in MS, developing human and zebrafish antigen microarrays to identify signaling pathways that participate in MS pathogenesis and progression. Development of these arrays was performed using Tecan's HS 4800™ Pro hybridization station and PowerScanner™, together with an Infinite® F200 microplate reader for screening anti-zebrafish monoclonal antibodies, quantifying cytokines and measuring dual luciferase reporter assays. To reward this creative approach to using our instruments, Tecan will be inviting Dr Quintana to visit Tecan Austria, where he will have a chance to see the fascinating world of Tecan detection instruments first-hand, while enjoying a stay in the beautiful and romantic city of Salzburg.

A close second place went to Dr Jeff Mumm from the Department of Cellular Biology and Anatomy, Medical College of Georgia, for his work on reporter-based drug screening using Tecan's Infinite M1000 and live zebrafish! And Ms Elisa Masi from the Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Science at the University of Florence, Italy, was awarded third place for her plan to use an Infinite 200 multimode reader to measure the effect of gravity changes during parabolic flight on the levels of reactive oxygen species in plant cells.

Thank you again to everyone who took part in this year's Tecan award and, for those of you who missed out, look out for details of how to enter the 2011 Tecan Award later in the year.

To learn more about the Tecan award, visit www.tecan.com/award