

Stephan A. Pless, PhD
spless@mail.ubc.ca

Education

- 11/2012-present** **University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada**
Postdoctoral fellow with Prof. Harley T. Kurata
- 11/2008-10/2012** **University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada**
Postdoctoral fellow with Prof. Christopher A. Ahern
- 02/2005-08/2008** **University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia**
PhD in neurobiology with Prof. Joseph W. Lynch
- 10/2003-06/2004** **Centre for Molecular Neurobiology (ZMNH),
Hamburg, Germany**
Diploma thesis with Prof. Olaf Pongs
- 10/2000-06/2004** **University of Hamburg, Germany**
Graduate degree (diploma) in biochemistry and
molecular biology.
- 10/1998-06/2000** **University of Hamburg, Germany**
Undergraduate degree in biochemistry/molecular
biology
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Publications

2013

Pless, S.A., Niciforovic, A.P., Nunez, J.J., Galpin, J.D., Kurata, H.T., Ahern, C.A.; "A novel mechanism for fine-tuning open state stability in a voltage-gated potassium channel"; ***Nature Communications***

Pless, S.A. & Ahern, C.A.; "Probing ligand receptor interactions with unnatural amino acids"; ***Annual Review of Pharmacology and Toxicology***,

Rivera-Aceveda, R.E., Pless, S.A., Schwarz, S.K., Ahern, C.A.; "Expression-dependent pharmacology of TRPV1 in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes"; ***Channels***

2012

Lacroix, J.J., Pless, S.A., Maragliano, L., Campos, F.V., Galpin, J.D., Ahern, C.A., Roux, B., Bezanilla, F.; "Intermediate state trapping of a voltage sensor"; ***The Journal of General Physiology***

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Rivera-Aceveda, R.E., **Pless, S.A.**, Schwarz, S.K., Ahern, C.A.; "Extracellular quaternary ammonium blockade of transient receptor vanilloid subtype 1 channels expressed in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes"; ***Molecular Pharmacology***

2011

Pless, S.A.*, Leung, A., Galpin, J.D., Ahern, C.A.; "Contributions of conserved residues at the gating interface of glycine receptors", *-corresponding author, ***The Journal of Biological Chemistry***

Pless, S.A., Galpin, J.D., Niciforovic, A, Ahern, C.A.; "Contributions of counter charge in a potassium channel voltage sensor", ***Nature Chemical Biology***

Pless, S.A., Galpin, J.D., Frankel, A., Ahern, C.A.; "Molecular basis for inhibition of cardiac sodium channels by class Ib anti-arrhythmics"; ***Nature Communications***,

Rivera-Aceveda, R.E., **Pless, S.A.**, Ahern, C.A., Schwarz, S.K.; "The quaternary lidocaine derivative, QX-314, exerts biphasic effects on TRPV1 channels in vitro", ***Anesthesiology***

Pless, S.A., Hanek, A.P., Lynch, J.W., Lester, H.A., Dougherty, D.A., Lummis, S.C.; "A cation-pi interaction in the glycine receptor binding site is conserved for different agonists", ***Molecular Pharmacology***

2010

Wang, Q., **Pless, S.A.**, Lynch J.W.; "Ligand- and subunit-specific conformational changes in the ligand-binding domain and the TM2-TM3 linker of alpha 1, beta 2, gamma 2 GABA-A receptors"; accepted by the ***Journal of Biological Chemistry***

2009

Pless, S.A., Lynch J.W.; "The magnitude of a conformational change in the glycine receptor beta1- beta2 loop is correlated with agonist efficacy"; ***Journal of Biological Chemistry***

Pless, S.A., Lynch, J.W.; "Ligand-specific conformational changes in the alpha1 glycine receptor ligand-binding domain"; ***Journal of Biological Chemistry***

Pless, S.A., Lynch, J.W.; "Distinct conformational changes in activated agonist-bound and agonist-free glycine receptor subunits"; ***Journal of Neurochemistry***

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2008

Pless, S.A., Millen, K.S., Hanek, A.P., Lynch, J.W., Lester, H.A., Dougherty, D.A., Lummis, S.C.; "A cation-pi interaction in the binding site of the glycine receptor is mediated by a phenylalanine residue", *Journal of Neuroscience*

Pless, S.A., Lynch, J.W.; "Illuminating the structure and function of Cys-loop receptors"; *Clinical and Experimental Physiology and Pharmacology*

2007

Pless, S.A., Dibas, M.I., Lester, H.A., Lynch, J.W.; "Conformational variability of the glycine receptor M2 domain in response to activation by different agonists"; *Journal of Biological Chemistry*

Meeting Abstracts 23, not shown

Invited Oral Presentations 19, not shown

Awards and Honours

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| 09/2011-08/2013 | Michael Smith Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship |
| 07/2011-06/2013 | Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship |
| 07/2009-06/2011 | Heart and Stroke Foundation Canada Postdoctoral Fellowship |
| 11/2008 | University of Queensland Deans Award for Outstanding Research Higher Degree Thesis |
| 07/2006 | University of Queensland Graduate School Research Travel Award (GSRTA) |
| 01/2006-08/2008 | University of Queensland Research Scholar Award |
| 02/2005-08/2008 | International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) |
| 02/2005-08/2008 | Ernest Singer Scholarship |
| 06/2001-08/2008 | e-fellows.net Scholarship |