# Protecting Injured Brain and Promoting Neurological Recovery



Sandra Hewett The Beverly Petterson Professor, Neuroscience Executive Director, Neuroscience Studies

# **CURRENT RESEARCH**

From basic research to applied therapeutics, Dr. Hewett is developing therapies to facilitate rescue and repair

Recovery after brain injury can be painstaking for patients and their family members. Fortunately, recent research is getting at the heart of the cellular interactions that follow injury with specificity and detail. Dr. Sandra Hewett, the Beverly Petterson Bishop Professor of Neuroscience in the Department of Biology at Syracuse University, is focused on elucidating the molecular and biochemical mechanisms by which inflammatory factors become dysregulated during and following acute injury. She and her team are concentrating on how these factors regulate the interactions between neurons and astrocytes and either facilitate injury or mediate repair. Thus, her novel insights are leading to potential therapeutic targets for patients experiencing strokes, trauma, and epilepsy.

Dr. Hewett's laboratory employs both in vitro and in vivo models of injury, which she refers to as "taking molecules to mouse" and "mouse to molecules" approach. Through the combination of these approaches, she and her team are able to identify potential therapeutic targets and test potential therapies as part of an applied research strategy. Furthermore, given her academic background in pharmacology, she is a basic scientist that is acutely aware and driven to produce information that can be translated to the clinic. This dual dedication to basic science and applications drives Dr. Hewett's lab, which asks and answers questions at the basic science level that can inform human health.

Current research includes:

Stroke and Epilepsy: Dr. Hewett studies the physical and chemical interactions that occur between astrocytes and neurons in brain in response to injury and ultimately how this impacts neuronal survival, the...

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# AFFILIATION

Syracuse University

#### **EDUCATION**

- B.S., in Biology, 1987 , Providence College
- Ph.D., Pharmacology, 1992 , Michigan State University

Post-doctoral Training, Neurology, 1992-1995 , Washington University of St. Louis, School
 of Medicine

## **AWARDS**

- 2011- Inaugural Beverly Petterson Bishop Endowed Professor, Syracuse University
- 2004 Kenneth E Moore Distinguished Alumnus Award, Michigan State University
- 2002 Jordi Folch-Pi Memorial Award for Outstanding Young Investigator, American Society
  for Neurochemistry
- 2002 Established Investigator Award, American Heart Association

 2000 Donaghue Investigator Award; The Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donaghue Medical Research Foundation

## **RESEARCH AREAS**

Life Science, Immunology / Inflammatory, Neurological / Cognitive, Neurological / Cognitive

# **FUNDING REQUEST**

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Sandra Hewett, of Syracuse University, as she works to protect or prevent neural injury with her basic research. Donations will fund the necessary \$500K/year required to fund the lab including, personnel, generating a line of mice, and creating cell cultures. In choosing to donate, you will play a role in moving Dr. Hewett's research towards clinical trials.

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