

Dr. Lubna Danish

Dr. Lubna Danish has received her M.Phil degree in Biotechnology from Institute of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering (IBGE), KPK-Agricultural University, Pakistan. She won a fully funded PhD fellowship from German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Government of Pakistan to pursue her research goals in Germany. She did her PhD from Institute of Cell Biology and Immunology (IZI), University of Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany. During her PhD in the research group of Prof. Peter Scheurich she investigated the underlying molecular mechanisms that regulate the intrinsic apoptotic pathway of lung cancer cell line NCI-H460 in response to TRAIL (TNF-family cytokine). It was concluded from the findings that the endogenous cytosolic XIAP levels allow efficient inhibition of caspase-3 thereby playing a crucial role in TRAIL resistance of NCI-H460/Bcl-2 cells. During her PhD work Lubna not only had produced a broad variety of quantitative data from typical biochemical experiments, but also had to manipulate cells by subtle overexpression of genes or their silencing to study the resulting changes in the highly complex, at multiple points by feedback loops regulated, apoptotic signaling network. In particular she created a subline overexpressing the antiapoptotic molecule Bcl-2 revealing high TRAIL resistance.



She has published her PhD and M.Phil research papers in high impact peer reviewed international journals of Biological Sciences. Her current research focuses on identification of Bcl-2 protein SNPs (single nucleotide polymorphisms) in various cancer types in Pakistan and the effect of observed genetic alterations on Bcl-2 protein expression anticancer drugs.

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