

UQ Summer Research Project 2026- SBMS

Project title:	Exploring immune mechanisms driving neurodegeneration
Hours of engagement & delivery mode	30-35 hours per week Onsite St Lucia: Skerman (65)
Description:	Immune factors including complement and inflammasomes mediate inflammation, and are linked to multiple diseases, including brain disease. We have developed therapeutics that block components of these systems. Our goals are to validate their efficacy in preclinical models of neurodegenerative disease.
Expected learning outcomes and deliverables:	Students will learn human microglial cell and brain organoid models, and models of neuroinflammation leading to neurodegeneration. Novel therapeutics will be tested for efficacy in the models.
Suitable for:	Students with an interest in neuroscience, immunology and pharmacology, and looking to contribute to progression of drugs for human testing.
Primary Supervisor:	Dr Eduardo Albornoz e.albornoz@uq.edu.au https://biomedical-sciences.uq.edu.au/research/groups/neuroinflammation
Further info:	The supervisor CAN be contacted by students prior to submission of an application