HWI RESEARCHER EDITS NEW RELEASE

The cover of Dr Vivian Cody’s new release, “Recent Advances in Transthyretin Evolution, Structure and Biological Functions”.

Hauptman-Woodward Principal Research Scientist and UB Professor of Structural Biology Dr Vivian Cody and collaborator Dr. Samantha J. Richardson of the RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia have released a book which covers both basic and clinical research into transthyretin and provides an example study of the evolution of protein structure-function relationships. The 360 page text was published in November 2009 by Springer Publishing.

Transthyretin is a protein found in human blood and cerebrospinal fluid. It is directly involved in the transport of thyroid hormones, and indirectly in that of retinol. These hormones are essential for normal growth and development, particularly that of the brain. In fact, the protein is implicated in a variety of conditions and pathologies. Transthyretin is used as a nutritional marker, and also as an indicator of recovery following some diseases and surgery. Mutations in transthyretin lead to a variety of illnesses, including spontaneous and inherited diseases.

“We believe that this book will serve as a tool for postgraduate students and researchers by providing a review of the latest developments and discoveries in our understanding that covers both the basic and the clinical research of this important protein. It is highly unusual that a single protein is of great interest across such a broad spectrum of fields in biology.” Cody said.

ABOUT HWI

With more than 50 years of exceptional scientific research, the Hauptman-Woodward Institute is an internationally-renowned independent, non-profit facility specializing in life-altering research. HWI’s team of more than 75 members is committed to improving human health through the study of the causes of diseases, as well as potential therapies, at their fundamental molecular level. HWI is located in the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in downtown Buffalo, New York, in a new state-of-the-art structural biology research center at 700 Ellicott Street. For more information, visit HWI’s website at www.hwi.buffalo.edu or call 716-898-8600.

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