

TOBeATPAIN 2nd Scientific Workshop, Innsbruck

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Between 3rd and 5th of February the 2nd scientific workshop of TOBeATPAIN-ITN took place in Innsbruck. The workshop was hosted by Bionorica Research, a pharmaceutical company part of TOBeATPAIN, and it was organized and coordinated by Astrid Neumann and Katharina Strommer. All the Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) attended two different Workshops during the Winter School. The first one was about mass spectrometry analysis, the gold-standard technology in Bionorica Research company in order to develop their products. During that workshop, Nora Engles explained to the ESRs the fundamentals of chromatographic separations (first step for the separation of compounds of a sample for the next evaluation by mass spectrometry analysis) and the different chromatographic methods that can be used depending on the main goal and type of sample. Then, the speaker exposed several options of mass spectrometry, the advantages and disadvantages they have as well as the different applications of them. The next part of the mass spectrometry analysis workshop consisted in laboratory practical course hosted by Katharina Strommer. Divided in two groups, the ESRs learnt the basis of sample or extract preparation of filtered coffee, freeze dried coffee and black tea in order to characterize the content of caffeine in each sample by chromatographic separation and mass spectrometry. The following part was to analyze the obtained data with the help of Daniel Fitz, who taught the ESRs about the softwares used in mass spectrometry evaluation and showing all the possibilities behind the analysis of an extract. The last day of the Winter School, the ESRs had the possibility to attend the Transferable Skills Workshop about Leadership and Research Governance. This was divided in three different talks. The first was about the importance of Good Documentation Practice and was exposed by Astrid Neumann (Bionorica Research and Supervisor or ERS10 Cristiana Dumbraveanu). The second speaker was Clemens Schöpf (Medical University Innsbruck) who expose his own experience taking part in a Start-up after he obtained the PhD degree. Finally, the last part of the Winter School was a talk regarding the Good Scientific Practice, that was presented by Gabriele Werner-Felmayer (Medical University Innsbruck) where we discuss the relevance of fabrication, falsification and plagiarism in science nowadays. Personally, I enjoyed a lot the 1st Winter School of TOBeATPAIN in Innsbruck, especially because of the combination of theoretical and practical activities as well as the importance of Good practice in Science and the Start-up option after finishing the PhD. Apart from the interesting workshops, we enjoyed a lot the snowy days in Innsbruck with the amazing background of the Alps.