

**SILVIA FANTON (ESR3)**

### **MY ONE-MONTH SECONDMENT AT MABTECH AB (STOCKHOLM)**

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I undertook one-month secondment (September 2019 – October 2019) at MABTECH AB (Stockholm), one of few biotech companies with a strong focus on monoclonal antibodies for FluroSpot, ELISpot, and ELISA – for more information, visit their website: <https://www.mabtech.com/company>.

Throughout this month, I worked in close collaboration with Dr Staffan Paulie, Chief Executive Officer at MABTECH AB, as well as with other qualified professionals, so as to witness their research-, and business-related approach to industry. I gained new insights into the multiple facets of managing a biotech business, from creating a business development plan and the process of being granted a patent to assuring product quality and optimise marketing and sale strategies. I also had the chance to attend an event, held over few days, involving MABTECH AB and Chinese distributors of MABTECH products overseas. During this occasion, diverse experts at MABTECH AB presented their products and provided the guests with the possibility of working first-hand with the products in wet lab sessions, which I also joined.

As a follow-up to this wet lab experience, I carried out an independent project that consisted in applying FluroSpot and ELISpot assays to measure the production of human cytokines IL-6, IL-8, and IL-1 $\beta$ , selected upon a literature review on the neuro-immune inflammatory cross-talk in fibromyalgia.

I believe this month has enabled me to acquire a comprehensive understanding of how both business and research are carried out in an industry-based, rather than academic, context.



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