



Proceedings Intelligent Multi-Electrode Array for Real-Time Treatment Monitoring of Antipsychotic Clozapine *

Rajendra Prasad Shukla^{1,*}, Deanna L. Kelly² and Hadar Ben Yoav

- ¹ Nanobioelectronics Laboratory (NBEL), Department of Biomedical Engineering, and Ilse Katz Institute of Nanoscale Science and Technology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel
- ² Maryland Psychiatric Research Center (MPRC), University of Maryland, School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA; email1@gmail.com
- * Correspondence: rajendra@post.bgu.ac.il
- + Presented at the 7th International Electronic Conference on Sensors and Applications, 15–30 November 2020; Available online: https://ecsa-7.sciforum.net/.

Published: 15 November 2020

Schizophrenia is a challenging mental health disorder [1]. While various antipsychotics have been used to treat schizophrenia, monitoring schizophrenia treatment requires from patients to frequently travel to hospitals in order to test and maintain efficacious levels. Yet, current technologies for antipsychotic drug monitoring require benchtop equipment and long sample preparation time, impeding the ability to rapidly measure various antipsychotics levels at the point-of-care. For example, clozapine is the most effective antipsychotic medication for schizophrenia, but it is dramatically underutilized due to a burdensome monitoring scheme. We propose to overcome the analytical challenges by designing an intelligent multi-sensor array that will be modified with micro/nanometers-thick films [2]. The films are based on 2D materials (reduced graphene oxide, MoS2 and WS₂) that increase the electrocatalytic activity of the sensors and the underlying variability of the electrochemical signals generated by the antipsychotics. Here, we have shown the development of microelectrodes modified with 2D materials; (2) the development of an intelligent multi-electrode array framework; and (3) the proof-of-concept extraction of antipsychotic levels from schizophrenia patients by using intelligent chemometric models. By rapidly deciphering the electrochemical signals in whole blood and quantifying the levels of the antipsychotics, better schizophrenia treatment outcome can be enabled.



Figure 1. Scheme of the intelligent multi-electrode array system for antipsychotic clozapine detection in finger-pricked microliter volume of whole blood.

Acknowledgments: The authors thank the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation NARSAD Young Investigator and the Jeanne Marie Lee Investigator Grant (Grant number 26038) for funding the project. We also thank the Helmsley Charitable Trust through the Agricultural, Biological and Cognitive Robotics Initiative for the financial support in this research at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. The authors also thank the Kreitman School for the Mid-way Negev fellowship for their support. The authors also thank Professor Deanna L. Kelly for supplying the patients samples and guidance.

References

- 1 Gok, F.A.; Duyan, V. I Wanted My Child Dead'-Physical, Social, Cognitive, Emotional and Spiritual Life Stories of Turkish Parents Who Give Care to Their Children with Schizophrenia: A Qualitative Analysis Based on Empowerment Approach. *Int. J. Soc. Psychiatry*. **2020**, *66*, 249.
- 2 Shukla, R.P.; Cazelles, R.; Kelly, D.L.; Ben-Yoav, H. Talanta 2020, 209, 1205604.

Publisher's Note: MDPI stays neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.



© 2020 by the authors. Submitted for possible open access publication under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).