



Ben A. Hall, Ph.D.

Technical Specialist

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Ben A. Hall, Ph.D. assists in prosecuting patents for clients as a technical specialist in a variety of industries, specifically related to biotechnology. His life science-based doctoral and postdoctoral training and multidisciplinary background provide extensive research experience and knowledge in a wide range of areas including molecular biology, immunology, oncology, diabetes, gene editing technologies (CRISPR, TALENS and ZFNs), biological diagnostic systems, and pharmacology.

Practices

- Patent Prosecution
- IP Litigation

Industries

- Biotechnology & Life Sciences

Background and Credentials

Prior to joining the firm, Ben was a research professional at the University of Chicago where he focused on investigating the role of Insulin Receptor Substrate 2 (IRS-2) in novel pancreatic beta cell specific knockout mice models of type II diabetes. Additionally, he was a Chicago Innovation Mentor (CIM) fellow, where he contributed to the scientific development of several local biotechnology start-up companies, and interpreted patents for complex biotechnologies at the University of Chicago Tech Transfer Office. Ben was also an innovation fund associate for the Chicago Innovation Exchange (CIE) where he contributed to the evaluation of early stage technology including the assessment of the intellectual property and licensing strategies of university-based technologies.

Ben holds a B.S., *with honors*, in pharmacology and Ph.D. in biomedical sciences from Newcastle University, UK. His graduate studies focused on cell survival signaling pathways in models of skin and melanoma skin cancer. As a postdoctoral research scholar at the University of Chicago, his focus involved identifying the requirement of mTORC1 for SGK1 kinase activation in breast cancer. He also contributed to development of glucocorticoid receptor antagonism as a novel therapy for triple-negative breast cancer. Ben has authored several peer-reviewed articles in the fields of oncology and diabetes research.

Education

- Newcastle University, UK (Ph.D.)
 - Biomedical Sciences
- Newcastle University, UK (B.S., *with honors*)
 - Pharmacology

Publications and Presentations

- Northwestern University's Biotechnology Day 2018, Co-Panelist for Non-Technical Career Panel, March 2, 2018.
- Coats B.R., Schoenfelt K.Q., Barbosa-Lorenzi V.C., Peris E., Cui C., Hoffman A., Zhou G., Fernandez S., Zhai L., Hall B.A. et al. Metabolically Activated Adipose Tissue Macrophages Perform Detrimental and Beneficial Functions during Diet-Induced Obesity. *Cell Rep.* 2017; 20(13): 3149-3161.
- "What Can I Do with my Ph.D.?", University of Chicago's myCHOICE: Careers in Intellectual Property Law Seminar & Networking Reception, September 28, 2015.
- Brickley D.R., Agyeman A.S., Kopp R.F., Hall B.A. et al. (2013). Serum- and Glucocorticoid-induced Protein Kinase 1 (SGK1) is Regulated by Store-Operated Ca²⁺ Entry and Mediates Cytoprotection Against Necrotic Cell Death. *J Biol Chem.* 288 (45).
- Skor M.N., Wonder E.L., Kocherginsky M., Goyal A., Hall B. A., Cai Y., Conzen S.D. (2013). Glucocorticoid receptor antagonism as a novel therapy for triple-negative breast cancer. *Clin Cancer Res.* 19 (22)
- Hall B.A., Kim T.K., Skor M.N., Conzen S.D. (2012). The requirement for mTORC1 in serum and glucocorticoid-regulated kinase 1 (SGK1) activation correlates with ER-alpha expression. *Breast Cancer Res Treat.* 135 (2).
- Gregg B.E., Moore P.C., Demozay D., Hall B.A., Li M., Husain A., Wright A.J., Atkinson M.A. & Rhodes C.J. (2012). Formation of a Baseline Pancreatic β -Cell Population in Humans is 1 Set Early in Life. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 97 (9).

[Click here](#) to see additional Publications and Presentations.

Community and Professional Involvement

- University of Chicago Biotechnology Association (UCBA), Committee Chair & Editor-in-Chief (2012–2014)
- University of Chicago Booth Management Labs Sponsored by AbbVie (2014)
- Chicago Innovation Fund Associate, Chicago Innovation Exchange (CIE) (2013–2014)
- Chicago Innovation Mentors (CIM) fellow (2013–2015)
- Member of the Chicago Innovation Exchange
- Member of Chicago Innovation Mentors

Insights

March 2, 2018

Non-Technical Career Panelist

Northwestern University's Biotechnology Day 2018

2017

Coats B.R., Schoenfelt K.Q., Barbosa-Lorenzi V.C., Peris E., Cui C., Hoffman A., Zhou G., Fernandez S., Zhai L.,

Hall B.A. et al. Metabolically Activated Adipose Tissue Macrophages Perform Detrimental and Beneficial Functions during Diet-Induced Obesity. *Cell Rep.* 2017; 20(13): 3149-3161.

September 28, 2015

"What Can I Do with my Ph.D.?"

University of Chicago's myCHOICE: Careers in Intellectual Property Law Seminar & Networking Reception

2013

Brickley D.R., Agyeman A.S., Kopp R.F., Hall B.A. et al. (2013). Serum- and Glucocorticoid-induced Protein Kinase 1 (SGK1) is Regulated by Store-Operated Ca²⁺ Entry and Mediates Cytoprotection Against Necrotic Cell Death. *J Biol Chem.* 288 (45).

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Skor M.N., Wonder E.L., Kocherginsky M., Goyal A., Hall B.A., Cai Y., Conzen S.D. (2013). Glucocorticoid receptor antagonism as a novel therapy for triple-negative breast cancer. *Clin Cancer Res.* 19 (22)

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2010

Hall B.A., Kim T.K., Skor M.N., Conzen S.D. The Role of Estrogen Receptor Signaling in mTORC Activity (2010). *Endo Rev.* 31 (3).

2008

Hall B.A. "The identification and characterization of novel serum and glucocorticoid regulated kinase 1 (SGK1) isoforms in human skin" (2008). *British Lib* 1:615.778.