

JENNIFER CHIE SCHYMICK

NIH-Oxford Scholar 2005

Degree: Massachusetts Institute of Technology: B.S., Biology, 2002

Research Interests: Neurogenetics



Jennifer Schymick graduated in 2002 with a Biology degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As an undergraduate, she conducted genetic research on Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) at MIT's Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research. Specifically, Jennifer investigated an IBD susceptibility locus on chromosome 19p13 by conducting a candidate gene association study. In addition, Jennifer spent three summers at the Los Alamos National Laboratories as a member of the Joint Genome Institute's bioinformatics finishing team for the Human Genome Project. Her work at Los Alamos generated sequence data that contributed to the now publically available human genome sequence. Following graduation, Jennifer worked at Ambry Genetics Corp in Irvine, California to develop diagnostic genetic screening assays for cystic fibrosis, chronic pancreatitis, and hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer. Jennifer's research at the University of Oxford and the National Institutes of Health applies whole genome technologies toward understanding the genetics of motor neuron disease (MND). Following her studies at NIH and Oxford, Jennifer will pursue a medical degree at the University of California Irvine School of Medicine. Ultimately, Jennifer envisions that, "genome-wide studies will help define genes and pathways involved in motor neuron degeneration and ultimately lead to new therapies effective in slowing disease progression."