

LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series

Student Update Number 12 – September 14th 2009

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Seminar 5—Questions

Again some excellent questions coming in for seminar 6. Particularly impressive was the wiki-chat - well done team. Answers to those wiki-chat questions have started to appear on the question page—keep watching for yours over the next week.

Not on wiki-chat—remember it's even easier than twittering!

Forgotten how to login to the wikisite? - Instructions are on [student-update 3](#)



Take up the challenge!

Interested in where a Science Degree can take you?

Ariana Hemara-Wahanui is the scientist who found out exactly what the mutation was. This was a part of her Masters degree which follows on after a BSc. After finishing her MSc, Ariana has worked in New Zealand and overseas, in world class laboratories. Ariana is currently travelling in Scotland on an international Rotary exchange.

[Check out her profile here.](#)



Seminar 6 Challenges

Choose your challenge and post your ideas about how to answer the questions to the [Discussion Page](#).....

http://lens.auckland.ac.nz/index.php/Insight_into_Blindness_Discussion_Page

Challenge 1

All the females in the family who are affected are heterozygous for the mutation.

Within the females in the whanau, there is variation in the severity of the vision impairment.

What biological explanation could account for this variation in the heterozygous female phenotype?



Unpack this question.....

Answer these questions and then use that information to develop your answer to challenge 1.



Explain what a Barr Body is and why they are only found in females.

How could the presence of Barr Bodies may affect the phenotype of a female who is:

- Heterozygous for an x-linked gene
- Homozygous for an x-linked gene

