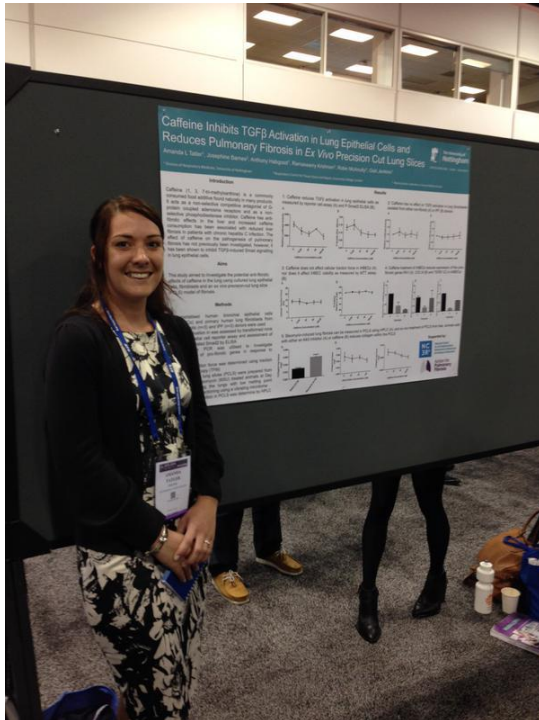


ATS 2015 Report

In May 2015 I travelled to Denver, Colorado for the American Thoracic Society (ATS) annual conference with support from Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis. During the conference I presented a scientific poster relating to my research investigating the potential anti-fibrotic effects of caffeine in the lung (see photograph). My research highlights two novel mechanisms through which caffeine may inhibit fibrosis in the lung. My poster presentation was a huge success, with much interest from my peers in the field of lung fibrosis research. I received some excellent feedback and suggestions, which has directed my research since my return to the UK.



In addition to presenting my research I used my time at the conference to learn more about emerging theories and clinical updates of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, to enable me to continue to enhance my understanding of the disease. I saw some brilliant presentations from established leaders in the field and early career scientist alike. It is an exciting time in IPF research and it was fantastic to see how breakthroughs in science are beginning to translate in to new therapies for IPF, which will be of tremendous benefit to IPF patients.

Recently I have been invited to sit on the Web Committee of the Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (RCMB) Assembly of the ATS, and attendance at the conference enabled me to attend my inaugural committee meeting. This is a big step for my career, which was aided by the award from Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis. I am looking forward to promoting IPF research through the RCMB in the future.

Overall, I had a truly fantastic time at the ATS. I learned lots and met many world-renowned researchers in the field of IPF research. I am extremely grateful to Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis, and all who donate and support them, for the opportunity to attend the meeting.