

Lauren Nicole Pilcher

7221 Highway 70 South Apt. #212
Nashville, TN, 37221

Lpilcher14@email.mmc.edu
(312) 493-9191

Education

- **Master of Science in Public Health, *Expected May 2016***
 - Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN
- **Bachelor of Science, Biological Science, *May 2014***
 - University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO

Awards

- **1st Place Poster, Meharry Medical College Student Research Day, *March 2015***

Research Experience

Laboratory of Dr. Matt Morris, PhD, Meharry Medical College, *August 2014-Present*

Dr. Morris' lab studies the risks and course of developing posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or major depressive disorder (MDD) after exposure to interpersonal violence (IPV).

Research Assistant, *August 2014 – Present*

- Assisted with the expansion and implementation of research studies and programs
- Administered, under specific instructions, various routine tests and procedures
- Retrieved, processed, and aided in the collection and authentication of research data, samples
- Contributed to the recruitment processes for subject participation

Laboratory of Dr. Kathy Timms, PhD, HCLD, ELD, University of Missouri-Columbia, *September 2011-May 2014*

Dr. Timms' lab focuses on endometriosis, which is a gynecological disease that causes pain and subfertility. The lab studies where and why Endometriosis starts by looking at various proteins, such as matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) and tissue inhibitors of matrix metalloproteinases (TIMPs), and their role in endometriosis and is active in developing non-invasive, non-surgical methods to treat and possible cure this disease.

IMSD Research Intern, *May 2013 – May 2014*

- Funded by NIH-IMSD grant, \$3400 stipend
- Worked 12-15 hours/week on an individual research project quantifying various proteins such as collagen IV, fibronectin, and laminin in the ovaries of an endometriosis in the rat
- Performed a literature search on various extracellular matrix components, such as collagen IV, fibronectin, and laminin, and their importance to ovulation in the ovaries of rats.
- Attended weekly workshops where topics focused on graduate school preparation.
- Fulfilled Biology Capstone requirements to receive academic credit for research.

Summer Research Intern, *May 2013 – July 2013*

- Chosen for the *IMSD EXPRESS (Exposure to Research for Science Students) Fellows Summer Research Program*, a 9-week summer program requiring 40 hrs/week.
- Conducted an individual research project investigating the amount of various MMP and TIMP protein in the ovaries of a rat model for endometriosis.
- Presented research findings at lab meetings and at the Summer Research Forum 2013.

IMSD Student Assistant, *September 2011-May 2013*

- Chosen for the IMSD EXPRESS (Exposure to Research for Science Students) Program; working 12 hours a week.
- Aided Laboratory Technicians and Graduate students in the lab. Performed required routine laboratory work, such as cleaning dishes, preparing solutions, and chemical inventory. Also performed Western blot and immunohistochemical staining techniques.

Research Presentations

L. Pilcher, H. Nabli, K. Timms. “Does altered tissue remodeling in the ovary in endometriosis alter follicular development and ovulation?” Poster Presentation, Summer Research Forum, July 2013, University of Missouri-Columbia

L. Pilcher, H. Nabli, K. Timms. “Does altered tissue remodeling in the ovary in endometriosis alter follicular development and ovulation?” Poster Presentation, Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students, November 2013, Nashville, Tennessee

L. Pilcher, H. Nabli, K. Timms. “Immoderate levels of extracellular matrix components in the ovary inhibit ovulation” Poster Presentation, Undergraduate Research Forum, April 2014, University of Missouri-Columbia

L. Pilcher, N. Hellman, B. Alexander, M. Morris. “Depression history moderates relations between coping and executive function” Poster presentation, Meharry Medical College Research Day, March 2015, Meharry Medical College

Honors, Volunteer Experience and Organizations

- **S.T.A.R.S. (Stronger Together Against Relationship and Sexual Violence) member, *January 2012-Present; Vice President, December 2012-May 2013; President, May 2013-May 2014***
 - An organization dedicated to planning, organizing, and coordinating campus and community events that are designed to raise awareness about relationship and sexual violence
- **DPHPA (Division of Public Health Practice Student Association) member, *August 2014-Present; MSPH Week committee member, January 2015-Present***
 - A student led organization that aids students at Meharry Medical College to actively participate in activities that promote public health and help raise the awareness of health and health disparities in the community.