**Honours Research Project**

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| Project title | Resolving the unique characteristics of astrocytes in the evolutionary expansion of the primate brain |
| Project summary  (1-2 sentences) | Beyond neurones, astrocytes have recently emerged as a primary focus of regenerative medicine. In addition to their role in maintaining normal brain function, astrocytes possess a high level of plasticity that allows them to adapt to changes to their environment, including injury and ageing.  This project will explore the cellular and molecular characteristics of astrocytes in the normal and injured nonhuman primate brain to gain new insights about the evolutionary expansion in the roles of astrocytes in primates including human and their implications for clinical translation. |
| Main techniques | Surgery, cryosectioning, histology, immunohistochemistry/ immunofluorescence, protein biochemistry, PCR/ qPCR, in situ hybridization, microscopy, associated data and statistical analyses. |
| Group leader | Prof. James Bourne |
| Supervisor | Dr. Leon Teo |