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Poster Presentation P8

**FLUORESCENT STUDIES OF PEPTIDIC HEMOGLOBIN
BINDING LIGANDS**

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Sickle cell disease is a disorder that affects red blood cells, causing them to form the characteristic “sickle-shape”. My research is focused on studying the interactions between peptidic hemoglobin binding ligands and sickle cell hemoglobin using fluorescence techniques. By better understanding the way in which these ligands interact with the protein surface, we are put in a position to design novel therapeutic agents. I have successfully synthesized ligands, labeled them with a fluorescent molecule, and have begun investigating the ligand-hemoglobin interactions.