

Simon A. Sharples, Ph.D. – CV of Rejection

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All success in science is built on a foundation of failed attempts, rejections, and setbacks—each one an essential part of the learning process. My academic journey has been shaped as much by the experiments that didn't work, the grants not funded, and the papers rejected, as by the successes that followed. I believe in transparency around these experiences, not only to normalize failure as a vital aspect of research but also to foster a more honest and resilient academic culture. What follows is a record not only of accomplishments, but of the perseverance and critical reflection that made them possible.

Accepted (21) & Rejected (27) Publications

Peer-Reviewed Research Articles (13)

Lin, M.*, *Calabrese, G.B.**, Incognito, A.V., Moore, M.T., Agarwal, A., *Wilson, R.J., Zagoraoui, L., Sharples, S.A.**, Miles, G.B.*, *Philippidou, P.**. A cholinergic spinal pathway for the adaptive control of breathing.

BioRxiv DOI: [10.1101/2025.01.20.633641](https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.01.20.633641) * Corresponding Authors.

Cell Reports (IF: 8.8 – In Revision)

Nature Communications (IF: 14.7 – Editorial Rejection)

Neuron (IF: 14.7 – Editorial Rejection, Forwarded to *Cell Reports*)

Nature Neuroscience (IF: 21.3 – Editorial Rejection, Forwarded to *Nat. Comm.*)

Milla-Cruz, J.J., *Lognon, A.P.*, Tran, M., Di Vito, S., *Löer, C.*, Shonak, A., Broadhead, M.J., Miles, G.B., *Sharples, S.A.**, and Whelan, P.J.*. Episodic rhythmicity is generated by a distributed neural network in the developing mammalian spinal cord. *iScience*. 111971. (In Press). DOI: [10.1016/j.isci.2025.111971](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2025.111971).

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Sharples, S.A., Broadhead, M.J., Gray, J.A., and Miles, G.B. (2023). M-type potassium currents differentially affect activation of motoneuron subtypes and tune recruitment gain. *Journal of Physiology*. 601 (24): 5751-5775. DOI: [10.1113/JP285348](https://doi.org/10.1113/JP285348). (IF: 5.5)

Eleftheriadis, P.E.*, Pothakos, K.*, *Sharples, S.A.*, Apostolou, P., Mina, M., Tetringa, E., Miles, G.B., and Zagoraoui, L. (2023). Peptidergic modulation of motor neuron output via CART signalling at C bouton synapses. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*. (IF: 12.8, citations: 2).

EMBO (IF: 13.8 – Editorial Rejection)

Science Advances (IF: 14.1 – Editorial Rejection)

Nature Communications (IF: 17.7 – Editorial Rejection)

Neuron (IF: 18.1 – Editorial Rejection)

Nature Neuroscience (IF: 24.88 – Editorial Rejection)

Sharples, S.A. et al. (2022). Contributions of h- and Na⁺/K⁺ pump currents to the generation of episodic and continuous rhythmic activities. *Frontiers in Cellular Neuroscience*. 15: 715427. (IF: 4.9, citations: 6).

eLife (IF: 8.1 – Reviewed and Rejected) *

Sharples, S.A. and Miles, G.B. (2021). Maturation of persistent and hyperpolarization-activated inward currents shapes the differential activation of motoneuron subtypes during postnatal development. *eLife*. 10: e71385. (IF: 8.1, citations: 23).

Current Biology (IF: 10.8 – Editorial Rejection)

Sharples, S.A. et al. (2020). A dynamic role for dopamine receptors in the regulation of mammalian spinal motor networks. *Scientific Reports*. 10: 16429. (IF: 5.1, citations: 15).

PNAS (IF: 11.2 – Reviewed and Rejected) *

Current Biology (IF: 10.8 – Editorial Rejection)

PLoS Biology (IF: 8.0 - Editorial Rejection)

Dalrymple, A.N., et al. (2019). A supervised machine learning approach to characterize spinal network function. *Journal of Neurophysiology*. 121 (6): 2001-2012. (IF: 2.2; citations: 9).

Journal of Physiology (IF: 5.2 - Editorial Rejection)

Sharples, S.A. and Whelan, P.J. (2017). Modulation of rhythmic activity in mammalian spinal networks is dependent on excitability state. *eNeuro*. 4 (1): ENEURO 0368-16.2017. (IF: 4.1, citations: 32).

Journal of Neuroscience (IF: 6.1 - Reviewed and Rejected) *

Neuron (IF: 17.2 - Editorial Rejection)

eLife (IF: 8.1 - Editorial Rejection) *

PNAS (IF: 11.2 - Editorial Rejection)

PLoS Biology (IF: 8.0 - Editorial Rejection)

Current Biology (IF: 10.8 - Editorial Rejection)

Mandadi, S., et al. (2016). Modulatory and proliferative effects of kinins on the developing spinal cord. *Journal of Physiology*. 594 (4): 1017-1036. (IF: 5.2, citations: 10).

Journal of Neuroscience (IF: 6.1 - Reviewed and Rejected)

Sharples, S.A., et al. (2016). Cortical mechanisms of neuromuscular fatigue and sense of effort. *Plos ONE*. 11 (2): e0149026. (IF: 3.2, citations: 36).

Acta Physiologica (IF: 6.0 - Reviewed and Rejected) *

Journal of Experimental Physiology (IF: 3.0 - Reviewed and Rejected) *

Journal of Applied Physiology (IF: 3.5 - Reviewed and Rejected) *

Sharples, S.A., et al. (2015). Dopaminergic modulation of locomotor network activity in the neonatal mouse spinal cord. *Journal of Neurophysiology*. 113 (7): 2500-2510. (IF: 2.2, citations: 56).

Sharples, S.A., et al. (2014). Cortical mechanisms of mirror activation during maximal and submaximal finger contractions in Parkinson's disease. *Journal of Parkinson's Disease*. 4, 437-452. (IF: 5.2, citations: 8).

Movement Disorders (IF: 10.3 - Reviewed and Rejected)

Journal of Clinical Neurophysiology (IF: 2.2 - Editorial Rejection)

Sharples, S.A. and Kalmar, J.M. (2012). Modulation of cortical excitability and interhemispheric inhibition prior to rhythmic unimanual contractions. *Journal of Neuroscience Methods*. 210 (2): 178-186. (IF: 2.8, citations: 18).

Journal of Applied Physiology (IF: 3.5 - Reviewed and Rejected)

Experimental Brain Research (IF: 2.4 - Reviewed and Rejected)

Rejected Fellowships and Awards (30)

International (6)

Wings For Life Postdoctoral Fellowship LOI	2017
Society for Neuroscience Trainee Professional Development Award	2019
Federation of European Neuroscience Travel Award	2020
Craig Neilsen Foundation SCIRTS LOI	2024
Wings for Life Individual Grant LOI	2024
Morton Cure Paralysis Fund Individual Fellowship	2024

National (7)

NSERC – Undergraduate Summer Research Studentship	2009
NSERC – Doctoral Postgraduate Scholarship	2011
CIHR Brain Star Award	2017
Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship	2020
Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship	2020
Leverhulme Trust Postdoctoral Fellowship	2021
Royal Commission for the Establishment of 1851 PDF	2021

Provincial (7)

Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions	Spring 2012
Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship	2012

Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions	Fall 2012
Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions	Spring 2013
Branch Out Neurological Foundation	2015
Killam Doctoral Scholarship	2015
Branch Out Neurological Foundation	2016

Regional/Institutional (10)

Graduate Student's Association Doctoral Awards	2012
Graduate Student's Association Doctoral Awards	2013
William H. Davies Medical Research Scholarship	2014
Graduate Student's Association Doctoral Awards	2014
Michael Lazar Doctoral Award	2016
J.B. Hyne Research Innovation Award	2016
Graduate Student's Association Doctoral Awards	2016
J.B. Hyne Research Innovation Award (Finalist)	2016
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Doctoral Awards	2017
UofC President's Award	2018

Rejected Symposium Proposals and Conferences (4)

Society for Neuroscience	Dynamic functions of ion pumps in the CNS	2019
P-Spine Symposium – Penn State		2024
SPINE Symposium – New York University		2024
PNI Tiger Brain Symposium - Princeton		2024

Rejected Faculty Applications (21)

Sept 2021	Dalhousie University	Medicinal Neuroscience	No Response
Feb 2023	University of Colorado	Physiology and Biophysics	Rejected
Mar 2023	University of Cincinnati	Pharmacology and Systems Physiology	No Response
Mar 2023	University of Alberta	Physiology	Zoom Interview
Oct 2023	University of Kentucky	Biology	Rejected
Dec 2023	University of Kentucky	Pharmaceutical Sciences	Rejected
Dec 2023	University of Kentucky	Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research Center	No Response
Dec 2023	University of Louisville	Kentucky Spinal Cord Injury Research Center	In person Interview (Withdrawn)
Mar 2024	University of Kentucky	Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research Center	No Response
Mar 2024	University of Kentucky	Department of Neuroscience	Rejected
May 2024	Dalhousie University	Department of Physiology and Biophysics	No Response
June 2024	University of Kentucky	Department of Cell Biology	Rejected
Aug 2024	University of Kentucky	Department of Neurosurgery	No Response
Sept 2024	Oxford University	Physiology, Anatomy, Genetics	Rejected
Dec 2024	Colorado State University	Molecular and Cellular Biology	Rejected
Jan 2025	University College London	Neuroscience, Physiology & Pharmacology	Rejected
Jan 2025	Dartmouth University	Molecular and Systems Biology	Rejected
Jan 2025	Cincinnati Children's	Developmental Biology	Rejected
Jan 2025	New Jersey Institute of Technology	Biological Sciences	Zoom Interview
Feb 2025	University of Kentucky	Department of Physiology	Rejected
Feb 2025	University of Kentucky	Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research Center	Post Cancelled