Shayan Amiri recently joined Dr. Rastegar’s Lab as a Master student in the Department of Biochemistry and Medical Genetics. He obtained his BSc in medical laboratory technology from Iran University of Medical Sciences and MSc in Toxicology and Pharmacology from Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran.

During Shayan’s studies, he was the recipient of the International Graduate Student Entrance Scholarship (IGSES) for 2016. He is also a member of the National Organization for Development of Exceptional Talents (since 2014), the National Elites Foundation (since 2015) and was ranked first in the nationwide entrance exam for the MSc programs in toxicology.

**RESEARCH OVERVIEW**

*Investigating the Genetics and Epigenetics of Neural Stem Cell Differentiation and Brain Development*

Shayan’s research interest is focused on the genetic and epigenetic regulation of brain development. His research project is focused on the gene expression program of brain-derived neural stem cells. Furthermore, he will study the role of environmental factors and epigenetic mechanisms that lead to impaired brain function and neurodevelopmental disorders. In this regard, his aim is to investigate the role of prenatal alcohol exposure in fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD), by using a combination of stem cell biology techniques and cellular-molecular approaches to uncover the epigenetic basis of FASD.

**PUBLICATIONS**


*Equal first authorship*


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