

Society of Toxicology (SOT) 2024 was a fruitful international conference, where toxicologists from all over the world had the opportunity to share their scientific data, meet and explore future collaborations. My scientific poster, presented in the tobacco and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) session, generated many reactions, mainly from fellow inhalation toxicologists and from scientists working for US regulatory agencies (such as the Food and Drug Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency).

A very interesting scientific session described the impact of wood smoke exposure on the proteome of human basal airway stem cells. Wood smoke exposure was found to alter the phosphorylation status of various proteins, thereby affecting their 3D structure and their activity.

Another very amusing scientific workshop discussed the impact of cannabis emissions on the reproductive system. Remarkably, cannabis use during pregnancy has been associated with a doubled risk of premature birth. Moreover, both THC and CBD treatment was found to decrease cell proliferation of human Sertoli cells, whereas only THC exposure detrimentally affected cell cycle progression.

A very precious networking experience at SOT 2024 was the student/postdoc mixer, where me and my colleague from UM had the opportunity to informally meet and mingle with fellow graduate students/postdocs in the field of toxicology, and to endure scientific talks with the aim of future collaborations. At the end of this event, some prizes were randomly awarded to the attendees, and both me and my UM colleague won an official SOT 2024 T-shirt, as you can see in the attached picture.

I am very grateful for my active participation in SOT 2024, where I had the opportunity to follow highly relevant scientific sessions, as well as to share our recent insights comparing the toxicity of conventional and novel tobacco products.

