

NRS Travel grant –International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation- 46th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions , Toronto, Canada, from April 22-25, 2026.

During this international meeting (ISHLT 2026) pulmonologists, organ perfusionists, immunologists and basic scientists came together to discuss diverse mechanisms of acute and chronic rejection following thoracic organ transplantation. I have had the opportunity to present my research during an rapid fire oral session on Acute Lung Allograft Dysfunction (ALAD) as well as during the poster session. The work that that presented regards HLA- leader peptides and the risk of acute T cell mediated rejection. We hypothesize that early recognition of the HLA-E-leader peptide complex by NK cells could play a role in rejection. During the poster session I have met researchers from NK cell labs with whom I have had lively conversation and there work inspired me to continue to look into the NK cell interaction. During a different presentation session specifically on CMV I have learned a lot about the possible mechanisms between recipient negative, donor positive match. Thanks to the NRS travel grant I was able to experience the first international congress meeting during my PhD, I returned home feeling very inspired.

