



Research Roundtable Community Summary – February 18, 2021

KIF1A.ORG held our seventh Research Roundtable meeting, “A brief history of KIF1A: From gene discovery to disease mechanism(s)” on February 18. This was the first presentation in our “KIF1A 101” series.

What is KIF1A 101?

- KIF1A 101 meetings are a new type of Research Roundtable presentation.
- In these presentations, KIF1A experts (scientists, clinicians, etc.) present our up-to-date understanding about different KIF1A-related processes.
 - For example, we could have a Research Network member present on our current understanding of how KIF1A walks along microtubules, how KIF1A interacts with other proteins in our bodies, the structure/shape of KIF1A proteins and how this can inform drug development, etc.

Why did we start a KIF1A 101 series?

- One of our main 2021 goals is to grow and diversify our Research Network.
- In order to do so, we must bring in new researchers who have not previously studied KIF1A in the past.
- We want to help these new researchers get up to speed on KIF1A knowledge while they are starting their own KIF1A-related research projects.
- Therefore, we are using KIF1A 101 presentations as a resource for new members of our Research Network.
- All KIF1A 101 presentations will be recorded so they can be a permanent resource for our Research Network to review whenever they'd like.

Attendance



13 INSTITUTIONS



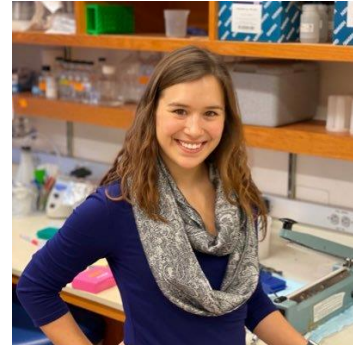
**21 RESEARCHERS &
CLINICIANS**



4 KIF1A.ORG REPS

Summary & Presentation

- Our first KIF1A 101 presentation was from Dr. Jayne Aiken, a postdoctoral researcher in the Holzbaur lab at the University of Pennsylvania.
- You may have read Dr. Aiken's Research Simplified article from September 2020.
 - <https://www.kif1a.org/blog/research-simplified-with-dr-jayne-aiken/>
- This presentation is a spin-off of her Research Simplified article, which she is very eager to share with our Research Network AND our KAND community!
- In this presentation, Dr. Aiken walks us through the history of KIF1A, starting at how KIF1A was discovered and ending at KIF1A's role in disease.



Video of Dr. Aiken's Presentation

Watch the presentation at:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/g4iq0rb38whud5f/KIF1A101_JAiken_BriefHistoryOfKIF1A.mp4?dl=0

A screenshot of a video presentation. The main slide is titled "What is KIF1A and why is it important?". It features a diagram of a neuron with labels for "Dendrites", "Axon initial segment", and "Axon". A dotted line connects the axon to a microscopy image showing a large, glowing blue spherical structure. To the right of the slide is a vertical strip of video thumbnails showing participants in a meeting.