

P002 The function of latrophilin in *C. elegans*
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Black Widow spider venom (BWSV) contains latrotoxins that induce catastrophic neurotransmitter release in mammals, and is known to bind with high affinity to three neural proteins in mammals, including latrophilin. We have investigated *C. elegans* as a model system for studying the function of these proteins, and their role in regulating neurotransmitter release by latrotoxins.

We have shown that latrophilin is required for the lethality of BWSV in *C. elegans* by RNAi experiments. We now present data on the characterisation of null mutants of the *C. elegans* latrophilin, *lat-1*, illustrating the function of this gene in *C. elegans*.