

Ethan Luc Morgan, PhD, FHEA

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Nov 2025 – Present **Associate Senior Scientist/Group Head
Tumour Virology group**
The Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics, Cyprus
- Sept 2025 – Present **Visiting Assistant Professor in Biochemistry and Biomedicine**
School of Life Sciences, University of Sussex, UK
- Jan 2023 – Sept 2025 **Assistant Professor in Biochemistry and Biomedicine**
School of Life Sciences, University of Sussex, UK
- Feb 2020 – Sept 2022 **Research Fellow**
Tumor Biology Section, Head and Neck Surgery Branch, NIDCD, NIH
- Feb 2019 – May 2019 **Visiting Research Fellow**
Virginia Commonwealth University, USA
- Oct 2018 – Jan 2020 **Wellcome Trust ISSF Early Career Research Fellow**
University of Leeds, UK

EDUCATION

- Oct 2023 – Sept 2024 **University of Sussex, UK** PGCertHE
- Oct 2014 – Sept 2018 **University of Leeds, UK** Wellcome Trust 4-year PhD in the Molecular Basis of Biological Mechanisms
- Oct 2010 – Jul 2014 **University of Leeds, UK** BSc (Hons) Medical Biochemistry (Industry) **1st Class**

FUNDING

- Oct 2025 – Sept 2028 Sussex Cancer Fund - PhD Studentship. Role: Co-I
- Dec 2024 – Dec 2025 Sussex Cancer Research Centre Grant (£8,000). Role: Co-I
- Jan 2024 – May 2026 Royal Society Research Grant (£56,258). Role: PI
- Jun 2023 – May 2024 Biochemical Society Eric Reed Fund for Methodology (£3,948). Role: PI
- Feb 2019 – Apr 2019 Microbiology Society Research Visit Grant (£2,850). Role: PI
- Oct 2018 – Jan 2020 Wellcome Trust ISSF Early Career Research Fellowship (£49,967). Role: PI

AWARDS

- Nov 2024 Early Career Recognition Award, International Papillomavirus Society
- Jun 2019 Professor Steve Baldwin prize for the best PhD thesis in molecular or cellular biology, University of Leeds, UK
- Apr 2016 Virology division winner and 3rd place finalist, Sir Howard Dalton Young Microbiologist of the Year, Microbiology Society, UK
- Jul 2014 Donald and Marjorie Robinson Prize for Biochemistry, University of Leeds, UK

PUBLICATIONS

Research Articles (Citations 1332; h-index 18; i10-index 21)

18. **Morgan EL**^{\$\$}, Saleh AD^{\$}, Cornelius S, Carlson SG, Toni T, Cheng H, Jeon J, Viswanathan R, Yang X, Silvin C, Clavijo PE, Sowers AL, Mitchell JB, Ormanoglu P, Lal Nag M, Martin SE, Chen Z and Van Waes C^{**}. (2024) Functional RNAi Screening Identifies G2/M and Kinetochore Components as Modulators of TNF α /NF- κ B Prosurvival Signaling in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma. *Cancer Research Communications*. 4(11):2903-18.
\$ joint first author ** co-corresponding author
17. Patterson MR, Cogan JA, Cassidy R, Theobald DA, Wang M, Scarth JA, Anene CA, Whitehouse A, **Morgan EL**, Macdonald A. (2024). The Hippo pathway transcription factors YAP and TAZ play HPV-type dependent roles in cervical cancer. *Nature Communications*. 15(1):5809
16. Patterson MR, Meijers AS, Ryder EL, Wootton LM, Scarth JA, Evans D, Turner AL, Wasson CW, Darell JE, Theobald DA, Cogan JA, James CD, Wang M, Ladbury JE, Morgan IM, Samson A,

- Morgan EL**** and Macdonald A**. (2024). E7-mediated repression of miR-203 promotes LASP1-dependent proliferation in HPV-positive cervical cancer. *Oncogene*. 1-5.
** co-corresponding senior author
15. Scarth JA, Wasson CW, Patterson MR, Evans D, Barba-Moreno D, Carden H, Cassidy R, Whitehouse A, Mankouri J, Samson A, **Morgan EL**** and Macdonald A**. (2023). Exploitation of ATP-sensitive potassium ion (KATP) channels by HPV promotes cervical cancer cell proliferation by contributing to MAPK/AP-1 signalling. *Oncogene*. 1-20.
** co-corresponding senior author
 14. **Morgan EL****, Toni T, Viswanathan R, Robbins Y, Yang X, Cheng H, Gunti S, Huynh A, Sowers AL, Mitchell JB, Allen CT, Chen Z and Van Waes C. (2023). Inhibition of USP14 promotes TNF α -induced cell death in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC). *Cell Death and Differentiation*. 1-15.
** corresponding author
 13. Toni T, Viswanathan R, Robbins Y, Gunti S, Yang X, Huynh A, Cheng H, Sowers AL, Mitchell JB, Allen CT, **Morgan EL**** and Van Waes C**. (2023). Combined Inhibition of IAPs and WEE1 Enhances TNF α -and Radiation-Induced Cell Death in Head and Neck Squamous Carcinoma. *Cancers*. 15(4):1029.
** co-corresponding senior author
 12. Hu Z, Viswanathan R, Cheng H, Chen J, Yang X, Huynh AP, Clavijo PE, Robbins Y, Silvin C, Allen C, Ormanoglu P, Martin S, Cornelius S, Saleh A, Chen Z and Van Waes C** and **Morgan EL****. (2022). Inhibiting WEE1 and IKK-RELA Crosstalk Overcomes TNF α Resistance in Head and Neck Cancers. *Molecular Cancer Research*. 20 (6), 867-882.
** co-corresponding senior author
 11. **Morgan EL****, Patterson MR, Scarth JA, Barba-Moreno D, Wilson A and Macdonald A**. (2021). The deubiquitinase (DUB) USP13 promotes Mcl-1 stabilisation in cervical cancer. *Oncogene*. 40 (11), 2112-2129.
** co-corresponding author
 10. **Morgan EL****, Scarth JA, Patterson MR, Wasson CW, Hemingway GC, Barba-Moreno D and Macdonald A**. (2021). E6-mediated activation of JNK drives EGFR signalling to promote proliferation and viral oncoprotein expression in cervical cancer. *Cell Death & Differentiation*. 1-19.
** co-corresponding author
 9. James CD, Das D, **Morgan EL**, Otoa R, Macdonald A and Morgan IM. (2020). Werner syndrome protein (WRN) regulates cell proliferation and the human papillomavirus 16 life cycle during epithelial differentiation. *mSphere*. 5:e00858-20.
 8. **Morgan EL*****, Patterson MR[§], Ryder EL, Lee SY, Wasson CW, Harper KL, Li Y, Griffin S, Blair GE, Whitehouse A and Macdonald A**. (2020) MicroRNA-18a targeting of the STK4/MST1 tumour suppressor is necessary for transformation in HPV positive cervical cancer. *PLoS Pathogens*. 16(6):e1007835.
\$ joint first author ** co-corresponding author
 7. Panou MM, Antoni M, **Morgan EL**, Loundras EA, Wasson CW, Welberry-Smith M, Mankouri J and Macdonald A. (2019). Glibenclamide inhibits BK polyomavirus infection in kidney cells through CFTR blockade. *Antiviral Research*, p.104778.
 6. **Morgan EL** and Macdonald A. (2019). JAK2 inhibition impairs proliferation and sensitises cervical cancer cells to cisplatin-induced cell death. *Cancers*. 11(12), 1934.
 5. **Morgan EL**** and Macdonald A**. (2019). Autocrine STAT3 activation in HPV positive cervical cancer through a virus-driven Rac1-NF κ B-IL-6 signalling axis. *PLoS Pathogens*. 15(6):e1007835.
** co-corresponding author
 4. **Morgan EL***, Wasson CW*, Hanson L, Kealy D, Pentland I, McGuire V, Scarpini C, Coleman N, Arthur JSC, Parish JL, Roberts S and Macdonald A. (2018). STAT3 activation by E6 is essential for the differentiation dependent HPV18 life cycle. *PLoS Pathogens*. 14(4): e1006975.
* joint first author
 3. Panou MM, Prescott EL, Hurdiss DL, Swinscoe G, Hollinshead M, Caller LG, **Morgan EL**, Carlisle L, Müller M, Antoni M, Kealy D, Ranson NA, Crump CM and Macdonald A. (2018). Agnoprotein Is an Essential Egress Factor during BK Polyomavirus Infection. *International journal of molecular*

sciences. 19;19(3):902.

2. Wasson CW, **Morgan EL**, Müller M, Ross RL, Boxall SA, Hartley M, Roberts S and Macdonald A. (2017). Human papillomavirus type 18 E5 oncogene supports cell cycle progression and impairs epithelial differentiation by modulating growth factor receptor signalling during the virus life cycle. *Oncotarget*, 8(61), 103581-103600.
1. Hurdiss DL, **Morgan EL**, Thompson RF, Prescott EL, Panou MM, Macdonald A and Ranson NA. (2016). New structural insights into the genome and minor capsid proteins of BK polyomavirus using cryo-electron microscopy. *Structure*, 24(4), 528-536.

Review Articles

Invited

5. Obanya DI, Wootton LM, **Morgan EL**** (2025) Advances in understanding the mechanisms of the human papillomavirus oncoproteins. *Biochemical Society Transactions*. 16:BST20253041.
** corresponding author
4. Wootton L and **Morgan EL**** (2025) Ubiquitin and ubiquitin-like proteins in HPV-associated carcinogenesis. *Oncogene*. Accepted.
** corresponding author
3. Scarth JA, Patterson MR, **Morgan EL** and Macdonald A. (2021) The human papillomavirus (HPV) oncoproteins: a review of the host pathways targeted on the road to transformation. *Journal of General Virology*. 001540.

Other

2. **Morgan EL****, Chen Z** and Van Waes C. (2020) Regulation of NFκB signalling by ubiquitination: a potential therapeutic target in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma? *Cancers*. 12(10), 2877.
** co-corresponding author
1. **Morgan EL**** and Macdonald A**. (2020) Manipulation of JAK/STAT signalling by high-risk HPVs: potential therapeutic targets for HPV-associated malignancies. *Viruses*. 12(9), 977.
** co-corresponding author

Book Chapters

1. Chen Z, Viswanathan R, **Morgan EL**, Jeon J, Van Waes C. (2022) Proinflammatory Signaling Pathways and Genomic Signatures in Head and Neck Cancers. In *Early Detection and Treatment of Head & Neck Cancers: Theoretical Background and Newly Emerging Research*. (pp. 143-184). Cham: Springer International Publishing.

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2025 | Microbiology Society Annual conference, Liverpool, UK |
| 2025 | EUROGIN 2025, Porto, Portugal |
| 2024 | International Papillomavirus Society Conference 2024, Edinburgh, UK |
| 2024 | Seminar (online) at Society for Biology Sciences in Cyprus, Cyprus |
| 2022 | Seminar (online) at Manchester University, UK |
| 2022 | Seminar (online) at Newcastle University, UK |
| 2016 | Microbiology Society's Annual General Meeting, London, UK |

Conferences

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2023 | Poster at Deubiquitylases: from fundamental principles to therapeutic opportunities, Edinburgh, UK |
| 2022 | Poster at AACR Annual Conference, New Orleans, USA |
| 2021 | Oral presentation at the NIDCD Retreat, NIH, Bethesda, USA |
| 2019 | Oral presentation at the DNA Tumour Virology Meeting, Trieste, Italy |
| 2019 | Poster at Deubiquitylases: from mechanism to physiology, Edinburgh, UK |
| 2018 | Two oral presentations at the DNA Tumour Virology Meeting, Madison, USA |

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editorial Board Member BMC Biology
Committee Member Virus Division, Microbiology Society, UK
Early career committee for IPVC 2025, IPVS
Education content development working group, IPVC
Invited Peer Reviewer Oncogene, Communications Biology, Molecular Cancer, Journal of
General Virology, Cell Cycle, and others
MRes examiner University of Birmingham - Sept 2025
PhD examiner Internal examiner at University of Sussex - May 2023
Brighton and Sussex Medical School - Sept 2025

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Postgraduate

Oct 2025 – Sept 2029 **PhD student supervisor** Esme Morcom, Brighton and Sussex
Medical School
Oct 2023 – Sept 2027 **PhD student supervisor** Louisa Wootton, University of Sussex
Feb 2023 – Oct 2025 **Master's student supervision** University of Sussex
5 successfully completed

Undergraduate

Taught on several modules at all stages, covering virology, immunology and biochemistry.

SOCIETAL MEMBERSHIPS

Early career member of the Biochemical Society (2013 – Present)
Full member of the Microbiological Society (2013 – Present)
Associate member of the American Association for Cancer Research (2021 – Present)

References available on request