



Seed Grant Research Program Recipients 2008

Cardiovascular/Pulmonary Diseases

Name: Kalil Abdullah

Institution: Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, OH

Project Title: Identification of the susceptibility genes within chromosomal region 15q25 that may be associated with high levels of HDL-C in families with premature CAD and MI

Grant Amount: \$2,325

Name: Amir Aghajanian

Institution: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
Chapel Hill, NC

Project Title: Redox Regulation of RhoA and Modulation of Vascular Permeability

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Vance Albaugh

Institution: Penn State University College of Medicine
Hershey, PA

Project Title: A double-blind, placebo-controlled, crossover study examining the acute effects of olanzapine on leptin, oral glucose tolerance and blood lipids in healthy volunteers.

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Timothy Carroll, MD

Institution: Children's Medical Center Dallas
Dallas, TX

Project Title: A Prospective, Randomized, Controlled Trial of Combination Vasopressin and Epinephrine to Epinephrine Only for In-Hospital Pediatric Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Grant Amount: \$2,436

Name: Michael Choma, MD

Institution: Children's Hospital Boston
Boston, MA

Project Title: Advancing *Drosophila melanogaster* as a model organism for cardiovascular development and small-molecule discovery

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Michael Galvez

Institution: Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, CA

Project Title: The Role of Reactive Oxygen Species in Age-related Neovascularization Impairments

Grant Amount: \$2,485

Cardiovascular/Pulmonary Diseases (continued)

Name: Michael Hall, MD

Institution: University of Mississippi Medical Center
Jackson, MS

Project Title: Role of leptin in protecting against cardiac "lipotoxicity"

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Whitney Harrington

Institution: University of Washington
Seattle, WA

Project Title: Relating Level of Resistant Parasites in the Malaria Infections of Infants and Their Subsequent Risk of Acute Respiratory Syndromes

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Melissa Hogg, MD

Institution: McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University
Chicago, IL

Project Title: Sex and Hormones: A New Way to Look at Vascular Injury and Nitric Oxide

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Andrew Hsu, MD

Institution: Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, CA

Project Title: Human neural progenitor cell transplantation therapy for functional recovery after cerebral ischemia via enhancement of endogenous repair mechanisms

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Pooya Iranpour

Institution: University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio
San Antonio, TX

Project Title: Identification of the Mycoplasma pneumoniae - Derived CARDS TX in Patients Suffering from Ventilator Associated Pneumonia

Grant Amount: \$2,443

Name: Clarence Lin

Institution: New York University School of Medicine
New York, NY

Project Title: Vasculogenic Therapy for Diabetic Wounds Using Lineage Negative Progenitor Cells

Grant Amount: \$1,940.72

Name: Jeffrey Nowak, MD

Institution: Cincinnati Children's Memorial Medical Center
Cincinnati, OH

Project Title: The Effect of Zinc Homeostasis on Innate Immunity, Adaptive Immunity and Mortality

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Daniel Pietras

Institution: University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH

Project Title: Identifying Downstream Molecular Targets of FGF2-Induced Cardioprotection

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Cardiovascular/Pulmonary Diseases (continued)

Name: Yawar Qadri

Institution: University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, AL

Project Title: Small Molecule Inhibitors of Acid-Sensing Ion Channel 1

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Alexander Sailon

Institution: New York University Medical Center
New York, NY

Project Title: Endothelial Progenitor Cells in the Creation of a 3D Microvascular Network for Vascularized Bone Engineering

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Mark Santillan, MD

Institution: University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
Iowa City, IA

Project Title: Elucidating the role of Indoleamine 2,3 Dioxygenase (IDO) in preeclamptic pregnancies

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Nikolai Sopko

Institution: Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, OH

Project Title: Investigation of CD55 and CD59 Expression Levels in Human Cardiac Allografts and their Relationship to Graft Rejection Status

Grant Amount: \$2,350.90

Name: Vinit Varu, MD

Institution: Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Chicago, IL

Project Title: Efficacy of a Nitric Oxide-Based Vascular Therapy in Type I Diabetes Mellitus

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Jeffrey Velotta, MD

Institution: Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, CA

Project Title: Ischemia/Reperfusion Regulates Bcl-2 Function in Graft Coronary Artery Disease

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Eric Weiss, MD

Institution: Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD

Project Title: The Effect of Oral Donor Phosphodiesterase Inhibition on Early Graft Function in Experimental Lung Transplantation

Grant Amount: \$2,489

Name: Anna Yusim, MD

Institution: New York University Medical Center
New York, NY

Project Title: Effects of Sertraline Administration on Vascular Endothelial and Autonomic Function in Patients with Chronic Heart Failure

Grant Amount: \$2,500

HIV/AIDS

Name: Laura Cheney

Institution: Stony Brook University School of Medicine
Stony Brook, NY

Project Title: Interactions between HIV-1 and Epstein-Barr Virus: Mechanisms of Abnormal Immune Activation and Implications for Antiretroviral Therapy

Grant Amount: \$2,499.50

Name: Matlock Jeffries

Institution: University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Oklahoma City, OK

Project Title: Engineered methyltransferase enzymes: a novel approach for arresting HIV replication

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Gerald Morris, MD, PhD

Institution: Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO

Project Title: Development of Molecular Methodology for Identification of Opportunistic Fungal Pathogens

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Mark O'Hara

Institution: Stony Brook University School of Medicine
Stony Brook, NY

Project Title: The Role of HIV Nef in Metabolic Abnormalities

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Hong Tieu, MD

Institution: Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons
New York, NY

Project Title: Prevalence and Acceptability of Male Circumcision as an HIV and Sexually Transmitted Diseases Prevention Measure among Heterosexual Men in Thailand

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Leukemia

Name: Mark Chao

Institution: Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, CA

Project Title: Development of a Leukemia Stem Cell-Specific Therapy for Acute Myelogenous Leukemia through modulation of CD47: Blocking a mechanism of cancer immunoevasion

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Kellie Vigna

Institution: University of Washington, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Project Title: Characterization of the expression and function of DDX3Y in normal and malignant male hematopoietic cells

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Neoplastic Diseases

Name: **Harty Ashby-Richardson, DO**

Institution: Tufts-New England Medical Center
Boston, MA

Project Title: Role of Breast Cancer Metastasis Suppressor 1 (BRMS1) in Benign and Malignant Melanocytic Lesions

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: **Alexis Dougherty**

Institution: University of Texas Medical School at Houston
Houston, TX

Project Title: Role of Syndecan-4 in Mycosis fungoides and Sezary Syndrome

Grant Amount: \$2,400

Name: **Eric Duncavage, MD**

Institution: Washington University
St. Louis, MO

Project Title: Identification of Prognostic Markers in Low Stage Lung Carcinoma from Paraffin Embedded Tissue

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: **Rebecca Gilbride**

Institution: University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Little Rock, AR

Project Title: Prostate Specific Antigen and Galectin-3 Binding Interactions: Implications for Prostate Cancer Progression

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: **Maziyar Kalani**

Institution: Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, CA

Project Title: Expression of Bmi1 in Tumorigenic Breast Cancer Cells and Their Localization

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: **Charles Kanaly, MD**

Institution: Duke University
Durham, NC

Project Title: Dominant pathway identification via metagene analysis of EGFRvIII positive glioblastoma multiforme tumors after vaccination against EGFRvIII

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Neoplastic Diseases (continued)

Name: Joseph LaConti

Institution: Georgetown University School of Medicine
Washington, DC

Project Title: Treatment of Pancreatic Cancer in Mice with a Monoclonal Antibody
Against Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Abner Louissaint, Jr, MD, PhD

Institution: Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston
Boston, MA

Project Title: Characterization of Pediatric Marginal Zone/Follicular Lymphoma

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Melanie Ochalski, MD

Institution: University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Pittsburgh, PA

Project Title: VEGF inhibition for the prevention of gonadal toxicity and preservation
of gonadal function in mice treated with alkylating chemotherapy

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Sumanta Pal, MD

Institution: City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center
Duarte, CA

Project Title: PTEN expression in metastatic colorectal tumors: Developing novel
strategies to circumvent cetuximab resistance

Grant Amount: \$2,270

Name: Rebecca Pomerantz

Institution: University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Pittsburgh, PA

Project Title: Treatment of EGFR-induced skin toxicity in metastatic cancer patients

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Erin Schmidt

Institution: Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, CA

Project Title: Identification and Characterization of Novel Splice Variants of the
Tumor Suppressor Gene IL-24

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: Jiping Wang, MD, PhD

Institution: State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY

Project Title: Total Number of Lymph Node Retrieved Is Not An Independent Predictor
in Stage III Colon Cancer

Grant Amount: \$1,500

Name: Judy Wang

Institution: Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons
New York, NY

Project Title: Serum gastrin levels in Barrett's esophagus and esophageal
adenocarcinoma

Grant Amount: \$2,480

Neoplastic Diseases (continued)

Name: **Shaun Wason, MD**
Institution: Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
Lebanon, NH
Project Title: Genetic Expression Profiling of Immune Effector Cells in Patients with Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Treated With Immunotherapy
Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: **Risheng Xu**
Institution: Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD
Project Title: Inosine Monophosphate Dehydrogenase-1: A Novel Target for Cancer Therapeutics?
Grant Amount: \$2,500

Name: **Joannie Yeh**
Institution: University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, IL
Project Title: Clinicopathological Features, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prognosis of Epithelioid Hemangioendothelioma in an International Cohort
Grant Amount: \$2,500

Secondhand Smoke

Name: **Elaine Wan, MD**
Institution: Columbia University Medical Center
New York, NY
Project Title: Effects of Active and Passive Cigarette Smoke on Vascular Endothelium
Grant Amount: \$2,500