



Kristin Roth-Schrefer, Communications Director
kschrefer@ddcf.org / 212.974.7003

Nina Chung, Communications Associate
nchung@ddcf.org / 212.974.7006

17 Physician Scientists Win DDCF's 2017 Clinical Scientist Development Awards

The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Supports Junior Physician Scientists' Careers As Clinical Researchers With Awards Totaling \$8.41M Over Three Years

New York, N.Y., July 20, 2017 – The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) today announced the 17 junior physician scientists receiving the 2017 Clinical Scientist Development Awards of \$495,000 each over three years. Selected from a highly competitive pool of 196 applicants by a panel of experts in medical research, these scientists distinguished themselves by the rigor of their research endeavors and their commitment to future excellence as independent clinical researchers in the biomedical field. In honor of the foundation's late Board Trustee Harry B. Demopoulos, M.D., DDCF is referring to this year's awards as the Dr. Harry B. Demopoulos Clinical Scientist Development Awards.

"We are continually impressed by the high caliber of the Clinical Scientist Development Awardees, their research and the potential of that research to improve their patients' lives," said Betsy Myers, program director for medical research at DDCF. "At this crucial stage in their careers, we are proud to support them in balancing research and clinical responsibilities. We look forward to seeing both how their careers develop over the long term and their research contributes to improvements in human health."

This year marks the 20th year since the Clinical Scientist Development Awards were first awarded. Since 1998, the foundation has awarded 288 Clinical Scientist Development Awards totaling more than \$128 million to physician scientists between one and five years into their first faculty appointments and transitioning to an independent research career. The award protects and makes possible for recipients to dedicate 75 percent of their professional time to clinical research at a time when they are facing competing priorities as both researcher and clinical care provider.

The 2017 Clinical Scientist Development Awardees' research projects span a broad range of critical biomedical issues, including the role of epigenetics in healing in diabetes; the evolution of drug resistance in certain lung cancers; novel treatments for insomnia; and more. For a list of this year's awarded individuals and their projects, please see page 2.

About the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, child well-being and medical research, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties. The foundation's Medical Research Program supports clinical research that advances the translation of biomedical discoveries into new preventions, diagnoses and treatments for human diseases. To learn more about the program, visit www.ddcf.org.

2017 CLINICAL SCIENTIST DEVELOPMENT AWARDEES

Andrew J. Aguirre, M.D., Ph.D.

Instructor in Medicine

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Project name: Understanding Therapeutic Efficacy and Resistance in Patients with Metastatic Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma

Disease area: Oncology

Ajai A. Dandekar, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine

University of Washington

Project name: Genomic and quorum sensing adaptation of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in cystic fibrosis

Disease area: Pulmonary disease

Jennifer A. Downs, M.D., Ph.D.

Friedman Family Research Scholar in Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Assistant Professor of Microbiology and Immunology

Weill Cornell Medicine

Project name: Longitudinal Study of the Effect of Praziquantel Treatment of *Schistosoma mansoni* on the Female Genital Mucosal Immune System and Microbiome

Disease area: Infectious disease

Katherine A. Gallagher, M.D.

Assistant Professor

University of Michigan

Project name: Epigenetic Regulation of Diabetic Wounds Promotes Chronic Inflammation and Prevents Healing

Disease area: Endocrinology and metabolic diseases

Aaron Hata, M.D., Ph.D.

Instructor in Medicine

Massachusetts General Hospital

Project name: Comprehensive assessment of the evolution of acquired drug resistance in EGFR mutant non-small cell lung cancer

Disease area: Oncology

Jimmy L. Holder, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Baylor College of Medicine

Project name: Systematic search for targeted therapeutic entry points for SYNGAP1 haploinsufficiency - implications for neurodevelopmental disorder therapies

Disease area: Neurology

Lori R. Holtz, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Washington University

Project name: Transmission and development of the human infant virome

Disease area: Pediatrics

Marcin Imielinski, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Assistant Professor of Computational Genomics

Weill Cornell Medicine

Project name: Epigenetic landscapes of rearranged driver-negative cancers

Disease area: Oncology

Joanne M. Kahlenberg, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

University of Michigan

Project name: A new paradigm in cutaneous lupus: dissecting the interplay between interferons and

Staphylococcus aureus

Disease area: Rheumatology

Matthew S. Kayser, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

University Of Pennsylvania

Project name: Identifying biomarkers of treatment response in insomnia and depression with a metabolomics platform

Disease area: Psychiatry

Andrew A. Lane, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Project name: Therapeutic targeting of the acute myeloid leukemia stem cell

Disease area: Hematological diseases

Jaimie P. Meyer, M.D., M.S.

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Yale University

Project name: Developing and Testing the Effect of an Integrated Patient-Centered HIV Prevention Decision Aid on PrEP Uptake among Women who use Drugs Entering Treatment

Disease area: Infectious disease

Jeniel E. Nett, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

University of Wisconsin

Project name: Impairment of Neutrophil Function by Biofilms on Medical Devices

Disease area: Infectious disease

Tiffany C. Scharschmidt, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Dermatology

University of California San Francisco

Project name: Elucidating the role of commensals in atopic dermatitis

Disease area: Immunology

Jennifer P. Stevens, M.D.

Assistant Professor

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Project name: A new approach to patient safety: identifying risky clinical states to reduce preventable harms for hospitalized patients

Disease area: Critical Care/Emergency Medicine

Sara L. Van Driest, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Project name: New Approaches to Precision Dosing for Special Populations

Disease area: Pediatrics

Nicholas Walter, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor in Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care Medicine

University of Colorado

Project name: Precursor ribosomal RNA as a novel marker of treatment efficacy in tuberculosis

Disease area: Infectious disease