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DDCF Announces the 16 Winners of 2019 Clinical Scientist Development Awards

The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Grants \$7.92 Million to 16 Junior Physician Scientists Pursuing Independent Clinical Research Careers

New York, July 18, 2019 – Today, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) announced the 16 physician scientists who are each receiving a 2019 Clinical Scientist Development Award of \$495,000 over three years. A panel of distinguished experts in the medical field chose these physician scientists from a pool of 210 applicants through a thorough, multistage review process.

“Physician scientists are crucial to the clinical research field because they bring significant insights from their direct interactions with patients from the bedside to the bench,” said Betsy Myers, program director for medical research at DDCF. “For this reason, we are proud to support and protect the time devoted to research by these exceptional physician scientists as they balance their clinical obligations with research work, ultimately giving them greater opportunities to make vital contributions to the field.”

The Clinical Scientist Development Award (CSDA) funds physician scientists who are at the early stages of their profession to help them transition to independent research careers. Faced with the competing demands of both caring for patients and conducting research, physician scientists often experience a more challenging transition to an independent research career than other researchers. Through this award, early-career physician scientists are able to protect and dedicate 75% of their professional time towards clinical research. Since 1998, the foundation has awarded more than \$144 million in Clinical Scientist Development Awards.

This marks the third year in a row that the CSDA has received applications from roughly the same number of men and women following a [2015 internal effort](#) to achieve a more gender-neutral selection process. The final recipient pool of grantees is also composed of a roughly equal number of women and men, with approximately 10 percent of applicants of both genders receiving awards.

The research projects of the 2019 CSDA grantees span a wide range of pivotal health issues, addressing problems in fields such as neurology, microbiology and rheumatology. A list of the 2019 Clinical Scientist Development Award grantees and their research project topics can be found on page two.

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.

2019 CLINICAL SCIENTIST DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Dr. Giada Bianchi, M.D.

Instructor in Medicine and Associate Director, Amyloidosis Program
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Project name: Uncovering the Oncogenic Role of Ubiquitin Depletion During B Lymphocyte Differentiation
Disease area: Hematology

Dr. Philip J. Budge, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Project name: Cross-Reactive Antigenemia and Treatment-Related Adverse Events in Loiasis
Disease area: Infectious diseases

Dr. Jasmeer P. Chhatwal, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Neurology
Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Project name: Sleep Disruption as a Driver of Neuronal Dysfunction and Tau Accumulation in Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease
Disease area: Neuroscience

Dr. Brian J. DeBosch, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Project name: Modeling Human Hepatocytes to Translate Glucose-Fasting Mimetics as Novel Therapies Against Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease
Disease area: Gastroenterology/Hepatology

Dr. Kathryn M. Dupnik, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Weill Cornell Medicine

Project name: Dynamics of the HIV Reservoir and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Burden in People with HIV-TB Coinfection
Disease area: Infectious diseases

Dr. Jennifer A. Fulcher, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Regents University of California Los Angeles

Project name: Mechanisms of Intestinal Dysbiosis and Inflammation in Substance Use and HIV
Disease area: Infectious diseases

Dr. Daniel S. Herman, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Project name: Development and Implementation of Statistical Methods and Informatics Tools that Leverage Clinical Data for Decision Support to Improve Screening for Primary Aldosteronism
Disease area: Biomedical informatics

Dr. Andrew L. Kau, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Allergy and Immunology
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Project name: Role of Anti-FimH Antibodies in Modulating Uropathogenic *E. coli* Gut Colonization and Urinary Tract Infection
Disease area: Microbiology

Dr. Michelle T. Long, M.D., M.Sc.

Assistant Professor, Medicine

Trustees of Boston University

Project name: Resting Metabolic Signature of Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease and the Metabolic Response to Acute Exercise in a Community Based Sample

Disease area: Gastroenterology

Dr. Deepak A. Rao, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Project name: Cellular Immunophenotypes to Predict Treatment Response in Rheumatoid Arthritis

Disease area: Rheumatology

Dr. Bryan K. Sun, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Regents of The University of California at San Diego

Project name: Noncoding Genetic Regulators of Skin Diseases

Disease area: Genetics

Dr. Zuzana Tothova, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Project name: Therapeutic Targeting of Splicing in Cohesin Mutant Myeloid Malignancies

Disease area: Hematology and Oncology

Dr. Adina F. Turcu, M.D., M.S.

Assistant Professor, Tenure Track

Regents of the University of Michigan

Project name: Developing Tools for Personalized Care of Patients with Primary Aldosteronism

Disease area: Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism

Dr. Silvia Vilarinho, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine (Digestive Diseases) and of Pathology

Yale School of Medicine

Project name: Genetics and Pathogenesis of Cholestatic Liver Disease

Disease area: Gastroenterology

Dr. Jesse J. Waggoner, M.D.

Assistant Professor

Emory University School of Medicine

Project name: Arboviral Antibody Signatures on a Nanoscale Plasmonic Gold Platform to Predict Severe Dengue in Symptomatic Cases

Disease area: Infectious diseases

Dr. Frederick Wilson, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Yale School of Medicine

Project name: Combination Strategies to Enhance the Efficacy of Targeted Therapies

Disease area: Oncology