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## **DDCF Announces Nine Winners of the Physician Scientist Fellowship**

The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Grants \$1.98 Million to Nine Subspecialty Fellows in the Inaugural Year of the Physician Scientist Fellowship

**New York, October, 10, 2019** – The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) today announced the nine subspecialty fellows receiving a total of \$1.98 million in grants in the inaugural year of the Doris Duke Physician Scientist Fellowship. Through the Physician Scientist Fellowship, which funds the research of clinical investigators at the subspecialty fellowship stage of their careers, DDCF aims to promote the transition of emerging physician scientists into faculty-level positions.

“We are excited to support these outstanding clinical researchers during a critical stage in their careers: the period between residency and early faculty called “fellowship,”” said Betsy Myers, program director for medical research at DDCF. “In our research into the needs of the field, clinical investigators at the early faculty stage repeatedly voiced a need for increased protected time for research and financial support beyond what is required during the fellowship phase of training. We are proud to answer that call to action and to award these nine Physician Scientist Fellows with the resources they need to advance their careers and make important contributions to patient care.”

Recipients of the Physician Scientist Fellowship were chosen through a competitive, peer-review process by an external panel of physician scientists. While fellows training in fields such as cardiology, hematology, infectious diseases and oncology typically receive funding from their departments for short-term research, there are few opportunities to obtain external support for extended research during this phase. DDCF has designed the Physician Scientist Fellowship to address this gap in support. Each selected fellow is receiving two years of funding at \$110,000 per year, a total of \$220,000 for the entire grant term, and will work under the supervision of a mentor who will guide them toward successful biomedical research careers.

A list of the 2019 Physician Scientist Fellows and their research project titles can be found below:

**Esther R. Berko, M.D., Ph.D.**, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Project name: Clinical Significance of Subclonal Driver Mutations in High-risk Neuroblastoma

**Marguerite Indriati Hood Pishchany, M.D., Ph.D.**, Boston Children's Hospital  
Project name: Ecology-driven Vaginal Microbiome Interventions for Reproductive Health

**Jeremy D. Kratz, M.D.**, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health  
Project name: Clonal Selection to Targeted Therapeutics in Colorectal Cancer Spheroids for Clinical Prediction

**Jacob E. Lemieux, M.D., D.Phil.**, Partners Healthcare System

Project name: Microbial Determinants of Clinical Heterogeneity in Lyme Disease

**Kate Millington, M.D.**, Boston Children's Hospital

Project name: Effects of Sex Steroids on Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Transgender Adolescents

**Jessica Neely, M.D.**, University of California, San Francisco

Project name: Probing the Type I Interferon Response in Juvenile Dermatomyositis using Multi-modal Single-cell Sequencing and Integrative Computational Methods

**Erin M. Parry, M.D., Ph.D.**, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Project name: Dissecting the Mechanisms Underlying Response and Resistance to Immune Checkpoint Blockade in Richter's Transformation

**Jennifer L. Small-Saunders, M.D., Ph.D.**, Columbia University Medical College

Project name: Programming tRNA Modifications in the Human Malaria Parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*: A New Paradigm for Artemisinin Resistance in Asian Isolates

**Ofer Zimmerman, M.D.**, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Project name: The Role of Human Matrix Remodeling Associated 8 (MXRA8) Genetic Polymorphisms in Chikungunya Virus Infection.

#### **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](http://www.ddcf.org).