



Congratulations to Awardees of the 2019 LRCP Catalyst Research Grant Competition

The London Regional Cancer Program Catalyst Grants for Translational Cancer Research review panel recently recommended to the Executive Council of the LRCP funding for projects submitted in the 2020 Fall Competition. This program, open to all primary and cross-appointees in the Department of Oncology at Western University (and their collaborators), supports translational cancer research with and lead to clinical applications that reduce the burden of cancer.

We graciously acknowledge the generous supporters of cancer research in London and the greater Southwestern Ontario region.

Funds were raised to support translational research projects for eligible principal investigators in the specific focus areas:

Breast (Breast Cancer Society of Canada)

Leukemia (Donors)

Myeloma (Donors)

Ovarian (The London Run for Ovarian Cancer)

Prostate (Lexus of London Golf Classic/Donors)

Keith Samitt Translational Research Grant (Initiated 2018 Fall Competition)

The Awardees for the 2019 Catalyst Grants for Translational Cancer Research are:

Alison Allan Ph.D. (Depts. of Anatomy & Cell Biology, Oncology)

Relationship between EMT status, epigenetic modifications, and migratory mode in prostate cancer

Amount Funded: \$25,000 (Translational Prostate Cancer Research focus)

Dr. Glenn Bauman MD FRCPC (Depts. of Oncology, Medical Biophysics); Co-

Applicants: Aaron Ward Ph.D. (Depts of Medical Biophysics, Oncology), Madeleine Moussa

MD, MBBCh, FRCPC (Dept. of Pathology & Lab Medicine), Rohann Correa MD, Ph.D. (Dept. of Oncology)

Assessment of novel radio-genomic correlations in multi-focal prostate cancer

Amount Funded: \$25,000 (Translational Prostate Cancer Research focus)

Trevor Shepherd Ph.D. (Depts. of Anatomy & Cell Biology, Oncology, Ob/Gyn); Co-Applicant: Matthew Borrelli (Ph.D. Candidate, Dept. of Anatomy & Cell Biology)

A screening approach for therapeutics that antagonize ovarian cancer cell dormancy

Amount Funded: \$25,000 (Translational Ovarian Cancer Research focus)

Armen Parsyan MD, PhD, DSc, MPH, FRCSC (Depts. of Surgery, Oncology, Anatomy & Cell Biology); Co-Applicant: Alison Allan Ph.D. (Depts. of Anatomy & Cell Biology, Oncology),
Anticancer Effects of Radiation Therapy Combined with PLK4 Inhibitor CFI-400945 in Breast Cancer

Amount Funded: \$25,000 (Translational Breast Cancer Research focus)

Ana Lohmann MD, Ph.D. (Dept. of Oncology)

Concordance between Liquid and Tissue Biopsy in Newly Diagnosed Metastatic Breast Cancer

Amount Funded: \$25,000 (Translational Breast Cancer Research focus)

Saman Maleki Ph.D. (Depts of Oncology, Pathology & Lab Medicine, Medical Biophysics)

The role of IL12 and IL27 on inducing CD39 expression on tumour-specific CD8+ T-cells

Amount Funded: \$23,854 (Keith Samitt Translational Research Grant)

Ricardo Fernandes MD (Dept. of Oncology); Co-Applicant: Saman Maleki Ph.D. (Depts of Oncology, Pathology & Lab Medicine, Medical Biophysics)

Preventing immune-related adverse events in renal cell carcinoma patients treated with combination immunotherapy using fecal microbiota transplantation

Amount Funded: \$24,195 (Keith Samitt Translational Research Grant)

Silvia Peneula Ph.D. (Depts. of Anatomy & Cell Biology, Oncology); Co-Applicants: John Ronald Ph.D. (Depts. of Medical Biophysics, Oncology) Matthew Hebb MD, Ph.D., FRCSC (Depts. of Clinical Neurological Sciences, Anatomy and Cell Biology)

Pannexin 1 channels in glioblastoma multiforme

Amount Funded: \$25,000 (Keith Samitt Translational Research Grant)

Eva Turley Ph.D. (Depts. of Oncology, Biochemistry, Surgery)

RHAMM peptide mimetics in multiple myeloma

Amount Funded: \$25,000 (Translational Myeloma Cancer Research focus)

Anargyros Xenocostas MD, FRCPC (Depts. of Medicine, Oncology); Co-Applicants: Alejandro Lazo-Langner MD, MSc, FRCPC (Depts. of Medicine, Oncology), Shun-Cheng Li Ph.D. (Depts. of Biochemistry, Oncology)

Dynamic Epigenomic and Proteomic Profiling in Patients with Myelodysplastic Syndromes: A Pilot Study

Amount Funded \$22,500 (Translational Leukemia Cancer Research focus)

We graciously acknowledge the generous support of the Breast Cancer Society of Canada, The London Run for Ovarian Cancer, Lexus of London Golf Classic, Blood, Sweat and Spin, Mr. Keith Samitt and our other generous organizations and supporters of cancer research in London and the greater Southwestern Ontario region.

We would also like to thank the members of the peer-review committee for their time, effort and diligence in conducting the reviews, which is essential for ensuring that these funds support the highest quality translational cancer research. **These include: Drs. Nathalie Berube, Jeffrey Carson, Stewart Gaede, Jim Koropatnick, Jim Lacefield, Jim Petrik, David Rodenhiser, Trevor Shepherd, Brian Shilton, Vikram Velker, Eric Winqvist, Eugene Wong and Steve Gameiro as Scientific Officer along with Gail Howard as Recorder.**

Congratulations and well done!

Joe Mymryk, PhD, Chair, Catalyst Grant Review Panel
Professor, Depts. of Microbiology & Immunology, Oncology, Otolaryngology
University of Western Ontario
Distinguished Oncology Scientist, Lawson Health Research Institute
Cancer Research Laboratory Program, LRCP

Gabriel DiMattia, PhD, Interim Director
Cancer Research Laboratory Program, LRCP
Senior Oncology Scientist, Lawson Health Research Institute
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