



## CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE

2160 S First Avenue, Maywood, IL, 60153

Prof. Alain Heroux, M.D.

Department of Medicine

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Co-Director, Cardiovascular Research Institute

Wednesday, October 30, 2019

Dear Members of the Cardiovascular Research Institute,

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2019 CVRI minigrant competition. The applications were independently evaluated by the CVRI Division Directors and an external reviewer, then discussed as a group together with the Co-Directors. This year we had a particularly strong response to our request for applications, with many meritorious applications submitted. The Division Directors selected the top applications for awards, but because of funding limitations we were unable to support many good projects. If your research project was not funded this time, please do not be discouraged from applying in future application cycles.

The 2019 minigrants, totaling \$173,000, will support the following exciting research projects:

### **James DePauw Pilot Grant (up to \$10,000)**

Mark Rabbat, MD, FACC, FAHA, Demetri Doukas, DO, Sorcha Allen, MD & Jessica Marot, MD	“A Comparison of Fractional Flow Reserve – Computed Tomography to Standard Non-Invasive Cardiac Testing in Patients Presenting with Chest Pain”
Gregory Aubert, MD, PhD & Adinarayana Kunamneni, PhD	“Validation of single chain variable fragment (scFv) antibody for the treatment of genetic desminopathy”
Lucas Chan, MD & Amir Darki, MD	“The Longitudinal Effects of Video Based Education on Patients presenting with Acute Pulmonary Embolism”
Joshua Newman, MD, Jeanine Walenga, PhD & Amir Darki, MD	“Angiopoietin-2 as a predictor of right ventricular failure and clinical outcomes in the setting of acute pulmonary embolism”
Debra Hoppensteadt, PhD, Mushabbar Syed, MD, Vinod Bansal, MD, Maria Latz, MD & Verghese Mathew, MD	“Oxidative Stress Biomarker Upregulation Contributes to Inflammatory and Hemostatic Dysregulation in Atrial Fibrillation”
Adinarayana Kunamneni, PhD & Virginie Aubert, PhD	“FFAR3 scFv antibody injection to delay Western-Diet-induced allodynia in male and female mice”
Nallely Mora, MD, MPH & Amy Luke, PhD	“Culturally adapted Community-based Translational Diabetes Prevention Program for Obese and Pre-diabetic Hispanic/Latino females”
Joshua Newman, MD, Jeanine Walenga, PhD & Eugenia Raichlin, MD	“The impact of hemodynamic optimization with ramp studies following left ventricular assist device implantation on expression of angiogenic growth factors and clinical outcomes”
Joshua Newman, MD, Max Liebo, MD, Eugenia Raichlin, MD & Gregory Aubert, MD, PhD	“The effect of metformin therapy on cardiac allograft rejection and vasculopathy following heart Transplantation”
Mingxi Dennis Yu, MD, Eugenia Raichlin, MD & Gregory Aubert, MD, PhD	“Study to Evaluate the Effect of Ivabradine on Exercise Capacity in Heart Transplant Recipients With Elevated Resting Heart Rate”
Aleksey V. Zima, PhD	“Functional significance of cardiac Ca pump regulation by luminal Ca”

### **James and Carolyn Beck Equipment Grant (up to \$15,000)**

Walter Jeske, PhD, Jeanine Walenga, PhD, Debra Hoppensteadt, PhD, Omer Iqbal, MD, Jawed Fareed, PhD, Mushabbar Syed, MD, Simon Kaja, PhD, Wiicki Vigneswaran, MD & Mamdouh Bakhos, MD	“High Performance Liquid Chromatographic System for Glycosaminoglycan and Proteoglycan Analysis”
Patrick Oakes, PhD & Jordan Beach, PhD	“Live-Cell Ring TIRF Microscopy”



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### Patrick Scanlon Collaborative Grant (up to \$25,000)

Erika Piedras-Rentería, PhD, Vikram Prabhu, MD & Kevin Barton, MD	“Role of voltage-gated ion channels in proliferation and in meningioma neuron hetero-synapse formation, and as targets for interlaced therapy.”
Jeanine Walenga, PhD, R. Anthony Perez-Tamayo, MD, PhD, Walter Jeske, PhD, Issa Rezek, MD, Kathryn Swain, M4 & Oh Jin Kwon, M2	“Identifying Platelet Activation Mechanisms in Aortic Dissection”

Congratulations to the successful applicants! We wish you the best of luck in your research. **Important:** the funds for each award **must be spent by April 15, 2020**. After that date, unexpended funds will be returned to the Division Directors to use before the end of the fiscal year. Please keep the CVRI informed of publications, grants, and presentations that result from these awards so that we can track the successes of our minigrants program. We would appreciate it if you acknowledge the support of the CVRI on all publications that result from these projects.

Sincerely,

Alain Heroux, M.D.  
Seth Robia, Ph.D.  
CVRI Co-Directors