



TSC ALERT

Edited by Vicky H Whittemore, PhD

May 2006

Welcome to the May 2006 edition of *TSC Alert* – an online research newsletter for individuals interested in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC) research and clinical care. This online newsletter contains information of interest to the TSC research and health care community. Please forward this newsletter to colleagues who are interested in TSC. To be added/deleted to/from the mailing list for *TSC Alert* and/or to submit information for the June 2006 *TSC Alert* contact: vwhittemore@tsalliance.org

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

NUTRIENT SENSING, INSULIN SIGNALING AND HAMARTOMA SYNDROMES CONFERENCE

This conference will be held May 11- 12, 2006 in Lister Hall, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD. Organized and sponsored by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease, the National Cancer Institute, and the Office of Rare Diseases, National Institutes of Health. For more information, see: <http://www.niddk.nih.gov/fund/other/nutrientsensing/index.htm>

FEMALE HORMONES AND CANCER: THE IMPLICATIONS FOR LYMPHANGIOLEIOMYOMATOSIS (LAM)

Dr. Myles Brown, MD and Dr. David Kwiatkowski, MD, PhD

Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM), is a neoplastic disease that affects almost exclusively women. Please join us for the next seminar of the **2005-2006 LAM/TSC Seminar Series** on **May 18th from 5:30-7:30pm** in the New Research Building (NRB), 77 Avenue Louis Pasteur at Harvard Medical School, Room 350. The format of the meeting will be a 45 minute talk by Dr. Brown about his work on estrogen in cancer and LAM followed by a 25 minute talk by Dr. Kwiatkowski during which he will review his data on estrogen in mouse models and LAM and present some new results from mutational studies of TSC1/TSC2. Facilitated discussion will cover topics raised by the talks and potential therapeutic interventions. Following discussion, we will break for a (light) dinner with

continued informal conversation. CME credit for this seminar series is in place. There is limited free parking for those who are not coming from the Longwood Medical Area.*

We appreciate your help in forwarding this announcement to relevant clinicians and labs and posting the attached flyer. Please contact amy_farber@hms.harvard.edu with questions.

MORE INFO: Please see: <http://www.bostonlamtscresearch.org/> for more information about this Seminar Series.

TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2007

Rome, Italy

May 24-26, 2007

Venue: Grand Hotel Palazzo Carpegna, Via Aurelia 481, Roma

Information: curatolo@uniroma2.it

Dear colleagues,

I would like to invite you to the TSC International Research Conference 2007 that will take place from May 24 to May 26, 2007 in Rome, Italy. The conference will be organized by the Italian Tuberos Sclerosis Association that will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its foundation, together with the Department of Neurosciences of Tor Vergata University, Rome, Italy. The focus of the conference will be on how TSC influences the brain, and how neurologic manifestations can be treated effectively.

There will be plenty of time for informal discussions and networking, and we will also prepare an appealing social program. I hope to see you all in Rome!

Best wishes,

Paolo Curatolo

e-mail: curatolo@uniroma2.it

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Understanding and Treating Tuberos Sclerosis Complex (R01) (PAS-06-205)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Cancer Institute

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of Mental Health

Tuberos Sclerosis Alliance

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-205.html>

Understanding and Treating Tuberos Sclerosis Complex (R21) (PAS-06-206)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Cancer Institute

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of Mental Health

Tuberos Sclerosis Alliance

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-06-206.html>

PKD Foundation RFA Release

The PKD Foundation is pleased to announce the release of a Request for Applications in the following three areas: Grants, Fellowships and Bridge Grants (*new*).

Grant RFA

Purpose: The PKD Foundation is interested in fostering further research in polycystic kidney disease and other hereditary cystic disorders in order to understand the physiological, biochemical and genetic mechanisms of disease and to support the development of potential interventions that could slow the rate of both renal and biliary lesions and other systemic manifestations of PKD and lead to therapeutic interventions for these disorders.

Key Details: This is a two-year award for **\$75,000/year** for a total of **\$150,000**. Second year funding is dependent upon review of the first year progress report and the availability of funds.

Key Dates:
Release Date: April 15, 2006
Application Deadline: August 15, 2006
Peer Review Dates: September – November 2006
Anticipated Funding Start Date: January 2007

Fellowship RFA

Purpose: This RFA has been developed as a training mechanism to provide research opportunities in the field of polycystic kidney disease for post-doctoral fellows. The PKD Foundation is interested in fostering research in PKD and other hereditary cystic disorders in order to understand the physiological, biochemical and genetic mechanisms of this disease and to support the development of potential interventions that could slow the rate of renal and biliary lesions and other systemic manifestations of PKD and lead to therapeutic interventions for these disorders.

Key Details: This is a two-year award for **\$50,000/year** for a total of **\$100,000**. Third year funding is dependent upon a rigorous and competitive scientific review of the project and availability of funds.

Key Dates:
Release Date: April 15, 2006
Application Deadline: August 15, 2006
Peer Review Dates: September – November 2006
Anticipated Funding Start Date: July 2007

Bridge Grant RFA

Purpose: This RFA has been designed to provide one-time, one-year bridge funding for scientists in the polycystic kidney disease field whose NIH RO1 applications were scored but not funded. The PKD Foundation is interested in helping to maintain the research programs of established PKD scientists until they can once again obtain NIH funding.

Key Details: This is a one-year award for **\$100,000/year** and is **not renewable**. The applicant must provide the NIH summary sheets along with their application. The applicant cannot have more than \$100,000 of total extramural research funding (direct costs).

Key Dates:
Release Date: April 15, 2006
Application Deadlines: September 1, 2006; December 1, 2006; March 1, 2007
Anticipated Funding Start Dates: December 1, 2006; March 1, 2007; June 1, 2007

For application guidelines and downloadable forms go to www.pkdcure.org

NIH Clinical Trial Planning Grant Program (R34) (PA-06-363)

National Institute on Aging
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
Office of Rare Diseases
Office of Research on Women's Health

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-363.html>

Pilot And Feasibility Clinical Research Grants In Kidney Or Urologic Diseases (R21) (PAR-06-113)

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-113.html>

Developmental Infrastructure For Population Research (R21) (PAR-06-362)

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): November 22, 2006
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-362.html>

Collaborative Studies on Lung Stem Cell Biology and Cell Based Therapy (R01) (RFA-HL-07-003)

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
Application Receipt Date(s): December 12, 2006
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-07-003.html>

Integrating Lung Genetics and Genomics in Human Populations (R01) (PA-06-370)

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-370.html>

In vivo Cancer Imaging Exploratory/Developmental Grants (R21) (PA-06-371)

National Cancer Institute
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-371.html>

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for Individual Postdoctoral Fellows (F32) (PA-06-373)

National Institute on Aging
National Cancer Institute
National Center for Research Resources
National Eye Institute
National Human Genome Research Institute
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Engineering
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
National Institute of General Medical Sciences
National Institute of Mental Health
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Institute of Nursing Research
Office of Dietary Supplements
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-373.html>

Novel Tools for Investigating Brain-derived GPCRs in Mental Health Research (STTR [R41/R42]) (PA-06-374)

National Institute of Mental Health

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-374.html>

Novel Tools for Investigating Brain-derived GPCRs in Mental Health Research (SBIR [R43/R44]) (PA-06-375)

National Institute of Mental Health

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple Dates, see announcement

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-375.html>

NEW TSC PUBLICATIONS

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Carette MF, Antoine M, Bazelly B, Cadranel J, Khalil A (2006) Primary pulmonary artery aneurysm in tuberous sclerosis: CT, angiography and pathological study. Eur Radiol 2006 Apr 19 [Epub ahead of print]

Christodoulou M, Ris HB, Pezzetta E (2006) Video-assisted right supradiaphragmatic thoracic duct ligation for non-traumatic recurrent chylothorax. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg 29(5):810-4 Epub 2006 Apr 12

Connolly E, Braunstein S, Formenti S, Schneider RJ (2006) Hypoxia Inhibits Protein Synthesis through a 4E-BP1 and Elongation Factor 2 Kinase Pathway Controlled by mTOR and Uncoupled in Breast Cancer Cells. Mol Cell Biol 26(10):3955-65

Coppola G, Klepper J, Ammendola E, Fiorillo M, Corte RD, Capano G, Pascotto A (2006) The effects of the ketogenic diet in refractory partial seizures with reference to tuberous sclerosis. Eur J Paediatr Neurol 2006 Apr 20 [Epub ahead of print]

Gong R, Park CS, Rezaei Abbassi N, Tang SJ (2006) Roles of glutamate receptors and the mTOR signaling pathway in activity-dependent dendritic protein synthesis in hippocampal neurons. J Biol Chem 2006 May 1 [Epub ahead of print]

Jozwiak J, Kotulska K, Jozwiak S (2006) Similarity of Balloon Cells in Focal Cortical Dysplasia to Giant Cells in Tuberous Sclerosis. Epilepsia 47(4):805

Kamitani T, Yabuuchi H, Soeda H, Matsuo Y, Okafuji T, Sakai S, Hatakenaka M, Minami T, Inoue H, Tanaka A, Kohno H, Tanaka M, Nakashima Y, Honda H (2006) A case of lymphangioliomyomatosis affecting the supraclavicular lymph nodes. J Comput Assist Tomogr 30(2):279-82

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- Nakase Y, Fukuda K, Chikashige Y, Tsutsumi C, Morita D, Kawamoto S, Ohnuki M, Hiraoka Y, Matsumoto T (2006) A defect in protein farnesylation suppresses a loss of *Schizosaccharomyces pombe tsc2+*, a homolog of the human gene predisposing tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC). *Genetics* 2006 Apr 19 [Epub ahead of print]
- Pan CC, Jong YJ, Chai CY, Huang SH, Chen YJ (2006) Comparative genomic hybridization study of perivascular epithelioid cell tumor: molecular genetic evidence of perivascular epithelioid cell tumor as a distinctive neoplasm. *Hum Pathol* 37(5):606-12
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CONFERENCES

May 8, 2006 (6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)

Cure Autism Now Lecture Series

"Researching the Biology of Autism"

Dr. Sophia Colamarino

National 4H Conference Center, Chevy Chase, MD

TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT ONLINE [CLICK HERE](#) or contact Tracey MacDonald at tmacdonald@cureautismnow.org or (888) 8AUTISM ext. 728 There is no fee to attend this event.

May 11-12, 2006

Nutrient Sensing, Insulin Signaling and Hamartoma Syndromes

Lister Hall, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

Information: <http://www.niddk.nih.gov/fund/other/nutrientsensing/index.htm>

May 18, 2006

2005-2006 LAM/TSC Seminar Series

Female Hormones and Cancer: The Implications for Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM)

Dr. Myles Brown, MD and Dr. David Kwiatkowski, MD, PhD

Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

<http://www.bostonlamtscresearch.org/>

May 20-25, 2006

American Psychiatric Association: From Science to Public Policy

Toronto, Canada

www.psych.org

June 4-7, 2006

Genomics & Public Health

4th International DNA Sampling Conference

Omni Hotel, Montreal, Canada

Information: www.humgen.umontreal.ca/events/dnasampling

June 11-16, 2006

Trainer-of-Trainers Conference: Survival Skills and Ethics

Snowmass, CO

This conference will provide education faculty and administrators with the keys to establishing or improving instruction in the responsible conduct of research. For details or access to an application form, please visit www.survival.pitt.edu/events/trainer.asp Conference participants will receive an extensive set of lecture outlines, ethics cases, student handouts, readings, slides, and a comprehensive bibliography.

June 15-17, 2006

American Epilepsy Society Mid-Year Meeting

Oak Brook, IL

www.aesnet.org

June 25 - 30, 2006

International Conference on Complex Systems (ICCS)

Boston, MA

Go to www.necsi.org/events/iccs6/ for details.

July 1-5, 2006

Lecture Course on Molecular and Cellular Cognition

Venice, Italy, July 1-5, 2006.

Sixty PhD students and postdoctoral fellows will be selected to participate. Discussion will be on various aspects of molecular and cellular events underlying cognition, emotion, and related neuropsychiatric diseases. For more information or to register, please visit www.molcellcog.org

July 2-6, 2006

7th European Congress of Epileptology

Helsinki Fair Centre, Helsinki, Finland
<http://www.epilepsyhelsinki2006.org>

July 8-12, 2006

5th Forum of European Neuroscience

Austria Center Vienna, Austria
<http://www.fens.org>

July 8-12, 2006

UICC World Cancer Congress 2006

Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC
<http://www.2006conferences.org/u-program.php>

July 14-16, 2006

National TSC Conference

Organized by the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
[Indian Lakes Resort](http://IndianLakesResort.com)
Chicago, Illinois
<http://tsalliance.easycgi.com/pages.aspx?content=330>

July 27-30, 2006

6th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
www.epilepsykualalumpur2006.org

August 2-4, 2006

10th European Conference on Epilepsy & Society

Copenhagen, Denmark
For more information: <http://www.epilepsyandsociety.org>

August 6-10, 2006

11th International Congress of Human Genetics

Brisbane, Australia
<http://www.ichg2006.com>

August 6-11, 2006

Gordon Research Conference on Mechanisms of Epilepsy and Neuronal Synchronization

Colby College, Waterville, Maine
For conference program and application form, see
<http://www.grc.uri.edu/programs/2006/epilepsy.htm>

August 15-18, 2006

International Conference on Brain Energy Metabolism

Lausanne, Switzerland
Deadline for abstracts: June 1
<http://icbem.epfl.ch/>

September 6-9, 2006

4th Latin American Congress on Epilepsy 2006

Guatemala City, Guatemala

<http://www.epilepsyguatemala2006.org>

September 10-14, 2006

XXVIIIth International Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology

Edinburgh, UK

www.iccn2006.com

October 6-11, 2006

Plastic Surgery 2006

San Francisco, CA

www.plasticsurgery.org/annual_meeting

October 7-10, 2006

19th Annual ISONG Conference: Genomic Health Care: The Future is Now

Bourbon Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, LA

For more information: www.isong.org

October 30 – November 2, 2006

World Congress on Autism

Cape Town, South Africa

Call for Papers closes 30th September 2005

Early Bird Registration Closes June 30th 2006

Please visit www.autismcongress.com

December 1-5, 2006

2006 AES Annual Meeting/North American Regional Epilepsy Congress

San Diego Convention Center

Abstract submissions accepted March 6 – June 5, 2006

For more information: <http://www.aesnet.org/Visitors/AnnualMeeting/index.cfm>

March 28-30, 2007

NINDS Epilepsy Conference

Bethesda, MD

Follow-up to 2000 Conference "Curing Epilepsy: Focus on the Future"

<http://www.ninds.nih.gov>

April 19-22, 2007

2007 LAM International Research Conference

The LAM Foundation

Cincinnati, OH

<http://www.thelamfoundation.org>

May 18-21, 2007

20th Annual ISONG Conference: Global Issues in Genomic Healthcare

Marriott Bristol City Centre, Bristol, England

For more information: www.isong.org

May 24-26, 2007

Tuberous Sclerosis Complex International Research Conference 2007 in Rome (Italy)

Venue: Grand Hotel Palazzo Carpegna, Rome, Italy

Information: curatolo@uniroma2.it

July 8-12, 2007

27th International Epilepsy Congress

Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Center

Singapore

For more information: www.epilepsycongress.org

September 2007 (Dates TBD)

International Tuberos Sclerosis Complex Research Conference

Washington, DC Metro Area

More information coming soon!

NEWS

Genetically Weakened Blood Vessels Contribute to Some Strokes Researchers have identified a gene mutation in mice that weakens small blood vessels, making them more susceptible to stress. The mutation appears to increase the danger of a type of stroke that often occurs in humans in the absence of any known risk factors, scientists report. This research was published in the April 06, 2006, issue of New England Journal of Medicine by Simon W. M. John, Ph.D., HHMI investigator at Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, ME. For the full story, go to:

<http://www.hhmi.org//news/john20060406.html>

Menstrual Cycles Affect Seizure Frequency for Women with Epilepsy

April 6, 2006 (Newswise)

In women with epilepsy, having a longer or shorter menstrual cycle reduces ovulation, and lack of ovulation increases seizure frequency, according to research that will be presented at the American Academy of Neurology 58th Annual Meeting in San Diego, Calif., April 1 – 8, 2006. [Read more...](#)

Sex-Related Hormone Also a Brain Signaling Chemical

April 17, 2006 (Newswise)

Evidence is mounting that estrogen, a hormone critical to a woman's sexual development, should also be thought of as a neurotransmitter when acting in the brain, a Johns Hopkins University behavioral neuroscientist said. [Read more...](#)

Economic Benefit of NINDS-Supported Clinical Trials Estimated at More Than \$15 Billion Over Ten Years

A comprehensive review of all phase III clinical trials supported by one Federal agency finds that, estimated conservatively, the economic benefit in the United States from just eight of these trials exceeded \$15 billion over the course of 10 years. The study also found that new discoveries from the trials were responsible for an estimated additional 470,000 healthy years of life. The clinical trials were sponsored by the National Institutes of Health's National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). For more information:

http://www.ninds.nih.gov/news_and_events/press_releases/pressrelease_clinical_trial_study_042006.htm or visit the News & Events portion of the main NINDS website.

New Newsletter from NIH

From the Desk of the NIH Director is a new quarterly newsletter from NIH. In the Spring 2006 edition, NIH Director Dr. Elias Zerhouni stresses that he will be making efforts to provide regular updates and respond to reader feedback. For the full newsletter, visit

<http://www.nih.gov/about/director/newsletter/Spring2006.htm>

Now Available: Directory of Grants and Fellowships in Global Health Sciences

The 2006 directory is now available from the Fogarty International Center. It includes nearly 500 funding opportunities related to biomedical and behavioral sciences, with a special emphasis on researchers in the developing world and their collaborators. For more information, please visit

<http://www.fic.nih.gov/news/directory.html>.

TSC INFORMATION

For information about TSC, visit the TS Alliance Web site at: <http://www.tsalliance.org> or contact the TS Alliance at info@tsalliance.org or by telephone: 1-800-225-6872 or 301-562-9890.