

TSC ALERT

January 2008



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FEDERAL FUNDING AGENCIES

Understanding and Treating Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (R01) (PAS-07-190)

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

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

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-07-190.html>

NIH Small Research Grant Program (Parent R03) for \$50,000

Application Deadline: Cycle I - February 16

Cycle II - June 16

Cycle III - October 16

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has an Investigator-Initiated Small Grant (RO3) funding opportunity, which supports small research projects that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited funding. The RO3 grants can be the following types of projects:

- Pilot or feasibility studies
- Secondary analysis of existing data
- Small, self-contained research projects
- Development of research methodology
- Development of new research technology

The project year is for up to two years with an award of up to \$50,000 per year for a total of \$100,000. The number of awards for this funding opportunity is contingent on the availability of funds and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Applications may be submitted in one of the three application cycles. Application information is available the following link:

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=HM9XZt321thT7PJp1vPhRfrSMkRdQchKJQGTPrT7D59rk1QZZ80L!2022992788?oppId=8239&flag2006=true&mode=VIEW>

Request for Information (RFI): Research Priorities for the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee Strategic Plan for Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) (NOT-MH-08-003)

National Institute of Mental Health

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-08-003.html>

Notice of Intent to Publish a Request for Applications for Probes and Instrumentation for Monitoring and Manipulating Nervous System Plasticity (Neuroscience Blueprint) (NOT-MH-08-005)

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute

National Eye Institute

National Human Genome Research Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

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 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

National Library of Medicine

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-08-005.html>

Rapid Access to Intervention Development (RAID) (NOT-CA-08-004)

National Cancer Institute

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-08-004.html>

Special Emphasis Notice: AHRQ Announces Interest in Career Development (K) Grants focused on Prevention and Healthcare Management of Complex Patients (NOT-HS-08-004)

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-HS-08-004.html>

Centers for Evaluation of Neurodevelopmental Antibodies (CENA, U24) (RFA-NS-08-005)

National Institutes of Health

National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine

National Center for Research Resources

National Eye Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

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 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 Behavioral and Social Science Research

Application Receipt Date(s): February 15, 2008

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-08-005.html>

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Institutional Predoctoral Training Program in Systems Biology of Developmental Biology & Birth Defects(T32) (PAR-08-054)

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Standard NIH T32 dates; May 25, 2008, 2009 and 2010

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-054.html>

NIDDK Multi-Center Clinical Study Implementation Planning Grants (U34) (PAR-08-057)

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): March 19, 2008; November 18, 2008; June 23, 2009; March 18, 2010

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-057.html>

NIDDK Multi-Center Clinical Study Cooperative Agreement (U01) (PAR-08-058)

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/PAR-08-058.html>

Understanding and Preventing Brain Tumor Dispersal (R01) (PAS-08-048)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Cancer Institute

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

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-08-048.html>

Understanding and Preventing Brain Tumor Dispersal (R21) (PAS-08-049)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Cancer Institute

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

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-08-049.html>

Human Pluripotent Stem Cell (hPSC) Research Using Non-Embryonic Sources (R01) (PA-08-043)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Center for Research Resources

National Eye Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

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 Child Health and Human Development

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 General Medical Sciences

National Institute of Mental Health

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

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-043.html>

Human Pluripotent Stem Cell (hPSC) Research Using Non-Embryonic Sources (R21) (PA-08-044)

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Center for Research Resources
National Eye Institute
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
National Institute on Aging
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 Child Health and Human Development
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
National Institute of General Medical Sciences
National Institute of Mental Health
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): Multiple dates, see announcement.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-044.html>

Outcomes, Cost-Effectiveness and the Decision Making Process to Use Complementary and Alternative Medicine (R01) (PAR-08-045)

National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
National Cancer Institute
Office of Dietary Supplements
Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): May 19, 2008, May 19, 2009, May 19, 2010
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-045.html>

Expansion of Scientific Scope of PAR-08-025, Quick-Trials for Novel Cancer Therapies and Prevention: Exploratory Grants (R21), to Include Symptom Management (NOT-CA-08-005)

National Cancer Institute
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-08-005.html>

Institutional Clinical and Translational Science Award (U54) (RFA-RM-08-002)

NIH Roadmap Initiatives
Application Receipt Date(s): June 17, 2008; October 21, 2008
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-08-002.html>

OTHER FUNDING AGENCIES

Amgen Nephrology

Amgen Nephrology is pleased to announce our Nephrology Fellowship Stipend Support Program, as well as our Nephrology Junior Faculty Research Support Program. These programs allow us to support research and education across all aspects of Chronic Kidney Disease. Program details are described below:

Nephrology Fellowship Stipend Support Program

The intent of this program is to provide support to eligible institutions training physicians for careers in Nephrology.

- Funding is based on all direct costs of sponsoring the fellowship (e.g., salary, benefits, and medical malpractice)
- Each Amgen grant is not to exceed \$40,000 for the 2008-2009 academic year
- Any institution submitting an application to the Nephrology Fellowship Stipend Support Program must have a currently accredited fellowship program in Nephrology by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)

Nephrology Junior Faculty Research Support Program

The intent of this program is to provide transitional support to investigators as they move from postdoctoral studies to faculty.

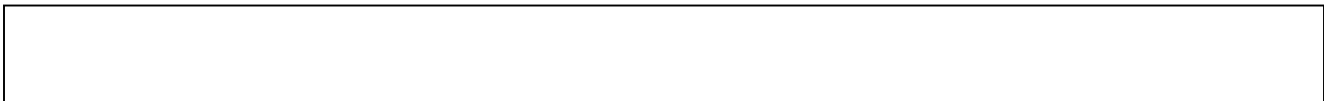
- Junior Faculty staff encompass *full-time* faculty members who have been appointed within the last 3 years
- They must be board certified or board eligible Nephrologists who are engaged in basic science or clinical research activities at least 75% of their time
- Awards are intended to support *bona fide* research in Nephrology (this award is not intended to provide general salary support or support for non-research faculty time such as clinic, call, etc.)
- Funding support is available for two years, not to exceed \$60,000 per year; second year funding is contingent (please see guidelines)
- Applications for the Nephrology Junior Faculty Research Support Program are to be submitted by the Researchers

Historically, requests for these programs have exceeded available funds and therefore the process is competitive. Institutions are limited to one active award per funding cycle. Applications for both programs must be submitted through the Amgen Medical Education Department, beginning December 3, 2007. The 2008 Application Guidelines are enclosed. Due to the Amgen holiday shutdown, application submissions will not be accepted from December 20, 2007 through January 1, 2008.

The deadline for applications is **February 8, 2008**. All award applications and supporting materials must be postmarked on or before **February 8, 2008**. Late or incomplete packages will not be considered. Applying institutions will be notified of the selection results in April 2008.

Amgen may post the recipients of the 2008 Nephrology Fellowship Stipend Support Program and Junior Faculty Research Support Program on the AmgenMED.com website.

Amgen Nephrology is excited to offer these programs to you and share our commitment to improve the lives of patients with kidney disease. We look forward to receiving your applications. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Amgen Medical Education at (866) 442-6436.



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CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS

January 14-15, 2008

Thirteenth Meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders and Genetic Diseases in Newborns and Children (ACHDGDNC)

Marriott Bethesda North Hotel and Conference Center
Bethesda, MD. 20852

April 2-5, 2008

International Symposium on Dietary Therapies for Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders

Phoenix, AZ

www.thebarrow.org/conferences

April 4-6, 2008

LAM Foundation 2008 International Research Conference (LAMposium)

Westin Hotel, Cincinnati, OH

For more information: www.thelamfoundation.org

May 15-17, 2008

Conference on Diagnosis and Treatment in Pediatric Neurology

Warsaw, Poland

For more information: www.neuroped2008.pl

May 20-22, 2008

4th International Conference on Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs (ICORD)

Global Approaches for Rare Diseases Research and Orphan Products Development
Washington, DC

For more information: www.icord.cc

June 12-17, 2008

The World Cancer Congress 2008: From Basic Research to Therapeutics

Shanghai & Hangzhou, China

For more information: www.bitlifesciences.com/cancer2008/

June 22-25, 2008

1st International Epilepsy Colloquium on the Mesial Temporal Lobe Epilepsies

Marburg, Germany

This colloquium is part of a series to be continued in Lyon, France in 2009 and Cleveland, Ohio, USA in 2010.

For more information:

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Hauptstr. 18

D-79576 Weil am Rhein

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E-mail: laubscher.s@akmcongress.com

www.akmcongress.com

July 12-16, 2008

6th FENS Forum of European Neuroscience

Geneva, Switzerland

More information: forum2008@fens.org

July 27-Aug 1, 2008

PKD Meeting Sponsored by FASEB

Snowmass, CO

For more information: www.faseb.org/meetings/futuremeetings.htm

August 3-8, 2008

Gordon Conference: Mechanisms of Epilepsy and Neuronal Synchronization

Colby College, Waterville, ME

Application Deadline: Applications for this meeting must be submitted by July 13, 2008

www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2008&program=epilepsy

September 11-13, 2008

TSC International Research Conference 2008

University of Sussex, Brighton, UK

Organized by the Tuberous Sclerosis Association, U.K.

For more information: www.tuberous-sclerosis.org

NEWS

Queen's Anniversary Prize to be Awarded to Cardiff University's Institute of Medical Genetics

The Institute of Medical Genetics, part of Cardiff University's School of Medicine, is a winner in this year's Queen's Anniversary Prizes, which recognize world class levels of excellence in UK Higher Education.

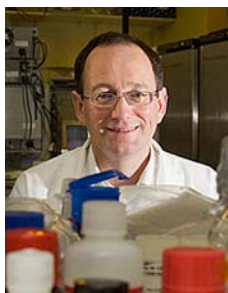
"The Prizes confer the highest national recognition on the work of our universities and colleges and the part they play in the country's economic advance, social wellbeing and industrial self-fulfilment. The scheme establishes a benchmark for excellence and validates Britain's contribution to

innovation, knowledge and skills on the world scene," said Robin Gill, Chairman of the Royal Anniversary Trust, in announcing the prizes. The Prize will be presented to the Institute by Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace in February 2008.

The Institute has earned the award for its success in identifying genetic causes of diseases and developing new diagnostic tests and treatments for them. Its achievements include:

- Identifying genes linked to bowel cancer, Huntington's Disease, muscular dystrophy, tuberous sclerosis and polycystic kidney disease
- Developing tests for these and other disorders including Neurofibromatosis which are now used in the NHS and abroad, allowing earlier and more accurate diagnosis and increasingly more effective treatments
- Trials of new treatments for tuberous sclerosis and Huntington's Disease
- Enhanced screening for families at risk of disease
- Training counsellors to support patients and families in coming to terms with the results of genetic tests
- Helping develop the Wales Gene Park, enhancing the Welsh knowledge economy and public understanding of genetic science

The Institute is now expanding with a £4.8M investment in new laboratories for more work on cancer genetics. The focus will be on developing new methods of earlier diagnosis and treatment.



Institute of Medical Genetics director and TSC researcher Professor Julian Sampson said: "Our approach is to work with patient organizations, the NHS and other local, national and international partners, ensuring that advances in genetic knowledge deliver direct benefits to patients and their families. It is a huge honor to have our work recognized in this way."

The Vice-Chancellor of Cardiff University, Dr David Grant, said: "Professor Julian Sampson and the Institute of Medical Genetics team are to be congratulated on this recognition of the excellence of their research, training and healthcare work."

The Institute has identified the causes of several major diseases and developed innovative and effective new approaches to the treatment and support of patients and families with inherited conditions.

Discovery Points to Treatment Approach for Fragile X Syndrome

New research has found that many of the symptoms of fragile X syndrome, the most common cause of inherited mental retardation, can be eliminated in mice by reducing the expression of a single gene in the brain. The study suggests that the gene is a prime target for drugs to alleviate symptoms of the disorder, for which there is currently no specific treatment. This research was published in the December 20, 2007, issue of *Neuron* by Mark F. Bear, Ph.D., HHMI investigator, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. For the full story, go to:

www.hhmi.org/news/bear20071220.html.

Structure of Synaptic Connectors Solved

Researchers have a new picture of how neurons forge physical connections between one another in order to communicate. Establishing these connections is critical for proper brain function, and errors in the process are thought to be associated with autism and other disorders. This research was published in the December 20, 2007, issue of *Neuron* by Axel T. Brunger, Ph.D., HHMI investigator at Stanford University and Thomas C. Südhof, M.D., HHMI investigator at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. For the full story, go to:

www.hhmi.org/news/brungersudhof20071219.html.

TSC CLINICAL TRIALS

TSC Clinical Trials

A list of clinical trials that are currently enrolling study participants can be viewed on the TS Alliance web site at: <http://tsalliance.easycgi.com/pages.aspx?content=370>

INFORMATION ABOUT TSC

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

This is the January 2008 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 February 2008 *TSC Alert* contact: vwhitemore@tsalliance.org

Archived issues of the TSC Alert can be found at: <http://www.tsalliance.org/pages.aspx?content=25>