The Non-K’s of the CDA’s: Non-NIH Funding for Career Development

May 8, 2017
K Tutorial (NIH K and other CDAs)

- open to anyone preparing any career development award
- in class, 6-hour, step-by-step instruction based on the K award

Class 1: Wednesday, June 7, 9:00am-12:00pm
Class 2: Wednesday, June 14, 9:00am-12:00pm

Who should attend?

• This series is open to all Postdocs, Instructors, Assistant Professors (and equivalent)
• If you are planning to submit a grant proposal (A0 or A1) within the next 6-9 months – you should attend! We have learned from experience (over 160 grants submitted by students in our program) that early planning is a key to success
• We are happy to have candidates who are planning for any kind of NIH K, VA CDA, or other Career Development or Young Investigator award

To enroll, email Dr. Janet Gross at jsgros2@emory.edu with the following required information:

• Biographical sketch following the specific instructions for K series Career Development Awards (see special K instructions in the K Application Guide)
• Title of project (200 characters max, including spaces and punctuation)
• Current position at Emory – must include your official title, lab, mentor, year postdoc began, or year your current rank began
• Award category (e.g., K01) and NIH Institute (e.g., NCI)
K-Club Specials:
Some Open Seed Funding Opportunities

**WHSC Synergy Awards**


- Proposals must include faculty members (primary appointment) from at least two schools (SOM, SON or SPH) as co-principal investigators
- $100,000 for one year
- Deadline: 6/30/17

**Atlantic Pediatric Device Consortium Innovation Competition**

http://atlanticpediatricdeviceconsortium.org/innovation-competition

- Towards developing, testing or commercializing a pediatric medical device
- $50,000 max for one year
- Deadline: 7/31/17
Survey Drawing
Today’s Panel and their Successful Awards

• **Glaivy Batsuli, MD**  
  Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
  - HTRS MRA

• **Abhinav Dey, PhD**  
  Postdoctoral Fellow, Dept of Pediatrics, Aflac  
  - Alex’s Lemonade Stand, Young Investigator Grant

• **Rebecca Levit, MD**  
  Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiology  
  - AHA SDG

• **Katherine Minson, MD**  
  Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Aflac  
  - When Everyone Survives Foundation

• **Alanna Morris, MD, MSc**  
  Assistant Professor of Medicine, Div of Cardiology  
  - Harold Amos Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

• **Cherry Wongtrakool, MD**  
  Assistant Professor, Dept of Medicine, Pulmonary  
  - VA CDA-2
“Insider’s Information” we’ll learn today

1. How did they learn about the opportunity?
2. What special preparations did they make before submitting?
3. How was the application process similar to/different from an NIH K?
4. Is the funding viewed as supplemental funds or replacement funds for a K?
5. How will this award help them achieve their research goals?
6. What special opportunities have been afforded to them via this special award?
7. Did they make any special collaborative or networking connections as a result of this award?
2016 HTRS Mentored Research Award Recipients

Glaivy M. Batsuli, MD

Joan D. Beckman, MD, PhD

Peter H. Cygan, MD

Lindsey A. George, MD

Riten Kumar, MD, MSc

Arash Mahajerin, MD, MSCr
Hemostasis & Thrombosis Research Society (HTRS) Mentored Research Award

http://www.htrs.org/HTRS/Grants-Awards/Mentored-Research-Awards

• **Eligibility:** For MD or DO fellows or junior attending/junior faculty

• **Theme supported:** Clinical or basic research in the fields of hemostasis and/or thrombosis

• **Funds available:** $162,000 ($81,000 per year for two years)

• **Deadline:** TBA (last funding cycle deadline was 11/2/16)

• **Special Notes:**
  – Pre proposal phase is required; full application accepted upon invitation only
  – Must have 50% research effort and at least half of that must be dedicated to the HTRS funded project
  – Mentor must be a member of HTRS in good standing and their career/research focus is in hemostasis and thrombosis
  – Unique statistical support emphasis
Abhinav Dey, PhD

Project Title: The YB1 Way of Surviving Radiation, Pediatric Brain Tumor Resistance and Recurrence
Institution: Emory University
Grant Type: Young Investigator Grants
Year Awarded: 2015
Type of Childhood Cancer: Brain Tumors, Medulloblastoma

Project Description:
Background

Medulloblastomas, the most common solid malignant pediatric tumor, arise in the developing cerebellum, a part of the brain controlling posture and coordination which develops during childhood. These tumors are currently treated with surgery, cranio-spinal radiation, and chemotherapy. Survivors suffer devastating life-long side effects due to the damage these treatments do to the still-developing brain, and metastasis and recurrence are lethal.

Project Goal

Our goal is to understand how molecules that regulate normal brain development can be hijacked by tumor cells, causing
Alex’s Lemonade Stand — Young Investigator Grants

https://www.alexslemonade.org/grants/program-areas/early-career-research-programs

- **Eligibility:** Must have MD and/or PhD, but be in early career stage, no higher than Instructor

- **Theme supported:** Pediatric cancer research

- **Funds available:** $150K ($50K for three years)

- **Deadline:** TBA (last funding cycle deadline was 12/15/16)

- **Special Notes:**
  - Applicants must show outstanding mentorship and demonstration of a career plan that shows commitment to pediatric cancer investigation
  - Requires a minimum of 75% protected research time
  - Cannot concurrently hold individual F or K funding
REBECCA D LEVIT, MD
Cardiology
Emory Clinic
Emory Healthcare Network Physician

American Heart Association
Professional Heart Daily

GEORGIA
LEVIT, Rebecca MD
Program Type: Scientist Development Grant/Portfolio  Funding Source: Association Wide  Institution: Emory University, Atlanta  City: Atlanta  Project Title: Encapsulated mesenchymal stem cells as therapy for ischemia-reperfusion via neutrophil regulation  Award Start Date: 1/1/2014  Award End Date: 12/31/2017  Total Years: 4  Total Award Amount: $308,000
American Heart Association
Scientist Development Grant Program
https://professional.heart.org/professional/ResearchPrograms/ApplicationInformation/UCM_443318_Scientist-Development-Grant.jsp

- **Eligibility:** M.D., Ph.D., D.O., D.V.M. or equivalent doctoral degree at time of application. May be in final year of postdoc research fellowship or no more than 4 years within faculty appointment

- **Themes supported:** All basic, behavioral, epidemiological, and community and clinical investigations that bear on and are broadly related to cardiovascular and stroke problems.

- **Funds available:** $77K annually for 3 years (includes 10% indirect costs)

- **Deadline:** TBD (last deadline was 2/14/17)

- **Special Notes:** A Scientist Development Grant and an NIH mentored K-series award cannot be held concurrently
**Funding for 2016**

**Researcher** - Kathrine Minson  
**Facility** - Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center Leukemia and Lymphoma Program at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta  
**Location** - Atlanta, GA  
**Amount** - $50,000.00  
**Overview** - Dr. Minson is an attending physician in the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center Leukemia and Lymphoma Program at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and an Assistant Professor in the Emory University School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics. She earned her BS in biochemistry and molecular biology from Penn State University in 2005 and her MD from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2009. Dr. Minson went on to complete a residency in Pediatrics at Vanderbilt University and a fellowship in Pediatric Hematology-Oncology at the Children’s Hospital Colorado and University of Colorado where she evaluated a novel small molecule inhibitor aimed at the treatment of AML under the guidance of Dr. Doug Graham. She is currently a recipient of a career development award through the Atlanta Pediatric Scholars K12 Program and is continuing her laboratory research efforts focused on understanding mechanisms of leukemic resistance and development of new treatments for patients with AML.

We have developed a new treatment for acute myeloid leukemia (AML) that targets a protein called MERTK and is very effective with minimal side effects in animal models. This new medicine is moving into the clinic for testing in patients but one problem is that although the treatment increases survival in mouse models, in many cases it does not lead to a long-term cure. We will carry out studies aimed at identifying the proteins that are responsible for resistance to the new medicine in some tumors. These proteins might serve as markers so we can identify patients with tumors that will respond to MERTK therapy and/or could be targeted themselves to promote sensitivity to MERTK therapy. Thus, these studies will help us to understand and develop the most effective ways to use the new MERTK-targeted therapy to treat patients with leukemia, allowing for improved outcomes with less toxicity.
When Everyone Survives Foundation

http://www.wheneveryonesurvives.org/grant_application

- **Eligibility:** New and established investigators
- **Theme supported:** Laboratory, translational or clinical research related to leukemia
- **Funds available:** $50K for one year
- **Deadline:** TBA (last funding cycle deadline was March 1, 2017)
- **Special Notes:**
  - Renewal of initial research support may be considered for one or more additional years based upon productivity
  - Emphasis on “next steps” i.e. how you will use the data from the project, including any plans for NIH/NCI funding
Grants

Metabolomics, oxidative stress, and vascular function in heart failure – Alanna A. Morris, MD

The Foundation’s Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program was designed to provide four-year postdoctoral research awards offered to historically disadvantaged physicians who are committed to developing careers in academic medicine, to improving the health of underserved populations, and to furthering the understanding and elimination of health disparities. Heart failure is a common condition that affects more than 5.8 million Americans. This research project seeks to investigate whether: (1) biomarkers of systemic oxidative stress and nitric oxide bioavailability, (2) novel methods of assessing vascular function, and (3) metabolomic profiles are associated with heart failure hospitalizations, emergency department visits and death. For each aim, the scholar will examine if there are racial differences in the measured markers, to determine potential biologic mechanisms that contribute to observed racial disparities in heart failure severity and clinical outcomes.

GRANT DETAILS

Amount Awarded $420,000.00
Awarded on: 2/17/2016
Time frame: 2/15/2016 - 2/14/2020
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program

- **Eligibility:** Early-career clinicians (MD, DDS or RN) from historically disadvantaged backgrounds that have completed formal training

- **Themes supported:** This award supports basic/biomedical, clinical, dental, nursing, and health services/epidemiology research, in an effort to increase the diversity of the scientific workforce and support research towards elimination of health disparities.

- **Funds available:** $105,000 annually for four years

- **Deadline:** TBD (last deadline was 3/17/17)

- **Special Notes:**
  - Requires 70% dedicated research effort
  - The program defines the term “historically disadvantaged” to mean challenges facing individuals because of their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or other similar factors.
  - The purpose of the AMFDP award is to facilitate the transition of the newly-trained clinician who wishes to develop into an independent investigator. Thus, mentorship through AMFDP is a central focus of this program
Cherry Wongtrakool, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Department of Medicine

Office: VAMC Ext 7388
Phone: 404-321-6111
Email: cwongtr@emory.edu

Biography

Dr. Wongtrakool obtained an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from MIT and her medical degree from Cornell University Medical College. She completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Boston University School of Medicine in Boston, MA. She completed her pulmonary and critical care medicine fellowship at The Pulmonary Center at Boston University School of Medicine in Boston, MA. Upon finishing fellowship, she joined the Emory faculty as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine. In 2009, Dr. Wongtrakool moved her research program and clinical responsibilities to the Atlanta VA Medical Center. She is currently the Medical Director of the Pulmonary Function Laboratory at the Atlanta VA. She is also the Associate Program Director for the Pulmonary/Critical Care Fellowship.

Dr. Wongtrakool’s research focuses on the effects of nicotine exposure on lung function and structure, particularly as it relates to airway physiology and asthma. Her research has been funded through the NIH and the VA. One of her major interests relates to the interaction between nicotine and neuronal signaling in airway smooth muscle cells and lung fibroblasts. She also sees patients and supervises students, residents and fellows at the Atlanta VA. She is engaged in medical student education at Emory University School of Medicine.
VA CDA-2

**https://www.research.va.gov/funding/cdp.cfm**

- **Eligibility:** MD and PhD New Investigators; US Citizenship required; Need not have a VA appointment at time of application, but must be nominated by a VA facility and must identify an VA mentor

- **Theme supported:** BLR&D (Biomed Lab), HSR&D (Health Services), RR&D (Rehab) and CSR&D (Clinical Science)

- **Funds available:** Salary + $65K/yr research funding (RR&D) and $30K additional start-up (CSR&D, BLR&D); HSR&D research budget $40-50K/yr for 3-5 years of support

- **Deadline:** Varies per service; LOI is a required and full applications are by invitation only

- **Special Notes:**
  - For more information, see the VA intranet site: [http://vaww.research.va.gov/funding/]
Finding non NIH research funding opportunities

• Content specific awards are available in almost every medical discipline

• Capitalize on listserv’s and funding databases to do targeted searchers
  – Internal Communications: The BiRD, ACTSI Roundup,
  – Databases: Grantforward, Foundation Directory Online
  – Listserv’s: Professional Associations, Foundations

• Application requirements change often with the types of awards discussed today, so be sure to carefully check current call for applications and follow directions diligently
Questions for the Panel
Thrasher Foundation Early Career Award Program
http://www.thrasherresearch.org/

- **Eligibility:** Ph.D. (for no more than 3 yrs) or M.D. (out of fellowship/residency for no more that 1 yr)/Other Professional; citizenship is unrestricted; Must not hold NIH K award.

- **Themes supported:** A variety of clinical/translational pediatric research topics that address a variety of significant pediatric problems. Both incidence and severity are considered when determining the significance of the proposed topic. The Fund supports research both within and outside the United States.

- **Funds available:** $25K direct costs max over 2 years max

- **Deadline:** Concept Paper: Sept 19, 2017; Proposal Submission (by invitation only): Nov 3, 2017

- **Special Notes:**
  - Must not hold NIH K award
  - Mentor required for the Early Career Award Program; A non CDA “Research Fund Award” providing median award of $320K for up to 3 years is also offered by Thrasher.