



## NEWS RELEASE

### **For Immediate Release**

Contact: Reiko Fitzsimonds/rfitzsimonds@ddcf.org

**DORIS DUKE**  
**CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

Medical Research Program

## **14 Junior Physician-Scientists Receive Grants Totaling \$5.67 Million to Support Their Transition to Independence as Clinical Researchers**

NEW YORK, July 28, 2009 – The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation has selected 14 physician-scientists conducting clinical research to receive 2009 Clinical Scientist Development Awards of \$135,000 per year for three years. (See page 2 for a list of awardees.)

The Clinical Scientist Development Award (CSDA) is one of the foundation's three "pipeline" programs supporting the career paths of physician-scientists. The CSDA provides start-up funding for physician-scientists establishing their own research teams and enables them to protect 75% of their professional time for clinical research. This year's awardees are studying areas as diverse as cancer, AIDS and autism.

"We are pleased to support these outstanding investigators working in 11 states across the country," said Ed Henry, president of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. "We hope the foundation's grants will provide the stability and flexibility they need to help ensure the successful launch of their independent clinical research careers."

For the 2009 competition, U.S. accredited, degree-granting institutions were invited to nominate up to two junior faculty-level physician-scientists conducting clinical research in any disease area. Institutions were allowed to nominate a third candidate if at least one of the nominees was from a historically disadvantaged background (ethnic, financial, or educational).

A standing panel of 24 experts, including 15 Doris Duke Distinguished Clinical Scientists, reviewed 153 nominee proposals and recommended the strongest candidates for funding. Including the new grants, the foundation has awarded 159 Clinical Scientist Development Awards since 1998 totaling approximately \$68 million.

The foundation expects to launch its next Clinical Scientist Development Award competition in the fall of 2009 with awards to be made in mid-2010. In addition to the CSDA, the DDCF Medical Research Program supports two other programs that provide funding for physician-scientists at different stages of their careers. The Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship program supports one year of mentored research for medical students, and the Distinguished Clinical Scientist Award program supports clinical research and mentoring activities of mid-career investigators.

Since 1998, the foundation's Medical Research Program has committed approximately \$185 million to strengthen and support clinical research, which advances the translation of basic biomedical discoveries into new treatments, preventions and cures for human diseases. To learn more about the program or to receive competition announcements, visit [www.ddcf.org/mrp](http://www.ddcf.org/mrp).

*The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and the prevention of child maltreatment, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties.*

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### **2009 Doris Duke Clinical Scientist Development Award Recipients**

(listed alphabetically by last name)

**Benjamin S. Abella, MD MPhil**

University of Pennsylvania  
*Quality of Cardiac Arrest Resuscitation Care and Effects on Post-Reperfusion Pathophysiology*

**Christopher M. Adams, MD, PhD**

University of Iowa  
*Molecular Biology of Skeletal Muscle Atrophy*

**Timothy A. Chan, MD, PhD**

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
*Analysis of the Phosphatase PTPRD, a Widely Inactivated Tumor Suppressor in Glioma*

**Kavita M. Dhodapkar, MBBS**

Yale University  
*Regulation of Fc Gamma Receptors in Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura*

**Kevin C. Ess, MD, PhD**

Vanderbilt University  
*Neurogenesis in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex*

**Rasheed A. Gbadegesin, MD**

Duke University  
*A New Locus for Familial FSGS & GWAS Study of Childhood Nephrotic Syndrome*

**Marc K. Halushka, MD, PhD**

Johns Hopkins University  
*Advanced Glycation End Products Induce Endothelial Mesenchymal Transform*

**Hanlee Ji, MD**

Stanford University School of Medicine  
*Prognostic Genetics of Chromosome Arm 18q Aberrations in Colorectal Cancer*

**Mathias D. Lichterfeld, MD, PhD**

Massachusetts General Hospital  
Harvard School of Medicine  
*Stem Cell Characteristics of HIV-1-specific T cells*

**Robert McCullumsmith, MD, PhD**

University of Alabama at Birmingham  
*Abnormalities of Glutamate Transporter Localization in Schizophrenia*

**Michael J. Minzenberg, MD**

University of California, Davis  
*Neuroimaging of Locus Coeruleus Modulation for Cognitive Disability in Schizophrenia*

**Adam J. Ratner, MD, MPH**

Columbia University  
*Novel Approaches to Bacterial Vaginosis: Diagnostics and Risk Factors*

**Alexandra L. Sporn, MD**

Columbia University  
*Language Deficits in Autism: Image-Guided Non-Invasive Brain Stimulation*

**Olaf Stuve, MD, PhD**

University of Texas Southwestern  
*Determining Cellular Immune Responses against Aquaporin 4 in Patients with Neuromyelitis Optica*