

# Research Grants and Training Awards 2011-2012

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The Alzheimer Society Research Program (ASRP) celebrates 24 years of funding Canadian researchers in the field of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. We are pleased to announce the following 2012 ASRP grants and awards:

- Biomedical Doctoral and Post-doctoral Awards
- Biomedical Grants
- Quality of Life Doctoral and Post-doctoral Awards
- Quality of Life Grants

We would like to acknowledge and thank our donors and partners in these grants and awards, including, Les Dakens, Canadian Dementia Knowledge Translation Network (CDKTN) and the Alzheimer Society of British Columbia.

We also extend our thanks to the Alzheimer Societies who generously contribute to the Alzheimer Society Research Program, each year.

- Alzheimer Society of B.C.
- Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories
- Alzheimer Society Of Saskatchewan
- Alzheimer Society of Manitoba
- Alzheimer Society of Ontario and Chapters (Belleville-Hastings-Quinte, Brant, Cambridge, Chatham-Kent, Cornwall & District, Dufferin County, Durham Region, Elgin-St. Thomas, Simcoe County, Grey-Bruce, Guelph-Wellington, Haldimand-Norfolk, Hamilton and Halton, Huron County, Kenora/Rainy River Districts, Kingston, Kitchener-Waterloo, Lanark County, Leeds-Grenville, London and Middlesex, Muskoka, Niagara Region, North Bay & District, Ottawa and Renfrew County, Oxford, Peel, Perth County, Peterborough Kawartha Lakes Northumberland & Haliburton, Prince Edward County, Sarnia-Lambton, Sault Ste. Marie & Algoma District, Sudbury-Manitoulin, Thunder Bay, Timmins-Porcupine District, Toronto, Windsor-Essex County, York Region)
- Federation of Quebec Alzheimer Societies and Chapters (Bas Saint-Laurent, Centre du Québec, Chaudière-Appalaches, Côte-Nord, l'Estrie, Gaspésie les Îles, Granby et Régions, Haut-Richelieu, Lanaudière, Laurentides, Laval, Maskoutains-Vallée des Patriotes, Montréal, Outaouais Québécois, Québec, Rouyn-Noranda, Sagamie-Saguenay-Lac St-Jean, Suroît, Vallée de l'Or)

- Alzheimer Society of New Brunswick
- Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia
- Alzheimer Society of Prince Edward Island
- Alzheimer Society of Newfoundland & Labrador

Based on excellence and relevance, we are pleased to announce the following grants and awards approved by the Peer Review Panels for the 2011-2012 granting year:

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## **Biomedical Doctoral Awards**

### **Chulmin Cho**

McGill University, Jewish General Hospital, Lady Davis Institute

\$61,590

**Therapeutic importance of drebrin in amelioration of synaptic dysfunction in Alzheimer's disease**

### **Félix Jules**

Université de Montréal, Centre de Recherche de l'hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont

\$41,060

**Characterization of a novel therapeutic target for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease**

### **Patricia Leighton**

University of Alberta

\$61,590

**Uncovering mechanisms of A-beta 42 toxicity and normal roles of amyloid precursor protein (APP) using zebrafish models of Alzheimer's disease**

*Recipient of the Annie Dakens Research Fund Award*

### **Maxime Montembeault**

Centre de Recherche de l'Institut Universitaire de Gériatrie de Montréal

\$61,590

**Characterization of semantic deficits and their anatomical bases in Alzheimer's disease and Semantic dementia patients**

### **Franck Petry**

Université Laval

\$61,590

**The effect of Type 1 diabetes on pathogenesis of tau in vivo**

### **Maria Lisa Putorti**

McGill University

\$61,590

**Effects of Caspase-6 gene polymorphisms in Alzheimer's disease**

**Deborah Schwartz**

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care (Toronto)

\$61,590

**The impact of visceral fat and sex-steroid hormones on brain health**

**Amanda Tyndall**

Hotchkiss Brain Institute, University of Calgary

\$61,590

**Cardiovascular fitness modulation of cerebrovascular reserve and cognition in older adults**

**Yanlin Wang**

University of Alberta

\$41,060

**Role of the insulin-like growth factor-II (IGF-II) receptor in beta-amyloid metabolism and its implications in Alzheimer's disease pathology**

## **Biomedical Post-Doctoral Awards**

**Carrie Esopenko**

Baycrest Geriatric Centre

\$81,000

**A multimodal neuroimaging and behavioural examination of the relationship between repetitive traumatic brain injuries and aging in retired National Hockey League players**

**Shireen Hossain**

McGill University

\$81,000

**Defining the process of aggregate-formation of AB42 peptide in Alzheimer's disease and its relevance to toxicity and disease**

## **Biomedical Grants**

### **Isabelle Aubert**

Sunnybrook Research Institute

\$150,000

**Treatments using MRI-guided focused ultrasound to improve neuronal survival and cognitive functions in a pre-clinical model of Alzheimer's disease**

### **Liisa Galea**

University of British Columbia

\$150,000

**Estrone- versus Estradiol-based HRTs effects on cognition and brain plasticity: interaction with reproductive experience**

*Recipient of the Alzheimer Society of British Columbia Biomedical Research Grant*

### **Sheena Josselyn**

Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto

\$150,000

**Examining the role of AMPA receptor endocytosis in the memory deficits associated with Alzheimer's disease**

### **Georges Levesque**

Laval University

\$150,000

**Ribozyme as a new therapeutic molecule**

### **JoAnne McLaurin**

University of Toronto

\$145,520

**In situ concerted expression of growth hormone and prolactin rescue defects in neurogenesis in the TgCRND8 mouse model of AD**

### **Romina Mizrahi**

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, University of Toronto

\$149,024

**F-18-FEPPA: a novel in-vivo molecular biomarker of neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's disease**

**Hemant Paudel**

Lady Davis Institute, McGill University

\$150,000

**Restoration of synapse loss in Alzheimer's disease by replenishment of drebrin in the CNS**

**Emmanuel Planel**

Université Laval

\$150,000

**Real-time imaging of brain immune responses in mouse models of tauopathies**

**Eric Smith**

University of Calgary

\$37,848

**Neuropsychological and cerebral blood flow profile of cerebral amyloid angiopathy**

**Biomedical Young Investigator Grants**

**Simon Duchesne**

Université Laval

\$224,318

**Automated hippocampal segmentation certification: a necessary step for trajectory research in Alzheimer's disease**

**Maria Carmela Tartaglia**

University of Toronto

\$149,940

**Assessing changes in social cognition and personality in neurodegenerative diseases and determining their neuroanatomical correlates**

## Quality of Life Doctoral Awards

### Cassandra Brown

University of Victoria

\$41,060

**Loneliness, social cognition, and social participation in carers for partners with dementia**

### Allison Cammer

University of Saskatchewan

\$61,590

**An examination of nutrition care policy and care staff decision-making practices regarding rural long-term care residents with dementia**

### Sienna Caspar

University of British Columbia

\$41,060

**The Influence of institutional texts on the provision of person-centred care in long-term care settings**

### Correne DeCarlo

University of Victoria

\$61,590

**Biological aging: predicting age-related cognitive decline**

## Quality of Life Post-Doctoral Awards

### Joshua Armstrong

Dalhousie University

\$81,000

**Clinico-mathematical approach to the fog of Alzheimer's disease: Application of novel mathematical methods to large health databases**

### Lana Ozen

Lakehead University

\$81,000

**The efficacy of Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) to improve depression symptoms and quality of life in individuals with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers: a pilot study**

**Rozanne Wilson**

University of British Columbia

\$40,500

**Communication strategies training for formal caregivers assisting residents with moderate to severe Alzheimer's during activities of daily living**

*This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program (ASRP) and the Canadian Dementia Knowledge Translation Network (CDKTN) through the Research Training Awards Program on Knowledge Translation and Dementia.*

## **Quality of Life Grants**

**Hélène Kergoat**

Institut universitaire de gériatrie de Montréal

\$119,800

**Validation of screening tools for visual impairment in middle stage and late stage dementia**

**Carol Hudon**

Centre de recherche de l'Institut universitaire en santé mentale de Québec

\$118,698

**Establishing a therapeutic intervention targeting the nature of the burden and support needs of individuals with a loved one suffering from a mild amnesic cognitive impairment**

**Katherine McGilton**

Toronto Rehabilitation Institute - University Health Network

\$112,410

**An intervention to improve interactions between staff and residents with dementia**

**Alex Mihailidis**

University of Toronto

\$118,040

**Toward developing an assistive technology framework for older adults with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias: A user-centered design approach**

**Shannon Spenceley**

University of Lethbridge

\$83,207

**Moral distress in the care of persons with Alzheimer's disease in residential care facilities**