Research Grants and Training Awards
2013-2014

The Alzheimer Society Research Program (ASRP) celebrates 26 years of funding Canadian researchers in the field of Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias. We are pleased to announce the following 2014 ASRP grants and awards:

- Biomedical Doctoral and Post-doctoral Awards;
- Biomedical Grants and New Investigator Grants;
- Quality of Life Doctoral and Post-doctoral Awards;
- Quality of Life Grants and New Investigator Grants;

We would like to acknowledge and thank our donors and partners in these grants and awards, including Les Dakens, the McKerroll family, Pacific Alzheimer Research Foundation, Alzheimer Drug Discovery Foundation, and Fonds de recherche Quebec-Santé (FRQS).

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
- 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 2013-2014 granting year:

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**Biomedical Doctoral Awards**

**Benjamin Kolisnyk**  
University of Western Ontario  
$ 66,000  
*Unveiling and correcting molecular dysfunctions due to cholinergic failure in Alzheimer’s disease*  
*Recipient of the Annie Dakens Research Fund Award*

**Laura Ansell**  
University of Calgary  
$ 66,000  
*A Novel Role for Endogenous Amyloid Beta Protein in Stroke Induced Alzheimer’s Disease*

**Shenghua Zhu**  
University of Manitoba  
$ 66,000  
*Oligodendrocyte dysfunction in Alzheimer’s disease: mechanism and target for treatment*

**Maude Gratuze**  
Laval University  
$ 66,000  
*Impact of diabetes and obesity on tau pathology*

**Paul McKeever**  
University of Toronto  
$ 66,000  
*Translational Profiling of Cholinergic Neurons in the TgCRND8 Mouse Model of Alzheimer’s Disease*

**Prateep Pakavathkumar**  
Jewish General Hospital  
$ 66,000  
*Studying Caspase-6 inhibitors in vitro and in vivo for the development of a novel therapeutic approach against Alzheimer Disease*  
*This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program (ASRP) and the Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS)*

**Kim Miredin**  
McGill University
Increasing Noradrenaline to Promote Plasticity and Strengthen Learning in a Mouse model of Alzheimer's Disease

**Biomedical Post-Doctoral Awards**

**Beverly Francis**  
McMaster University  
$83,000  
The Aβ-tau axis in cholinergic cell death: loss of trophic support

**Shivraj Jhala**  
McGill University  
$83,000  
Neuronal and astroglial dysfunctions mimicking alzheimer's disease alter sensory-evoked neuronal activity and hemodynamic responses

**Rebecca MacPherson**  
University of Guelph  
$83,000  
Exercise induced changes in brain AMPK signalling and tau phosphorylation

**Yohan D'Souza**  
Queen's University  
$83,000  
Mechanisms of cognitive deficit and rescue of CREB signalling in a novel oxidative stress-based model of Alzheimer's disease

**Caroline Huard**  
Centre de recherche du CHU de Québec, CHUL  
$83,000  
Study of the impact of miR-15 microRNA deregulation in Alzheimer's disease

**Biomedical Grants**

**Frederic Calon**  
Laval University  
$150,000  
Does a thermoregulatory deficit contribute to Alzheimer's disease?
Elizabeth Finger
University of Western Ontario
$74,298
Delineating Early Functional Neural Pathology in Frontotemporal Dementia
Recipient of the McKerroll Family Biomedical Research Grant

Gordon Glazner
St Boniface Hospital Research Centre
$150,000
Testing secreted amyloid precursor protein as a therapeutic agent in a murine model of diabetes-linked dementia

James Johnson
University of British Columbia
$150,000
Can the loss of brain-derived insulin cause Alzheimer's disease?
This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program (ASRP) and the Pacific Alzheimer Research Foundation (PARF)

Krista Lanctot
Sunnybrook Research Institute
$111,626
Safety and efficacy of nabilone in institutionalized patients with Alzheimer's Disease: a pilot study

Marinko Sarunic
Simon Fraser University
$150,000
Non-invasive imaging of Alzheimer's Disease biomarkers in the brain and eye
This project is jointly funded by the Alzheimer Society Research Program (ASRP) and the Pacific Alzheimer Research Foundation (PARF)

Tom Schweizer
St. Michael's Hospital
$149,926
Driving in Alzheimer’s disease and Mild Cognitive Impairment: An immersive MRI study

David Vocadlo
Simon Fraser University
$150,000
Protective mechanism of O-glycosylation inhibitors in Alzheimer disease.
Biomedical New Investigator Grants

Chantelle Sephton
Laval University
$225,000
Post-transcriptional Regulation of RNA by TDP-43 and FUS in FTLD.

Hideto Takahashi
Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM)
$225,000
Roles of synaptogenic cell-adhesion complexes in synapse loss and preservation in Alzheimer's disease

Quality of Life Post-Doctoral Awards

Sienna Casper
University of Toronto
$83,000
Implementing a responsive leadership intervention in residential care facilities: A feasibility study

Jessica Pace
McMaster University
$83,000
Visualizing dementia: Using photovoice to document and understand southern and central Labrador Inuit experiences with Alzheimer's disease and dementia

Quality of Life Grants

Alison Phinney
University of British Columbia
$119,870
Promoting Social Citizenship for People with Dementia through Community-Based Programming

Teresa Liu-Ambrose
University of British Columbia
$119,938
Falls in Mild Cognitive Impairment: An Indicator of Increased Dementia Risk?
Dawn Guthrie
Wilfrid Laurier University
$119,998
The development of a screening tool for caregiver burden in home care

Normand Teasdale
Laval University
$119,113
Improving driving skills in persons with mild cognitive impairment

Quality of Life New Investigator Grants

Frank Rudzicz
University of Toronto
$180,000
Software to engage individuals with Alzheimer’s disease in conversation in support of speech therapy