Annual Internal Medicine Research Awards

On May 30, at a special Internal Medicine grand rounds, three researchers received the 2008 Internal Medicine Research Awards for exceptional achievements in research. The researchers and their awards are:

James O’Dell, MD, chief, Section of Rheumatology/Immunology, Internal Medicine Career Excellence Research Award

Peter Oldenburg, PhD, post-doctoral Research Associate, Section of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Sleep, and Allergy Medicine, Internal Medicine Post-doctoral Research Award

Brian Fay, MD, house officer III, Department of Internal Medicine, Internal Medicine Resident Research Award

James O’Dell, MD, received the Internal Medicine Career Excellence Research Award for 2008. This award was created to recognize faculty in the Department of Internal Medicine for remarkable research achievements that have been recognized nationally and internationally throughout their career.

Dr. O’Dell “is recognized internationally as a thought leader in rheumatoid arthritis (RA),” his nominator said. He “has made several seminal contributions to the improvements in RA therapy.”

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Message From The Chair . . .

The end of the academic year is a time for us to reflect on the activities and goals of the past year. In this issue of the departmental newsletter, we highlight many of the accomplishments by outlining the awards given to faculty and trainees within our department. I would like to specifically recognize the academic efforts our residents and fellows: Drs. Brian Fay, Peter Oldenburg, Benjamin Miriovsky and Trevor Van Schooneveld should each be congratulated for their academic endeavors and achievements.

In addition, I would like to publically acknowledge the graciousness of Robert and Virginia Grissom in establishing an endowment fund to recognize superior performance by our residents. It is particularly fitting that Dr. Grissom will be continually linked to our Residency Program by these awards. Dr. Grissom is in essence the “founding father” of the Department; and, he essentially laid the groundwork for what it means to be an internist and to train internists at UNMC. The Department is both indebted and grateful to the Grissoms for this most kind gift.

Dr. Lynell Klassen
Among rheumatologists, Dr. O’Dell is known for his research focused on combination disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARD) and the use of tetracyclines as therapy for RA. His study examining triple combination DMARD therapy in the treatment of refractory RA published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 1995 is perhaps his best known work.

Dr. O’Dell has been extremely productive in his research efforts. He has been first author on over 60 journal articles or book chapters and has had a history of grant funding since 1985. He has been a reviewer for prestigious journals including the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the *Journal of Rheumatology* and the *Journal of Gastroenterology* and has served as co-editor of *Arthritis and Rheumatism* since 2005. Dr. O’Dell has also held numerous committee positions within the American College of Rheumatology and is a member of their Board of Directors. He has given over 100 invited lectures.

He has also been very successful in other aspects of his career as demonstrated by the many leadership roles he has assumed in regional and local organizations and institutional positions and committees. He has served as Chief, Section of Rheumatology/Immunology since 1990; Vice Chairman, Department of Internal Medicine since 1997; and Chief of Rheumatology, Omaha, VAMC, since 2005. Dr. O’Dell has also held numerous committee positions within the American College of Rheumatology and is a member of their Board of Directors. He has given over 100 invited lectures.

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**Peter Oldenburg, PhD**, received the first Internal Medicine Postdoctoral Research Award.

Dr. Oldenburg completed his PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology at Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University in 2005. Later that year, he began as a postdoctoral research associate in the Pulmonary, Critical Care, Sleep, and Allergy Medicine Section of Internal Medicine at UNMC. His research focus is on alcohol exposure in airway hyperresponsiveness.

Since starting his postdoctoral fellowship at UNMC, Dr. Oldenburg has been quite productive. In 2007, he was awarded an NIH National Research Service Award Postdoctoral Fellowship and has published two articles in the *American Journal of Physiology: Heart and Circulatory Physiology*.

Dr. Oldenburg’s nominator said Dr. Oldenburg used methodology new to our campus that measures lung function in unrestrained mice using whole body plethysmography. By this methodology, Dr. Oldenburg was clearly able to demonstrate that alcohol acts as a potent bronchodilator and prevents bronchoconstriction in a mouse model. Dr. Oldenburg has also demonstrated that alcohol blocks methacholine-induced bronchoprovocation.

“These accomplishments demonstrate his competence, creativity and resourcefulness as a scientist,” his nominator said.

Dr. Oldenburg has also demonstrated a valuable quality as an investigator through his ability to productively collaborate with other investigators. “He has been able to apply the technology of live lung body plethysmography to a number of ongoing projects of other scientists in the department,” his nominator said.

**Brian Fay, M.D.**, received the Internal Medicine Resident Research Award for 2008.

Dr. Fay graduated from pharmacy school prior to attending medical school. He was selected to Alpha
Omega Alpha as a junior medical student, and graduated from UNMC medical school at the top of his class. According to his nominator, he has continued his history by also being at the top of his peer group in terms of his knowledge base and clinical judgment during his residency. Dr. Fay’s in-training examination scores have been in the top one percent of the country.

“Brian has shown outstanding initiative and persistence in completing several projects and starting several others,” his nominator said.

Dr. Fay recently had a paper published in the *Journal of Clinical Rheumatology* titled “Minocycline-Induced Hyperpigmentation in Rheumatoid Arthritis.” He conducted an initial study looking at infections in patients with rheumatoid arthritis who are on tumor necrosis factor-α inhibitors in a VA population and is extending his work thru a nationwide VA database. He will also be presenting this work at the national meeting of the American College of Rheumatology meeting in October 2008.

Dr. Fay will also serve as Chief Resident of Internal Medicine at UNMC for the academic year 2008-2009.

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**In the News . . .**

**Internal Medicine Faculty Honored in Sorrell Center for Health Science Education**

Three Internal Medicine faculty members are being honored in the new Michael F. Sorrell Center for Health Science Education that had its dedication opening on June 26. The Center was the result of several extremely generous contributions by benefactors. The lead gift was provided by Ruth and Bill Scott who requested that the building be named after Dr. Michael Sorrell. The Scotts also provided a gift to name the two main amphitheaters in the Sorrell Center after Dr. Fred Paustain and his wife, Mary Ann “Maisie” Paustain. Additionally, the UNMC Physicians’ contribution made it possible to honor Dr. LeeRoy Meyer, the faculty member who was credited with having had the greatest influence on more medical students than any other UNMC faculty member.
Research Briefs . . .

18th Annual RAIN Meeting and Symposium

Each April investigators and coordinators within the Rheumatoid Arthritis Investigative Network (RAIN) are invited to a meet in Omaha to discuss the progress of studies conducted during the year, to discuss publications that came out of the studies and to plan new studies they would like to initiate.

This year’s meeting, which was held April 26, was attended by 34 members from the 10 participating centers. Also, each year a rheumatologist from outside of the network is invited to give a talk and interact with the group. Robert Wortmann, MD, FACR, from Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, was the keynote speaker and spoke on inflammatory myopathies.

The founder of the network, James O’Dell, MD, said one thing that makes the network unique is that it gets everyone’s participation in determining the important questions that need to be asked. The network members then work as a whole to design a trial to address those questions. “This way they design better and more clinically relevant trials, and the participants have a sense of ownership of the trial,” Dr. O’Dell said.

For the second year, they have included a RAIN symposium the day prior to the RAIN meeting. Rheumatologists who are not in the network can come to this clinical symposium. An Internal Medicine grand rounds speaker is selected to coincide with the RAIN symposium and possibly the meeting. This year Judith James, MD, PhD, from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, spoke on lupus.

During the symposium the UNMC Internal Medicine rheumatology fellows present vignettes in the areas of the expertise of the attending investigators. There is an interactive discussion with the experts and the audience. “It is a very interactive participatory symposium,” Dr. O’Dell said.

Every other year the focus of the symposium is on rheumatoid arthritis. The alternate year they cover other rheumatic diseases of interest. Lupus, inflammatory muscle diseases and osteoporosis were highlighted this year for the 41 attendees to the symposium.

Drs. Andre Kalil and Junfeng Sun look at Use of Bayesian Methodology in Clinical Trials

Andre Kalil, MD, Section of Infectious Diseases and Junfeng Sun, PhD, COPH, Biostatistics, co-authored an article on the use of the Bayesian method of statistical analysis to re-evaluate five clinical trials for the treatment of severe sepsis, which appeared in the May issue of PLoS One, a journal published by the Public Library of Science. Although the Bayesian methodology has been successfully applied to other disciplines like chemistry, engineering, genetics and computational science, it has not been utilized in medical trials.

Using this methodology, investigators would look at all information available. Clinical trials are currently based on traditional statistics that do not include negative or unfavorable results. Dr. Kalil likened this to a judge who overlooks previous convictions of a regular criminal during sentencing.

Results of the five trials reviewed for therapies of a variety of sepsis-related problems were not as favorable when Bayesian methodology was applied. “These were multicenter trials, and the therapies have become standard of care now,” Dr. Kalil said. “But, when you look back, there’s a good amount of negative evidence for several therapies.”

From their study, Drs. Kalil and Sun developed a pocket reference for physicians to use when treating patients with severe sepsis.

Stephen Rennard, MD. Cited by The New York Times Article on Smoking Cessation

In The New York Times, May 20, 2008, article titled “Trying to Break Nicotine’s Grip,” the introduction and several articles were highlighted from a recent supplement to the American Journal of Medicine regarding smoking cessation. Dr. Rennard was the guest editor and wrote the introduction for this supplement.
More Research Briefs . . .

Swindells Co-Authors Largest Study to Evaluate Commonly Used Anti-HIV Drugs
Susan Swindells, MBBS, a long-standing member of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group and site principal investigator on the largest study ever conducted to evaluate commonly used anti-HIV drugs, co-authored an article published in the May 15, 2008, New England Journal of Medicine titled “Class-Sparing Regimens for Initial Treatment of HIV-1 Infection.” Dr. Swindells said the study confirmed the triple-drug therapy of efavirenz with nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTI), the therapy currently preferred by clinicians, is indeed the most effective treatment for initial HIV infection.

Miriovsky Receives One of Two Annual ACR Preceptorship Awards
Benjamin Miriovsky, MD, house officer I, received one of the two Resident Research Preceptorship awards given by the American College of Rheumatology in 2008. Dr. Miriovsky’s application is titled “The association of anti-CCP antibody and isotype concentration with disease burden in U.S. veterans with RA.”

Anti-CCP antibodies are very specific markers for rheumatoid arthritis. Traditionally, anti-CCP has been used in a dichotomous fashion, either a yes or no classification. Dr. Miriovsky will look at prognostic implications for disease course or severity based on the level of positivity. The study will be unique because not a lot is known about the prognostic and predictive capabilities of the test at this time.

Another unique feature of the study is that a lot of data will come from male patients. Males are in the minority of those affected by rheumatoid arthritis. The extensive, already-established Veterans Affairs Rheumatoid Arthritis (VARA) Registry, which contains longitudinal data for more than 1,100 veterans with RA, will be utilized for the study.

Dr. Ted Mikuls, the principal mentor for this project, will share his experience with VARA and outcomes-based research, and Kaleb Michaud, PhD, will share his expertise in outcomes-based research. Dr. Mikuls said, “This will be a great opportunity for Dr. Miriovsky to be engaged in outcomes research and at the same time to address a scientific question of substantial importance.”

Van Schooneveld, MD, receives Virology Fellows Research Training Award
Dr. Van Schooneveld, a joint UNMC/Creighton infectious diseases fellow, recently received a Bristol-Myers Squibb Virology Fellows Research Training award. The award was given to just 18 fellows around the nation this year as part of Bristol-Myers Squibb Virology’s effort to advance research and understanding of HIV/AIDS and chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. The program supports fellows to gain experience in epidemiological and clinical research in HIV/AIDS and or chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection.

Dr. Van Schooneveld’s research will look at improved monitoring of HIV drug levels. Susan Swindells, MBBS, medical director of the UNMC HIV Clinic, will be the primary mentor on Dr. Van Schooneveld's project and College of Pharmacy Dean Courtney Fletcher, PharmD, will assist Dr. Van Schooneveld with his research.

Faculty Hires . . .

Eugenia Raichlin, MD
Assistant Professor
Cardiology
Started 7/1/08

The Department and Section of Cardiology welcome Dr. Raichlin, the newest faculty member of the cardiology team. Dr. Raichlin’s previous position was senior cardiologist at the Heart Institute of the Chaim Sheba Medical Center, Tel Hashomer, Israel. Dr. Raichlin received her M.D. from Belarusian State Medical University, Minsk, Belarus/USSR and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Chaim Sheba Medical Center. She has also completed fellowships in cardiology, heart transplantation and heart failure, and coronary physiology and imaging. Her UNMC clinics will open in September, and her VA clinics will open later in 2008.
Education Highlights . . .

Annual NEBGEC Conference & NEBGEC Mini-fellowship

The Nebraska Geriatrics Education Center (NEBGEC) held its annual conference on July 11 and 12, in Omaha, with the goal of educating and serving many communities within Nebraska, according to the co-program director, Edward Vandenberg, MD, Section of Geriatrics and Gerontology. This year’s conference topic was “Best Practices: Care for the Complex Community Dwelling Older Adult.” The approximate 150 conference registrants came from varying disciplines and have variable backgrounds. The target audience included physicians, social workers, nurse practitioners, nurses, physician assistants, physical therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists and any professional interested in geriatric practice.

The conference organizers combined information about best practices with panels modeling good interdisciplinary team function. An important issue for discussion at the conference was the problem of transitions in care, which included issues on barriers for the rural-based health care providers in providing good transitional care.

For many of the attendees, this conference is also the beginning of a NEBGEC Mini-fellowship for those interested in the more extensive, 80-hour certification program. The required curriculum for the mini-fellowship includes at least one 2-day NEBGEC workshop, three internet-delivered online educational modules, and approximately 60 hours of electives that can be met in a variety of ways.

“It is a really important way for UNMC to share its knowledge with the state,” Dr. Vandenberg said. “Everything we do is televised including the annual conferences and evening conferences. They are specifically designed for busy practicing healthcare providers.” This year’s conference was televised to Grand Island, Scottsbluff, Lincoln, Norfolk, Pender and Kearney.

Although this is not the first time the mini-fellowship was offered, they hope it will be the first time to continue to completion. This educational program is made possible through a grant that Jane Potter, MD, the principal investigator, obtained through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). HRSA’s budget was cut when about a third of the way into the NEBGEC grant the first time. That program promised to be quite successful with approximately 100 registrants. When the program was cut, however, only 32 were able to complete the requirements. Although, it is expected that participants take no more than two years to complete the program, those who did not complete the course will have full credit for what they completed and can pick it up where they left off.

The program directors wanted to make everything easily accessible. Anyone with a computer and internet access, even through a dial-up modem, should be able to access the modules. Dr. Vandenberg said one of the success stories from the first program, through their distance education program, was a physician assistant who completed her educational requirements while serving as a National Guardsman in Afghanistan.

The directors believe that once the Geriatric Education Center is established and showing progress toward the goal, the program will continue. They feel confident that some of their evaluation pieces will demonstrate a level worthy of being refunded.

For more information about the NEBGEC Mini-fellowship go to http://www.unmc.edu/dept/intmed/geriatrics/nebgec/index.cfm?CONREF=36

Enhancement of Research Rotation

Under the direction of the Education Committee and the Internal Medicine Research Council, a formal process is now in place for residents wanting to complete a research rotation as part of their residency. This application process will enhance and make the residents research experience more productive. Before resident research months are incorporated into the rotation schedule, a formal collaboration between the resident and mentor must be submitted.

Thirteen residents chose to do a research rotation for the 2008-2009 academic year.

The application deadline for the 2009-2010 academic year is January 15, 2009. For guidelines and application go to http://info.unmc.edu/indexedres.html. From there click on: Educ/Research ➤ Colleges ➤ Internal Medicine ➤ Education ➤ Residents & Research.
In May, Dr. Tom Tape began a four-year term as governor of the Nebraska Chapter of the American College of Physicians (ACP). Dr. Tape, a fellow of the College and a member for over 25 years, was elected Nebraska’s ACP governor by local members. ACP is the largest medical-specialty organization and second-largest physician group in the United States. The governor supervises the chapter activities, appoints members to local committees, presides at regional meetings and represents the state at the two annual ACP Board of Governors’ meetings. Dr. Tape also recently attended Leadership Day on Capitol Hill, where he and other Nebraska ACP representatives met with staff of all three representatives and with both Sens. Chuck Hagel and Ben Nelson.

Scott Neumeister, MD, received the UNMC Outstanding Teaching Award for the 2007-2008 academic year. The award was presented at the Annual Faculty Meeting on April 29, 2008. An Honorary Degree and Awards Committee selects the recipient based on nominations submitted by students, faculty or a combination of both. Nominees must clearly demonstrate a meritorious record of excellence in teaching activities. According to Dr. Klassen, Dr. Neumeister is one of the top three teachers the department has ever produced.

Geoffrey Thiele, PhD, received the Golden Apple Award given by the M2 Class. The Golden Apple is an annual award presented by the local American Medical Student Association chapter to faculty members who, in the students’ opinion, have excelled in educational endeavors. Awards are given annually to M1 and M2 faculty.

At the Internal Medicine Resident Banquet held on June 20, 2008, Virginia and Robert Grissom were honored for their generous contribution for the establishment of the Virginia and Robert Grissom Internal Medicine Senior Resident Endowment Fund. When the Grissoms decided they wanted to make a contribution to the Internal Medicine Department for the residency program, they worked with the NU Foundation and the Department to endow a fund that would compliment what was already occurring within the residency program. The Grissoms liked the idea of the two senior resident awards that are selected by the residents themselves, the Caring Physician Award and the Resident Internist Award, which have traditionally been given for the past 20 years. Everyone agreed it would be nice to establish a cash prize to attach to these awards. Additionally, the Grissoms decided to contribute an extra amount so the cash award could begin this year.

The Department will now match the prize attached to these two awards so another award, the Senior Resident Award, which has traditionally been selected by the department to recognize other important qualities, will also have a cash prize attached to it.

Awards Given at the Resident Banquet on June 20

The Caring Physician Award - Katherine (Katie) Hanson
The Resident Internist Award - Brian Fay
The Senior Resident Award - William Lawton
Sir William Osler Teaching Award (Faculty) - Troy Plumb
House Officer of the Year - Brian Fay
Outstanding Performance by a Resident on UNMC Inpatient Geriatric Service - Rebecca Runge
LeeRoy Meyer Outstanding Student IM Award - Christopher Smith
Rookie of the Year Award - Eric Rome
Recruiter of the Year Award - Andrew Vasey
Most Valuable Player Award - Jill Faraci
Outpatient Care Award - Micah Beachy
2008 Dean’s “New” Research Grant Program will accept applications for support of up to $30,000 for one year to UNMC faculty to complete preliminary studies identified by previous grant reviews as needed to make an extramural application more competitive. Applications must be from investigators or groups of investigators who have submitted applications to extramural agencies that included indirect costs of at least $250,000 (entire grant period) and have received a competitive review. This program is not to be used for bridge funding of existing grants. Submission deadline is 9/02/08. For more information contact the Office of Research and Development at 559-8242.

101 on Earmark Funding

Due to limited federal funding from various agencies, congressional earmark funding may be something to consider.

According to a talk given by University of Nebraska Federal Relations Coordinator Matt Hammons and UNMC Director of Government Relations Mark Bowen, at their presentation on May 15, you may want to consider the following points:

- Congressional Earmarks are line-items in the congressional spending bill that allocate money for a specific purpose.
- Different agencies may have variable responses depending on the amount of funding they have.
- Congressional members champion various issues. Lobbyists try to approach members with proposals that are a good fit.
- UNMC is allowed 7 proposal
- Find forms for UNMC at [http://www.unmc.edu/dept/govtrelations](http://www.unmc.edu/dept/govtrelations)

Timeline:
- Proposal is due to UNMC Office of Government Relations by July 25, 2008.
- In August, projects are selected and prioritized by the campus.
- In September, concept summaries are submitted to lobbyist and NU administration for recommendations.
- In October, lobbyists visit to make any further recommendations.
- In November, chancellors prioritize again and submit to NU president for recommendations. Final revisions are made.
- In December, final proposals and supplemental materials are again submitted to NU president.
- In January, proposals are sent to the Nebraska Congressional offices. The NU federal team visits DC to present earmarks to Nebraska delegation.

**Characteristics of earmark funding:**
- The number of projects submitted are limited and targeted.
- Center projects are discouraged.
- Initial proposals should be brief and simple with an emphasis on benefits.
- Proposals are selected by campus review and funded based on Congressional support.
- The project’s end is fixed and measured by deliverables.

**Key questions for an earmark proposal**
- Why is this project needed?
- How does it align with UNMC’s strategic goals?
- Why is UNMC best positioned to do this?
- What will be the impact on Nebraska?
- Does it match the goals of the federal agency?
- What are the projected benefits?
- How will the project be sustained after the earmark?
- What is the budget?
- What are the five key talking points?
- What organizations support this project?
- Are there news articles or visuals to explain this project?
New Grant Awards

#2029 (Industry; Alita Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; PI is Elkahwaji) Prevention of cystitis by AP-89 and OM-89 in murine animal model of ascending urinary tract infection. 4/1/2008-9/30/2008 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $73,810.


#2046 (Industry; Sanofi Aventis; PI is Mukherjee) “A Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel Group Study of Rimonabant 20 mg Daily for the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetic Patients with Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH) Work Order No. 2. 5/28/2008-5/27/2009 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $56,302.

#2047 (Industry; Sanofi Aventis; PI is Mukherjee) “A Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel Group Study of Rimonabant 20 mg Daily for the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetic Patients with Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH) Work Order No. 1. 6/2/2008-6/1/2009 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $65,399.

#2048 (Industry; PAREXEL Intl. Corp.; PI is Mailliard) A Pahse 3 Study of 2 Dose Regimens of Telaprevir in Combination with Peginterferon Alfa 2A (Pegasys) and Ribavirin Copegus) in Treatment-Naive Subjects with Genotype 1 Chronic Hepatitis C. 5/22/2008-5/21/2009 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $46,535.

#2049 (Industry; Hyperion Therapeutics Inc; PI is McCashland) A Phase 2, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study of the Efficacy and Safety of Two Doses of AMMONUL (Sodium Phenylacetate and Sodium Benzonate) Injection 10% / 10% in Subjects with Grade 3 or 4 Hepatic Encephalopathy. 4/2/2008-4/1/2009 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $71,751.

#2051 (Industry; Genmab Inc.; PI is Bociek) An Open-Labeled, Randomized, Two-Dose, Parallel Group Trial of Ofatumumab, a Fully Human Monoclonal Anti-CD20 Antibody, in Combination with Fludarabine and Cyclophosphamide in Patients with Previously Untreated B-Cell Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. 5/20/2008-5/19/2009 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $60,579.

#2052 (Industry; Bradmer Pharmaceuticals Inc; PI is Bierman) A Phase III Randomized Study of Neuradiab in Combination with External Beam Radiation and Temozolomide Versus External Beam Radiation and Temozolomide in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Glioblastoma Multiforme. 5/1/2008-4/30/2009 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $136,943.


#2058 (Industry; Cyclacel, LTD; PI is Maness-Harris) A Randomized Phase II Study of Oral Sapacitabine in Elderly Patients with Acute Myeloid Leukemia Previously Untreated or in First Relapse. 5/14/2008-5/13/2009 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $36,795.
Internal Medicine Grant Activity (continued)  2nd Quarter 2008

#2061 (Industry; Pfizer, Inc.; PI is Rennard) A 24-Week, Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel-Group, Placebo Controlled, Multicenter, Multi-National Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of 18 mcg of Tiotropium Inhalation Capsules Administered by Handihaler Once Daily Plus prn Albuterol HFA . . . . 5/20/2008-5/19/2009 (Year 1) Direct Costs: $67,882.

Other Ongoing Grant Awards:

NIH Investigator-Initiated Grant Awards

#344 (NIAAA; PI is Klassen) Immune Responses to Acetaldehyde Adducts (R01/R37). 6/1/2008-5/31/2009 (Year 10) Direct Costs: $214,107

#1695 (PI is Mikuls) Gene-environment interactions in RA autoimmunity and disease severity. 5/1/2008-4/30/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $50,000.

#1705 (PI is Poole) Chronic Innate Immune Adaptation to Organic Dust (K08). 5/1/2008-4/30/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $121,000.

#1732 (PI is Clemens) Effects of ethanol on pancreas regeneration. 4/1/2008-3/31/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $118,750.

NIH Sub-Contracted

#1255 (U of Alabama at Birmingham; PI is Freifeld) A phase I/II randomized, placebo-controlled trial to assess the safety and efficacy of intravenous immunoglobulin G (Omr-IgG-Am) containing high anti-West Nile antibody titers in patients with or at high risk for progression to West Nile (WNV) encephalitis and/or Myelitis (CASG #210) (DMID #03-114). 6/16/2008-6/15/2009 (Year 5) Direct Costs: $3,401.

#350 (Children’s Mercy Hospital, Kansas City; PI is Haire) Nebraska Regional Hemophilia Treatment Center - MCHB . 6/1/2008-5/31/2009 (Year 11) Direct Costs: $29,167.

#1821 (Vanderbilt University Medical Center; PI is McKeithan) p53-independent pathways in Mdm2-mediated transformation. 4/9/2008-4/8/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $20,514.


#1567 (NIH:Sub-contracted; St. Jude Medical; PI is Niebauer) Advancements in ICD therapy (ACT) registry. 6/21/2008-4/5/2009 (Year 4) Direct Costs: $.


Omaha VAMC

#1714 (Merit Review; PI is Romberger) Relationship of Environmental Exposure and Innate Immunity to COPD (revision #2). 4/1/2008-3/31/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $150,000.


Other Extramural

#928 (U of Alabama at Birmingham; PI is O’Dell) Treatment of early aggressive rheumatoid arthritis (TEAR) Admin Core. 5/14/2008-9/30/2008 (Year 5) Direct Costs: $175,247.

#1184 (U of Alabama at Birmingham; PI is O’Dell) Treatment of early aggressive rheumatoid arthritis (TEAR) trial / Contractual II. 5/14/2008-9/30/2008 (Year 5) Direct Costs: $20,363.

#1185 (U of Alabama at Birmingham; PI is O’Dell) Treatment of early aggressive rheumatoid arthritis (TEAR) trial / Contractual III. 5/14/2008-9/30/2008 (Year 5) Direct Costs: $126,000.


#677 (NE DHHS; PI is Swindells) AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Ryan White Title II Program. 4/1/2008-3/31/2009 (Year 8) Direct Costs: $2,206,366.

#1905 (NE DHHS; PI is Swindells) Transportation Services for Eligible Ryan White Part B CARE Act Clients. 4/1/2008-3/31/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $1,100.

#2026 (NE DHHS; PI is Swindells) Dental services for Ryan White clients. 4/1/2008-3/31/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $5,000.

Other Intramural

#1930 (UNL; PI is Grant) Bupropion in the Treatment of Methamphetamine Dependence. 6/1/2008-5/31/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $45,353.

Industry Grant Awards

#1857 (Bayer Corporation; PI is Hauke) Phase II study of ZK-epothilone (ZK-Epo; ZK 219477) plus prednisone as first line chemotherapy in patients with metastatic androgen-independent prostate cancer. 4/26/2008-11/26/2008 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $.

#1860 (Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; PI is Rennard) A randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled, exploratory study to assess the safety and efficacy of multiple doses of ACZ885 in moderate to severe COPD patients. 6/14/2008-6/13/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $67,821.

#1862 (Cubist Pharmaceuticals; PI is Rupp) A phase 2 randomized study investigating the safety, efficacy, and pharmacokinetics of Daptomycin 6 MG/KG and 8 MG/KG versus comparator (Vancomycin or Tel-coplanin) in the treatment of subjects undergoing surgical standard of care for osteomyelitis associated with an infected prosthetic hip or knee joint caused by Meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus and/or Coagulase-negative Staphylococci. 4/25/2008-4/24/2009 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $.
Internal Medicine Grant Activity (continued)  2th Quarter 2008

#1632 (Xanthus; PI is Devetten) Phase 2 open-label study of amonafide L-malate in combination with cytarabine in subjects with secondary acute myeloid leukemia. 4/19/2008-4/18/2009 (Year 3) Direct Costs: $.


#1454 (Aventis Pharmaceuticals; PI is Hauke) Phase I study evaluating extended field intensity modulated radiation therapy and Docetaxel in patients with prostate cancer associated with pelvic node metastasis. 6/20/2008-6/30/2008 (Year 4) Direct Costs: $.


#1025 (Corixa Corporation; PI is Vose) A multi-center long-term follow-up study of patients with low-grade non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma previously treated with Tositumomab and/or iodine 131 in studies RIT-I-000, RIT-II-001,RIT-002, RIT-II-004 or CP-97-012. 5/1/2008-5/31/2008 (Year 6) Direct Costs: $.

#1839 (Ambit Biosciences; PI is Devetten) A Phase 1 Open-Label, Sequential Dose Escalation Study Investigating the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Pharmacodynamics of AC220 when Administered Daily to Patients with Relapsed or Refractory Acute Myeloid Leukemia. 4/16/2008-12/31/2008 (Year 2) Direct Costs: $.


Administered By Other Department

#1352 (Northwestern University (subcontract); PI is Bast) Lymphoma defined cytogenetically for epidemiologic study. 4/1/2008-3/31/2009 (Year 4) Direct Costs: $71,850.

#1950 (NIH; PI is Vose) Molecular Signatures to Improve Diagnosis and Outcome Prediction in NHL. 6/1/2008-5/31/2009 (Year 4) Direct Costs: $.

$  If no dollars were included, all funds were allocated to the first year the grant was active.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PubMed#</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Volume:Page</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18573485</td>
<td>Canaris GJ, Tape TG, Smith LM, Nickol DR, Wigton RS</td>
<td>Gender Differences in patient-provider symptom agreement in reporting respiratory complaints on a questionnaire.</td>
<td>5:186-93 2008</td>
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<td>18550015</td>
<td>Duryee MJ, Klassen LW, Jones BL, Willis MS, Tuma DJ, Thiele GM</td>
<td>Increased immunogenicity to P815 cells modified with malondialde-hyde and acetaldehyde.</td>
<td>Int. Immunopharmacol. 8:1112-1118 2008</td>
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<td>18510473</td>
<td>Rupp ME</td>
<td>Not perfect-just among the best available: reply.</td>
<td>29:580-2 2008</td>
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<td>18509455</td>
<td>Kalil AC, Sun J</td>
<td>Why are clinicians not embracing the results from pivotal clinical trials in severe sepsis? A bayesian analysis.</td>
<td>PLoS ONE 3:e2291 2008 PMCID: pmc-id:2384005</td>
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<td>18504550</td>
<td>Kalil C, Sun J</td>
<td>How many patients with severe sepsis are needed to confirm the efficacy of drotrecogin alfa activated? A Bayesian design.</td>
<td>Intensive Care Medicine 2008</td>
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<td>18471554</td>
<td>Mukherjee S, Sorrell MF</td>
<td>Controversies in liver transplantation for hepatitis C.</td>
<td>Gastroenterology 134:1777-88 2008</td>
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<td>18465875</td>
<td>Salhany JM</td>
<td>Kinetics of reaction of nitrite with deoxy hemoglobin after rapid deoxygenation or predeoxygenation by dithionite measured in solution and bound to the cytoplasmic domain of band 3 (SLC4A1).</td>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>2008</td>
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<td>18419372</td>
<td>Hermsen ED, Smith Shull S, Puumala SE, Rupp ME</td>
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<td>Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.</td>
<td>2008</td>
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<td>18203005</td>
<td>Armitage JO.</td>
<td>Is lymphoma occurring in the elderly the same disease?</td>
<td>Leuk. Lymphoma</td>
<td>2008</td>
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IM Faculty Publications:  2nd Quarter 2008 continued

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<tr>
<td>17875659</td>
<td>Slager RE, Devasure JM, Pavlik JA, Sisson JH, Wyatt TA</td>
<td>RACK1, a PKC targeting protein, is exclusively localized to basal airway epithelial cells.</td>
<td>J. Histochem. Cytochem.</td>
<td>56:7-14</td>
<td>2008</td>
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