New Investigator Research Grants

New Investigator Research Grants is a jointly sponsored program of SickKids Foundation and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health (IHDCYH). New Investigator Research Grants provide important early career development support to child health researchers. It is intended that New Investigator Research Grants will enhance the grant recipient’s ability to compete with more senior investigators for research grants from other funders.

2017-2018

Dr. Sarka Lisonkova, University of British Columbia
Risk of fetal death and optimal timing of delivery among overweight and obese women
Approved funding: $112,650 over 3 years

Dr. Amish Jain, Sinai Health System
Early identification of preterm neonates with evolving chronic pulmonary hypertension: utility of functional echocardiographic markers
Approved funding: $276,845 over 3 years

Dr. Ashley Harris, University of Calgary
Neurobiology of prepubertal migraine and transcranial direct current stimulation as a therapy
Approved funding: $284,460 over 3 years

Dr. Chinthaka Heyn, Sunnybrook Research Institute
Brain Energy Metabolism and Heat Production in Adolescents with Bipolar Disorder
Approved funding: $277,096 over 3 years

Dr. Jeremy Hirota, McMaster University
The merging of precision medicine and microfluidics for advances in cystic fibrosis management
Approved funding: $280,193 over 3 years

Dr. Serge McGraw, Centre de recherché CHU Sainte-Justine
Impact of early embryonic alcohol exposure on DNA methylation programming in the etiology of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders
Approved funding: $284,460 over 3 years

Dr. Augusto Zani, The Hospital for Sick Children
Stem Cell Derived Therapy for Pulmonary Hypoplasia: A Novel Therapeutic Strategy for Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia
Approved funding: $284,025 over 3 years
2016 – 2017

Dr. Clémence Belleannée, University of Laval
Impact of the Sperm Epigenomic Status on the Progeny Born by Assisted Reproductive Technologies
Approved Funding: $299,022 over 3 years

Dr. Boris Bernhardt, Montreal Neurological Institute and
Dr. Dewi Schrader, British Columbia Children’s Hospital
Connectome-informed Simulations of Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery
Approved Funding: $294,250 over 3 years

Dr. Jean-François Lepage, Université de Sherbrooke
Impact of Prenatal Flame Retardant Exposure on Brain Development: A multimodal neuroimaging study in a cohort of school aged children
Approved Funding: $294,100 over 3 years

Dr. Georg Schmaolzer, University of Alberta
Sustained Inflation During Chest Compression
Approved Funding: $281,132 over 3 years

Dr. Patricia Fontela, McGill University Heath Centre Research Institute
Evolution of Infection Markers in Children with Severe Bacterial Infections
Approved Funding: $299,961 over 3 years

Dr. Kora DeBeck, Simon Fraser University
Addiction Treatment Among Vulnerable Youth
Approved Funding: $300,000 over 3 years

2015 – 2016

Dr. Sylvie Girard, Sainte-Justine Hospital
Diagnostic and Treatment of Inflammation During Pregnancy
Approved Funding: $300,000 over 3 years

Dr. Anne Gallagher, CHU Sainte-Justine
Resting-state Presurgical Mapping in Children with Epilepsy Research Centre
Approved Funding: $290,716 over 3 years

Dr. Robin Hayeems, The Hospital for Sick Children
Costs and Clinical Consequences of Pediatric Whole Genome Sequencing
Approved Funding: $296,050 over 3 years

Dr. Julie Autmizguine, CHU Sainte-Justine Research Centre
Piperacillin – Tazobactam Extended Infusion in Infants and Young Children
Approved Funding: $257,325 over 3 years
Dr. Peter Kannu and Dr. Irina Voronov, The Hospital for Sick Children

CMET and Fracture Healing
Approved Funding: $167,000 over 3 years

Dr. Myriam Srour, McGill University Health Centre-Research Institute

Genetic characterization of focal malformations of cortical development
Approved Funding: $298,855 over 3 years

2014 – 2015

Dr. Jacob Jaremko, University of Alberta

3D Ultrasound in Hip Dysplasia
Approved funding: $257,245 over 3 years

Dr. Alexander Beristain, University of British Columbia

Effect of Obesity-Associated Inflammation on the Maternal-Fetal Interface in Early Pregnancy
Approved funding: $299,385 over 3 years

Dr. Sarah Fraser, University of Montreal

Ilagiinut: Collaborative Mental Health Care from Communities, to Professionals, to Policy Change for Inuit of Canada
Approved funding: $283,288 over 3 years

Dr. Gerry Giesbrecht, University of Calgary

Effects of Prenatal Distress and Nutrition on Neurodevelopment and Neuroendocrine Function in Preschoolers
Approved funding: $299,454 over 3 years

Dr. Valerie Abadie, CHU Sainte-Justine Research Centre

Role of B Cells in Celiac Disease
Approved funding: $292,116 over 3 years

Dr. Heather Melichar, Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont

Thymic Imprinting of T effector Function Throughout Ontogeny
Approved funding: $300,000 over 3 years

2013 – 2014

Dr. Eric Parent, University of Alberta

Multicentre Schroth Exercise Trial for Scoliosis (Multicentre SETS study)
Approved funding: $300,000 over 3 years

Dr. Simone N. Vigod, Women’s College Hospital

Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) for Depression in Pregnancy
Approved funding: $113,274 over 2 years
Dr. Jonathan D. Schertzer, McMaster University  
Childhood Nutritional and Bacterial Stresses Dictate Obesity-Driven Disease  
Approved funding: $300,000 over 3 years

Dr. Mike Seed, The Hospital for Sick Children  
Early Detection and Neurodevelopment Impact of Late Onset IUGR  
Approved funding: $298,390 over 3 years

Dr. Nelly Huynh, University of Montreal  
Incidence of Altered Craniofacial Morphology and Malocclusion in Children and Youth with Obstructive Sleep Apnea  
Approved funding: $280,712 over 3 years

Dr. Signe Bray, University of Calgary  
Learning and reinforcement in adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder  
Approved funding: $296,080 over 3 years

2012 – 2013

Dr. Elod Szabo, the Hospital for Sick Children  
Understanding Voltage-Grated Sodium Channel Related Cardiomyopathy  
Approved funding: $299,981 over 3 years

Dr. Chiachen Cheng, St. Joseph’s Care Group Thunder Bay  
What are the Mental Health Service Needs of Youth in Northern Ontario  
Approved funding: $298,614 over 3 years

Dr. Pia Wintermark, McGill University Health Research Institute  
Early Identification of Asphyxiated Newborns at Risk of Developing Significant Brain Injury despite Hypothermia Treatment  
Approved funding: $300,000 over 3 years

Dr. Maryam Oskoui, McGill University Health Research Institute  
Prevalence and Healthcare Utilization Pattern of Children with Cerebral Palsy  
Approved funding: $205,140 over 3 years

Dr. Brenda Gladstone, the Hospital for Sick Children  
(Co) Producing Help-Seeking Narratives with Children of Parents with Mental Illnesses  
Approved funding: $178,219 over 2 years

Dr. Tanja Gonska, the Hospital for Sick Children  
Interrogation of SLC6A14 as a Modifier for Drug Treatment in CF disease  
Approved funding: $299,172 over 3 years

2011 – 2012

Dr. Ian Coleman, University of Alberta  
Pathways from Early Childhood Behaviour and Development to Adolescent Depression
Approved funding: $282,491 over 3 years

**Dr. Elizabeth Jones, McGill University**
The Glycocalyx During Vascular Development
Approved funding: $296,679 over 3 years

**Dr. Theo Moraes, The Hospital for Sick Children**
Enhancing CD8 T Cell Responses to RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)
Approved funding: $300,000 over 3 years

**Dr. Maryse Bouchard, CHU Sainte-Justine Research Centre**
Reversibility of Neurobehavioural Deficits Associated with Manganese Exposure From Drinking Water
Approved funding: $296,708 over 3 years

### 2010 – 2011

**Dr. Christopher Maxwell, University of British Columbia**
Targetting Aurora Kinase A in Paediatric Sarcomas
Approved funding: $307,064 over 3 years

**Dr. Thuy Mai Luu, University of Montreal**
A Multi-Model Approach to a Family-Centred Educational Program of Developmental Care for Preterm Infants: Development and Implementation
Approved funding: $311,124 over 3 years

**Dr. Barbara Muskat, The Hospital for Sick Children**
Autism Comes to the Hospital: Experiences of Hospital Care
Approved funding: $190,000 over 3 years

### 2009 – 2010

**Dr. Elysa Widjaja, The Hospital for Sick Children**
Diffusion Tensor Imaging Assessment of White Matter Injury in Children with Non-Lesional Intractable
Approved funding: $289,043 over 3 years

**Dr. Jason Lerch, The Hospital for Sick Children**
Spatial Navigation and the Brain During Normal Development
Approved funding: $432,619 over 3 years

**Dr. Kym Boycott, Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario**
Identification of a Gene for Joubert Syndrome
Approved funding: $300,966 over 3 years

**Dr. Cencil Hahn, The Hospital for Sick Children**
Nonconvulsive Seizures Among Critically Ill children
Approved funding: $431,694 over 3 years

2008 – 2009

Dr. Tanya Peckmann, St. Mary’s University
3-D Facial Reconstruction: Positive Identification of Missing Children of Canadian Aboriginal Ancestry and Fostering Self-Worth within Aboriginal Youth
Approved funding: $75,750 over 2 years

Dr. Lisa Cameron, University of Alberta
Effect of Omega-3 Fatty Acids on Th2 Immunity
Approved funding: $120,000 over 2 years

Dr. Pascal Lavoie, British Columbia’s Children Hospital
Innate Immune Defences in Neonates Born Early in Gestation
Approved funding: $129,840 over 2 years

Dr. Emmanuelle Cordat, University of Alberta
Characterizing a new AE1 mutant causing HS and dRTA
Approved funding: $126,730 over 2 years

Dr. Nina Jones, University of Guelph
Signalling Mechanisms of Childhood Kidney Disease
Approved funding: $128,800 over 2 years

Dr. Daniel Hardy, University of Western Ontario
The Molecular Mechanisms of Programming in the Liver
Approved funding: $130,000 over 2 years

Dr. Cornelius Boerkoel, University of British Columbia
SMARCAL1 Modulated Pathways
Approved funding: $130,000 over 2 years

Dr. Isabelle Gagnon, The Montreal Children’s Hospital
Returning to Activities after a Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in Children and Adolescents
Approved funding: $129,200 over 2 years

Dr. Michelle Demos, British Columbia’s Children’s Hospital
The Study of Familial Infantile Seizures in First Nation Children of British Columbia
Approved funding: $169,985 over 2 years

Dr. Sandeep Raha, McMaster University
Maternal Obesity causes Fetal and Neonatal Mitochondrial Dysfunction: Implications for Childhood Obesity
Approved funding: $129,995 over 2 years

Dr. Jocelyn Gravel, Sainte Justine Hospital
The Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale for Children; A Prospective Multi-Center Evaluation
Approved funding: $128,500 over 2 years
2007 – 2008

Dr. Liisa Holsti, University of British Columbia
Breastfeeding Analgesia in Preterm Infants
Approved funding: $103,888 over 2 years

Dr. Tobias Kollmann, University of British Columbia
Development of a Neonatal Pertussis Vaccine: One Shot for Life
Approved funding: $129,000 over 2 years

Dr. Hartmut Grasemann, The Hospital for Sick Children
Young Infants with Acute Recurrent Wheezing-To Puff or Not to Puff? A Randomized Controlled Trial
Approved funding: $130,000 for 2 years

Dr. Hai-Ling Margaret Cheng, The Hospital for Sick Children
Quantitative MRI of angiogenesis and cellularization in tissue regeneration
Approved funding: $129,223 for 2 years

Dr. William Gaetz, The Hospital for Sick Children
Presurgical assessment of motor function in children
Approved funding: $128,444 for 2 years

Dr. Stephane Lefrancois, Hopital Maisonneuve-Rosemont
Palmitoylation of the Lysosomal Sorting Receptors
Approved funding: $129,894 over 2 years

Dr. Justine Turner, University of Alberta
Short Bowel Syndrome Neonatal Piglet Models
Approved funding: $125,380 over 2 years

Dr. Zoha Kibar, Sainte Justine Hospital
Genetic Basis of Neural Tube Defects
Approved funding: $130,000 over 2 years

Dr. Emmanuel Bujold, Laval University
Periodontal Disease and its Relation with Microbial Invasion of Amniotic Cavity (MIAC) and Spontaneous Preterm Birth or PPROM Prior to 34 Weeks’ Gestation
Approved funding: $127,254 over 2 years

Dr. Artur Kania, Clinical Research Institute of Montreal
Using Spinal Cord as a Model to Study Neuronal Migration Disorder
Approved funding: $130,000 over 2 years

Dr. Teesta Soman, The Hospital for Sick Children
Globus Pallidus Deep Brain Stimulation in Children with Dystoni
Approved funding: $118,617 over 2 years

Dr. Dat Tran, The Hospital for Sick Children
Severe Influenza in Children: Genetic Determinants and Related Epidemiology
Approved funding: $129,926 over 2 years

2006 – 2007

Dr. Kathy Boutis, The Hospital for Sick Children
Randomized Controlled Trial of Cast Versus Splint in Children with Acceptably Angulated Wrist Fractures
Approved funding: $129,775 over two years

Dr. Debra Cameron, University of Toronto
Cognitive Orientation to Occupational Performance (CO-OP): A New Approach for Children with Cerebral Palsy
Approved funding: $78,964 over two years

Dr. Vincent Joseph, Centre Hospital Universitaire du Quebec (CHUQ)
Placental Steroids & Respiratory Control Development
Approved funding: $129,464 over two years

Dr. John Strauss, University of Toronto
Imaging and Genetic Strategies in Paediatric Major Depressive Disorder
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Karen Gordon, The Hospital for Sick Children
Auditory Development Promoted by Bilateral Cochlear Implantation
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr Chetankumar Tailor, The Hospital for Sick Children
Role of FLVCR1 in Diamond Blackfan Anemia
Approved funding: $82,322 over two years GIFTS ways $82,322

Dr. Shyamala Dakshinanmurti, University of Manitoba
Functional Regulation of Thromboxane Receptor in Hypoxic Myocytes
Approved funding: $129,875 over two years

Dr. Steven Miller, University of British Columbia
The Progression of Brain Injury in Term Newborns with Encephalopathy
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Steven Aurora, McMaster University
The Hypotonic Versus Isotonic Parenteral (HIP) Fluid Study, a Randomized Controlled Trial
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Sam Daniel, Montreal Children's Hospital
Prevention of cisplatinum ototoxicity in cancer patients
Approved funding: $129,880 over two years  
**Dr. Alex Mihailidis, University of Toronto**  
The Efficacy of an Intelligent Prompting System to Develop Self-Care Activities in Children with Autism  
Approved funding: $129,470 over two years

**Dr. Mark Friedberg, The Hospital for Sick Children**  
Effects of Right Ventricular Intra-ventricular Mechanical Dyssynchrony on Right and Left Ventricular Dysfunction in Tetralogy of Fallot  
Approved funding: $108,766 over two years

**Dr. Liisa Holsti, University of British Columbia**  
Breastfeeding Analgesia in Preterm Infants  
Approved funding: $103,888 over two years

**Dr. Tobias Kollmann, University of British Columbia**  
Development of a Neonatal Pertussis Vaccine: One Shot for Life  
Approved funding: $129,000 over two years

**Dr. Hartmut Grasemann, The Hospital for Sick Children**  
Young Infants With Acute Recurrent Wheezing-To Puff or Not to Puff? A Randomized Controlled Trial  
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

**Dr. Hai-Ling Margaret Cheng, The Hospital for Sick Children**  
Quantitative MRI of Angiogenesis and Cellularization in Tissue Regeneration  
Approved funding: $129,223 over two years

**Dr. William Gaetz, The Hospital for Sick Children**  
Presurgical Assessment of Motor Function in Children  
Approved funding: $128,445 over two years

**2005 – 2006**

**Dr. Ron Zohar, University of Toronto**  
Role of Osteopontin in Inflammatory Colitis  
Approved funding: $115,796 over two years

**Dr. Michael Taylor, SickKids Hospital**  
Functional Genomic Dissection of the Initiation and Progression of Medulloblastoma  
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

**Dr. George Hatzakis, Hôpital Sainte-Justine Centre de Recherche**  
Improvement of ICU Therapeutics during Mechanical Ventilation  
Approved funding: $120,060 over two years

**Dr. Keith St. Lawrence, Lawson Health Research Institute**  
Early Detection of Brain Injury by Measuring Cerebral Oxygen
Approved funding: $126,635, over two years

**Dr. Angela Mandich, The University of Western Ontario**
A Cognitive Intervention for Children with Asperger’s Syndrome: A Pilot RCT
Approved funding: $112,493, over two years

**Dr. Andrea Jurisicova, Mount Sinai Hospital**
Investigation of Placental Insufficiencies Caused by Caspase 8 Disruption
Approved Funding: $130, over two years

**Dr. Richard Wells, Sunnybrook and Women’s College Research Institute**
Mechanistic Analysis of the Oncoenic Role of EAR-2 in Leukaemia
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

**Dr. Brian Lichty, McMaster University**
Examination of the Respiratory Coronavirus Group-specific Genes
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

**Dr. Stuary Turvey, British Columbia’s Children’s Hospital**
Role of Innate Immunity and Toll-Like Receptor Signalling in Protecting Children from Severe Pneumococcal Infections
Approved funding: $127,000 over two years

**Dr. Jennifer Gommerman, University of Toronto**
Regulation of the Germinal Centre Response by TNF Family Members
Approved funding: $130, over two years

**Dr. Andrea Doria, The Hospital for Sick Children**
Predictors for Diagnostically Accurate Ultrasound in Children with Suspected Appendicitis
Approved funding: $128,783 over two years

**Dr. Yigal Dror, The Hospital for Sick Children**
SBDS in Granulopoiesis
Approved funding: $128,960 over two years

**Dr. Eyal Grunebaum, The Hospital for Sick Children**
Correcting Purine Nucleoside Phosphorylase (PNP) Deficiency Using Lenti-Virus Mediated Human PNP Gene Delivery Into Hematopoietic Stem Cells
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

**Dr. Janet Rennick, McGill University Health Centre Research Institute**
The Critical Illness Impact Scale for Young Children
Approved funding: $128,145 over two years

**Dr. Catherine Limperopoulos, McGill University**
Brain Growth and Development in the Fetus with Congenital Heart Disease
Approved funding: $129,970 over two years
2004 – 2005

Dr. Darryl J. Adamko, University of Alberta
A Novel Noninvasive Marker of Asthma Airway Inflammation: Urine NMR
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Aaron J. Marshall, University of Manitoba
Phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase Sub-pathways in Allergic Sensitization and Asthma
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Harissios Vliagoftis, University of Alberta
Early Life Stress and Asthma
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Nathalie Bérubé, University of Western Ontario
Cell Death Signaling Pathways Controlled by ATRX
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Madeleine Carreau, CHUQ-Hôpital St-François d’Assise
Role of Fanconi Anemia Proteins in Development
Approved funding: $128,918 over two years

Dr. Angela M. Devlin, British Columbia Research Institute for Children’s and Women’s Health
Exposure to Hyperhomocysteinemia During Development and Epigenetic Regulation of Vascular Gene Expression
Approved funding: $106,000 over two years

Dr. Christophe Faure, Sainte-Justine Hospital
PSA-NCAM in Enteric Nervous System
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Thomas J. Hawke, York University
Regulation of Muscle Progenitor Cells in Response to Muscle Damage
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Donna Koller, SickKids Hospital
Evaluating Children’s Roles in the Governance of a Paediatric Hospital: The Perceived Impact of a Children’s Council
Approved funding: $97,145 over two years

Dr. Abhaya V. Kulkarni, SickKids Hospital
The Determinants of Health in Children with Hydrocephalus
Approved funding: $94,536 over two years

Dr. Paige Lacy, University of Alberta
Novel Signaling Pathways in Neutrophil Degranulation
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years
GSK3β Signalling in Coxsackievirus-Induced Myocardial Injury,
Dr. Honglin Luo, University of British Columbia
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dissection of the Developing Program of the Hypothalamus,
Dr. Jacques Michaud, Hôpital Sainte-Justine Centre de Recherche
Approved funding: $129,298 over two years

Dr. Jose Luis Perez Velazquez, SickKids Hospital
Are Executive Dysfunctions in Autism Reflected in Altered Coordination Dynamics of Brain Activity?
Approved funding: $129,290 over two years

2003 – 2004

Dr. Ali A. Ashkar, McMaster University
Induction of Innate Immunity Against Genital HSV-2 Infection via TLR3 Signaling
Approved funding: $120,500 over two years

Dr. Volker Blank, Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research/Jewish General Hospital
Regulation of MafF by Cytokines in Uterus and Placenta
Approved funding: $81,600 over two years

Dr. Janet Brunton, Memorial University of Newfoundland
The Roles of Arginine, Nitric Oxide and Blood Flow in Small Intestinal Adaptation in the Neonatal Piglet
Approved funding: $116,713 over two years

Dr. Farida Cheriet, Hôpital Sainte-Justine Centre de Recherche
Reliability Study of Non-Invasive Assessment of the 3-D Trunk Asymmetry in Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis
Approved funding: $129,680 over two years

Dr. Carolyn Emery, University of Calgary
A Prevention Strategy to Reduce the Incidence of Injury in High School Sport: A Cluster Randomized Clinical Trial
Approved funding: $78,960 over two years

Dr. Walid Farhat, The Hospital for Sick Children
The Search for an Optimal Bladder Substitute
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Bernhard Ganss, University of Toronto
The Role of the Zinc Finger Transcription Factor Krox-26 in Developmental Defects of Tooth and Enamel Formation
Approved funding: $86,300 over two years
Dr. Sharyn Gibbins, Sunnybrook & Women’s College Health Sciences Centre
Pain Behaviours in Extremely Low Birth Weight Infants
$91,838 over two years

Dr. Donna Goodwin, University of Saskatchewan
Illness to Wellness: Building Health Capacity for Youth with Spinal Cord Injuries
Approved funding: $49,950 over two years

Dr. Abdelilah Soussi Gounni, University of Manitoba
High Affinity Receptor of IgE (FceRI) in Airway Smooth Muscle Cells
Approved funding: $130,000 over two years

Dr. Vincent Joseph, Centre hospitalier universitaire du Quebec (CHUQ)
Perinatal Steroids are Necessary for the Normal Development of the Respiratory Controller Network
Approved funding: $72,769 over two years

Dr. Donald J. Mabbott, The Hospital for Sick Children
Neuroimaging and Cognitive Function in Children with Brain Tumors
Approved funding: $129,395 over two years

Dr. Bruce Mazer, McGill University
Understanding Respiratory and Mucosal Allergy Using an Ex Vivo Lymph Node Model
$129,176 over two years

Dr. Marc J. Moreau, University of Alberta
Improving the Effectiveness of Brace Treatment for Adolescent Scoliosis
Approved funding: $76,640 over two years

Dr. Anne Monique Nuyt, Hôpital Sainte-Justine
Role of Oxidative Stress in Utero Programming of Hypertension
Approved funding: $129,910 over two years

Stephen Ryan, Bloorview MacMillan Centre
Effect of Postural Control Devices for Preschoolers on Child Performance, Family Functioning and Caregiver Assistance
Approved funding: $104,860 over two years

Dr. John B. Vincent, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Epigenetic Approaches to Identifying Autism Susceptibility Genes
Approved funding: $129,550 over two years

Dr. Wendy Ward, University of Toronto
Bone Mass and Growth Following Necrotizing Entercolitis
Approved funding: $86,236 over two years