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TRIPLL News

July 2010

From the Translational Research Institute on Pain in Later Life.

For additional detail about TRIPLL and its programs, contact Samantha Parker, Project Coordinator (Weill Cornell Medical College), at sap2013@med.cornell.edu or (212) 746-1801

News

TRIPLL Affiliates Bryant Guffey and George Lewis win Center for Integration of Medicine and Innovative Technology Prize

TRIPLL Affiliates George Lewis and Bryant Guffey's Wearable Ultrasound Therapy project was awarded the Center for Integration of Medicine and Innovative Technology prize for Primary Healthcare. The award is a \$100K cash prize that will be matched by the Cornell University Department of Biomedical Engineering, Cornell College of Engineering, Cornell Center for Advanced Technology, Cornell Clinical Translational Science Center, Entrepreneurship at Cornell, Translational Research Institute on Pain in Later Life and the Cornell Center for Materials Research.

The team is very excited by this honor and expects full clinical evaluation results of the technology in the next year. Briefly, the devices have been deemed a non-significant risk by multiple hospitals and are in various clinical testing protocols. More importantly, this project covers basic research in the lab and animal models as well as clinical testing and evaluation exemplifying Biomedical Engineering at Cornell University. The ultrasound development team has pioneered ultra portable ultrasound technology at Cornell, and adapted it to a multitude of

medical and industrial applications. Their collaborations run deep through Cornell as well as at other American and international Universities.

Expert Panel to Convene on Pharmacological Management of Chronic Pain in Older Adults

This September, the National Institute on Aging and the NIH Pain Consortium will convene an expert panel discussion titled "Expert Panel Discussion on Pharmacological Management of Chronic Pain in Older Adults." The goal of this meeting is to consider research priorities for improving pharmacological management of chronic pain in older adults, often the latter phase of the stepped approach to pain management, by comparing the effectiveness, efficacy, and safety of various pain management paradigms in different clinical situations or conditions, with particular emphasis on appropriate uses of opioids and NSAIDs.

TRIPLL Announces Community Health Interactive Talks Initiative

TRIPLL and Council of Senior Centers and Services of NYC, Inc. (CSCS) are excited to offer a new opportunity for senior service providers. The Community Health Interactive Talks Initiative uses video conferencing technology to bring broadcast interactive health talks with medical experts to seniors. The purpose of the initiative is to give seniors and their service providers the opportunity to learn about a variety of topics from top medical experts. The initiative is also an opportunity for seniors to ask questions and interact via web and video technology. Up to 4 locations can view and interact in the same session - which will be broadcast from one central location.

Sessions will take place throughout the summer and fall. The initiative is FREE and all technology will be provided. The only requirement is space to host the sessions and a compatible internet line. This initiative is supported and was developed by The Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC), a Multi Institutional Consortium based at the Weill Cornell Medical College.

How to get involved:

If you would like to get involved or host a session, send an email to Allison Slutter at aslutter@cscs-ny.org or at als2053@med.cornell.edu.

TRIPLL Affiliates Publish Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Outcomes Associated with Opioid Use in the Treatment of Pain in Older Adults

TRIPLL Affiliates Chuck Henderson, Cary Reid and Maria Papaleontiou along with other researchers have published a systematic review and Meta-Analysis of outcomes associated with opioid use in the treatment of chronic non-cancer pain in older adults. The paper was published in the July issue of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. This work summarizes the results of 43 articles that reported on the safety, efficacy, abuse and misuse of opioids as treatment for non-cancer pain in older adults. The group found that short term opioid use can reduce pain and improve function in older adults.

Reflecting on the significance of the study, senior author Cary Reid noted that "...this study highlights the important gaps in our understanding of the long term efficacy and safety of opioid medications for use as treatment among older adults with chronic pain." Reid pointed to the short duration of most of the studies in the sample, the exclusion of older adults with co-morbidities and that "...the vast majority of studies examined the efficacy of fixed-dose long acting opioids" as significant limitations. According to Reid, "most patients do not take long acting medications and most take the medications only when they need it so that the pattern of use examined in the studies does not reflect how patients use opioids in the real world." The investigators also realized that there were few (only 1 in the sample) studies that assessed outcomes in ethnic/racial minority groups. Reid noted that this result was particularly troubling since, "Belonging to a minority group is a strong risk factor for under-treatment and under-assessment of pain." To see the full text of the article click the following link:
<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/123488853/PDFSTART?CRETRY=1&SRETRY=0>

Upcoming Events

The following list includes upcoming seminars, meetings, and conferences that focus on aging, pain, or general research methods

Weill Cornell Medical College

Expertise in Treating Chronic Pain Especially in Older Adults
August 24, 2010 from 8-9am
Location: CIMA - Large conference room
Hosted by: Cornell Internal Medicine Association (CIMA)
Contact: Jackie Yuen (yuen.jackie@gmail.com)

Managing Pain in Elders: Challenges and Choices
Oct. 26, 2010

This all-day event, which is geared towards anyone who works with seniors, will feature presentations that explore different approaches to palliative care and discuss ways to reduce physical

and emotional pain for elderly people.

9am-4:30pm at UJA Federation of New York, 130 E. 59th Street,
Continuing education credits offered

For more information, go to <http://www.jewishhome.org/who-we-are/jewish-home-lifecare-news/eighth-annual-palliative-care-conference> or contact Ellen Lewis at elewis@jewishhome.org.

The Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) Monthly Walk-in Clinics

Open to investigators, coordinators and other members of the research community affiliated with the WCMC CTSC. These clinics will provide consultation and advice related to submitting an application to the CTSC using the electronic Protocol Authoring and Review system (ePAR), preparing a study budget, navigating regulatory/compliance issues, and utilizing services available through the CTSC and its partners.

The first clinic will be held on Wednesday, August 4th from 11am to 12pm in the Payson Solarium, 2nd floor of the Payson Building, 525 East 68th Street.

Please contact James Holahan at jph2003@med.cornell.edu or 646-962-8154 with any questions.

Hospital for Special Surgery

Components of physical/social and psychological assessment of the elderly patient

September 27, 2010, 9am

Richard Menschal Lecture Hall -2nd floor HSS

Contact: Barbara Wukovits, RN, BSNC, Director: Pain Management Services, (212) 606-1782 (212) 606-1644 beeper 21582, E-mail WukovitsB@HSS.EDU

Fall 2010 Community Education Programs

Hospital for Special Surgery offers a wide range of educational lectures and workshops for the community. Lectures range from managing osteoarthritis pain and falls prevention to movement classes including dance and Tai Chi. See our Event Calendar for course descriptions and to register online. To request copies of brochures please email pped@hss.edu.

Living with Osteoarthritis

Monday, November 22, 2010

10am-2pm

Program Description:

Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most common type of arthritis in the United States, with nearly 27 million people affected by it. For people living with OA, pain and stiffness can affect activities associated with daily living. In conjunction with medical

treatment, self-management of symptoms is important in slowing down the progression of OA. This program brings together HSS clinicians to discuss the importance of physical activity, nutrition, pain management and self-management techniques used in the treatment of osteoarthritis.

The AGS' online Continuing Medical Education program

"Pharmacologic Management of Persistent Pain in Older Persons," is now up and running. The free program, which offers 1 AMA PRA Category 1 credit, focuses on AGS' 2009 guideline, Pharmacologic Management of Persistent Pain in Older Adults, and is based on this year's popular annual meeting session examining how to implement the guideline. The program includes Power Point presentations by session moderator Bruce A. Ferrell MD, and by presenters Keela Herr, PhD, RN; James D. Katz, MD; and Perry G. Fine, MD. The CME program, which takes roughly an hour to complete, will be available through June 21 of next year.

American Academy of Pain Management Annual Meeting

September 21-24, 2010 Las Vegas, NV
http://www.aapainmanage.org/conference/Registration%20FormV10_14_09.pdf

The 9th International Conference on Urban Health

October 27-29, 2010 in New York, NY.
Organizers of the conference encourage academics, professionals, members of non-profit organizations, policymakers, community members, and individuals from the private sector of diverse backgrounds and disciplines to submit an abstract. This year's theme, Good Governance for Healthy Cities, was chosen to showcase the importance of governance in creating healthy cities and improving the health of urban populations, as well as the social and public health policies that are required to address these issues.

Funding Opportunities

Pain-Related Funding:

NIH Funding Opportunity: Aging and Pain

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announces a call for Research Project Grant (R01) applications from institutions/organizations that propose to study biological, neurobiological, psychosocial, and clinical mechanisms and processes by which aging and/or age-related diseases affect the experience of pain; examine biological, neurobiological, psychosocial, and clinical factors that impact pain experience and prevalence in older people; evaluate existing pain assessment and/or management approaches in

older adults; or develop new assessment methods and/or management strategies for pain with particular attention to the needs of older adults. Studies involving animal models or human subjects are appropriate under this program announcement.

This announcement encourages proposals to study the mechanisms and processes by which aging and/or age-related diseases and conditions affect the experience of pain, and to evaluate existing or new pain assessment methods and management approaches, especially in older adults. Studies may include molecular biological, biochemical, genetic, imaging, physiological, pathological, behavioral, social, clinical, and/or epidemiological approaches. For examples of research topics and approaches that may be considered as well as for more information, please visit grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-193.html.

NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research Grand Challenge on the Transition from Acute to Chronic Neuropathic Pain (R01)

Request for Applications (RFA) Number: RFA-DE-11-002
Purpose. This FOA is issued as an initiative of the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research. The Neuroscience Blueprint is a collaborative framework through which 16 NIH Institutes, Centers and Offices jointly support neuroscience-related research, with the aim of accelerating discoveries and reducing the burden of nervous system disorders.

The goal of this FOA is to facilitate research collaborations between pain scientists and non-pain neuroscientists with expertise in neuroplasticity in order to study biological mechanisms underlying the transition from acute to chronic pain. These collaborations will capture insights and expertise from disciplines where transitions from health to disease have been extensively examined. The purpose of this FOA is to encourage submission of multi-PI grant applications that propose highly collaborative, multidisciplinary research projects addressing neuropathic pain conditions. An expected outcome of this FOA will be the formation of partnerships between pain researchers and non-pain neuroscientists to develop new collaborations focused on understanding the maladaptive neuroplastic changes that occur during the transition from acute to chronic neuropathic pain.

Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards. The participating Neuroscience Blueprint Institutes intend to commit \$5 million in 2011 to fund approximately 7-10 awards in response to this FOA. Awards issued under this FOA are contingent upon the availability of funds and the

submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

<http://neuroscienceblueprint.nih.gov>

Spinal Cord Injury Research Program (SCIRP) to promote research into regenerating damaged spinal cords, arthritis research, and improving rehabilitation therapies that offer real promise for enhancing long-term care of wounded soldiers. This program is administered by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) through the Office of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP). A summary of SCIRP funding opportunities is provided below. Detailed descriptions of each of the funding opportunities, evaluation criteria, and submission requirements can be found in the FY10 SCIRP Program Announcements. Each Program Announcement is available electronically for downloading from the Grants.gov website (<<http://www.grants.gov>>) and the CDMRP eReceipt System (<<https://cdmrp.org>>).

Submission Deadlines:

Clinical Trial Award- Rehabilitation

Pre-Application: August 5, 2010

Application (Invited): December 1, 2010

Investigator-Initiated Research Award

Pre-Application: August 5, 2010

Application (Invited): December 1, 2010

Qualitative Research Award

Pre-Application: August 5, 2010

Application (Invited): December 1, 2010

Translational Research Partnership Award

Pre-Application: August 5, 2010

Application (Invited): December 1, 2010

Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons

Closes:10/31/2010

Maximum:\$40,000

Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation Grants, Awards and Fellowships

As a premier funder of neurosurgical studies, the Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation (NREF) of the American Association of Neurosurgeons (ANS) focuses on providing fellowship funding in basic neuroscience and neurosurgical programs in North America. The NREF strongly encourages research projects from all fields of neurosurgery.

The NREF sponsors two neurosurgical research grant programs annually:

* Research Fellowship - Open to residents only, the

Research Fellowship is offered as a one-year research project grant of \$40,000.

* Young Clinician Investigator Award - Designed to support young neurosurgeons pursuing careers as clinician investigators, the Young Clinician Investigator Award is open to junior faculty for a one-year grant of \$40,000. The NREF endorses the submission of applications for both patient-orientated clinical research and basic science research. Applications from all neurosurgical areas of focused practice are encouraged. Application submission deadline for 2011 research opportunities is October 31, 2010.

These focus areas include: Head trauma and brain injury, Tumors, Spine-related conditions mechanics, diseases, tumors, injury, repair techniques, etc, Pain management, Stroke

For additional information on the NREF research grant programs, contact the Development department at (847) 378-0500 or nref@aans.org.

American Association of Neurological Surgeons
5550 Meadowbrook Drive
Rolling Meadows, IL
60008-3852
P 847.378.0500 or 888.566.AANS (2267)
F 847.378.0600

Department of Defense Neurofibromatosis Research Program

Deadline ongoing

Funding Opportunities for Fiscal Year 2010

The Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) Defense Appropriations Act provides \$13.75 million to the Department of Defense Neurofibromatosis Research Program (NFRP) to find and fund the best research to eradicate the clinical impact of neurofibromatosis (NF) and Schwannomatosis. This program is administered by the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command through the Office of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP).

The FY10 NFRP encourages proposals that specifically address critical needs of the NF community in the following areas:

Complications of neurofibromatosis with high mortality such as neoplasms and cerebrovascular abnormalities;
Complications of neurofibromatosis with high morbidity such as skeletal maladies, learning deficits, hormone-associated effects, and pain; Refinement and standardization of imaging techniques, molecular and cellular markers, and quality of life metrics for use in future

clinical trials; Translational research such as the development or preclinical testing of therapeutic agents for the treatment of neurofibromatosis.

FY10 NFRP Program Announcements for proposals in the following mechanisms are anticipated to be posted and available on Grants.gov in January and February 2010.
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-006.html>

Aging-Related Funding:

Novel Biomarkers to Accelerate Drug Discovery for Frontotemporal Dementias

The deadline date for applications is September 9, 2010. Submission of a Letter of Intent (LOI) is required at least 2 weeks prior to the applications deadline.

Drug discovery for frontotemporal dementias (FTD) has been hindered by the heterogeneity of the disease. FTD specific biomarkers that reflect pathological differences are needed to select appropriate patients for clinical trials and monitor target-specific responses to investigational treatments. The Alzheimers Drug Discovery Foundation (ADDF) and The Association for Frontotemporal Dementias (AFTD) challenge scientists to meet this unmet medical need by submitting applications through this Request for Proposals (RFP).

The ADDF and AFTD are particularly interested in: FTD relevant imaging agents; CSF and plasma based assays; and TDP-43 and tau-focused biomarkers specifically relevant to FTD populations.

ADDF/AFTD will provide grants for one-year duration (up to \$100,000 each) with the possibility of follow-on funding.

REVIEW PROCESS: Applications will be confidentially reviewed by ADDF and an external Scientific Review Committee, including AFTD scientific advisors.

Applications from biotechnology companies will also be reviewed by ADDF's external Business Advisory Board.

Award winners will be publicly announced in Spring 2011.

All applications must be submitted electronically at www.alzdiscovery.org. To further discuss scientific or financial aspects of proposals, please contact: Diana Shineman, PhD, Assistant Director for Scientific Affairs
Phone: 212-901-8007

E-mail: dshineman@alzdiscovery.org

For more information regarding the application process, please contact: Adam Liebling, Senior Grants Manager
Phone: 212-901-8005

E-mail: aliebling@alzdiscovery.org

National Institutes of Health Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23)

Deadline: March 12, July 12, November 12, 2010.

Level: Junior Faculty

Award Information: Mentor-based; salary and some laboratory/research; 3-5 years support; amount depends on specific NIH institute

Description: The purpose of the Mentored Patient-Oriented Research (POR) Career Development Award (K23) is to support the career development of investigators who have made a commitment to focus their research endeavors on patient-oriented research. This mechanism provides support of supervised study and research for clinically trained professionals who have the potential to develop into productive, clinical investigators focusing on patient-oriented research. Applicants must justify the need for a period of mentored research experience and provide a convincing case that the proposed period of support and career development plan will substantially enhance their careers as independent investigators in patient-oriented research.

Application: March 12, July 12, November 12, 2010. To access applications and instructions, visit

<http://grants.nih.gov/training/careerdevelopmentawards.htm>

Other Funding Opportunities:

The New York City Investment Fund BioAccelerate NYC Prize

Letters of intent: Wednesday, September 1, 2010

Pre-proposals due March 2011

The New York City Investment Fund (NYCIF), with assistance of New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) is sponsoring the second annual BioAccelerate NYC Prize, a citywide competition that will provide funding for biomedical translational research. The focus is technology and research that have advanced beyond the point where an academic institution or the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is prepared to fund, but before the investment and commercial sectors are interested in committing dollars.

The BioAccelerate NYC judges are expected to award between three and six winners who will each receive up to \$250,000 in the form of a grant with participation. A condition of funding is that serious efforts are made to locate any associated spin out company in New York City. The deadline for the pre-proposals is September 1, 2010.

Please email grantsandcontracts@med.cornell.edu for an updated BioAccelerate NYC flyer as well as a pre-proposal application. You may also access information here:

<http://www.bioacceleratenyc.org/>

If a faculty member has any questions regarding the details of this funding opportunity (eligibility, selection criteria, timeline) or would like assistance with the preparation of this award (submission process, proposal development, communications), please contact Brian Lamon Ph.D. at bdl2001@med.cornell.edu or (212) 746-6720.

National Institutes of Health Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs)

Applications will be accepted between September 1 and November 15, 2010

NIH wants to encourage outstanding health professionals to pursue careers in biomedical, behavioral, social, and clinical research. If you commit at least two years to conducting qualified research funded by a domestic nonprofit organization or U.S. federal, state, or local government entity, NIH may repay up to \$35,000 of your qualified student loan debt per year, including most undergraduate, graduate, and medical school loans. Loan repayment benefits are in addition to the institutional salary you receive for your research.

If you are or will be conducting qualified research at a domestic nonprofit institution outside NIH, you may be eligible for one of the five extramural LRPs:

Clinical Research, Pediatric Research, Health Disparities Research, Contraception and Infertility Research
Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds

You may submit only one LRP application to NIH in any fiscal year, even though your research may be appropriate for more than one of the programs. Applications will be accepted between September 1 and November 15.

Please follow this link for more program details:

http://www.lrp.nih.gov/about_the_programs/index.aspx

NIH Small Research Grant Program (Parent R03) Program

URL:<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files>

/PA-10-064.html Type of Scientists Funded: Junior Faculty, Administrator, Senior Scientist/Faculty Program

Description: The National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Investigator-Initiated Small Grant (R03) funding

opportunity supports small research projects that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources.

Investigator-initiated research, also known as unsolicited research, is research funded as a result of an investigator

submitting a research grant application to NIH in an investigator's area of interest and competency. All investigator-initiated small grant applications described in this announcement will be assigned to NIH institutes and centers (ICs) according to standard Public Health Service referral guidelines and specific program interests. Investigators are strongly encouraged to consult the list of participating ICs and special research interests. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of projects including (1) pilot and feasibility studies; (2) secondary analysis of existing data; (3) small, self-contained research projects; (4) development of research methodology; and (5) development of new research technology. The R03 is intended to support small research projects that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources.

Public Contact Information

Name: Judy Fox

Phone: 301-443-4704

Fax: 301-443-3891

E-mail: jfox@mail.nih.gov

Country: United States

Deadline: Ongoing

Behavioral and Integrative Treatment Development

Program (R03) Program URL: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-011.html> Type of Scientists Funded:

Junior Faculty, Administrator Program Description: The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for R03s is to encourage early career investigators or investigators who are striving to make a shift in their research to propose discrete, well-defined projects that can be completed within 2 years with limited resources.

Projects of interest fall within the research domain of behavioral, combined, sequential, or integrated (behavioral/pharmacological) (1) drug abuse treatment interventions, including interventions for patients with comorbidities, in diverse settings; (2) interventions to prevent the acquisition or transmission of HIV infection among individuals in drug abuse treatment; (3) interventions to promote adherence to drug abuse treatment, HIV and addiction medications; and (4) interventions to treat chronic pain. Specific examples include: 1) Stage I pilot or feasibility studies; 2) secondary analysis of existing data; 3) small, self-contained research projects; 4) development of research assessments or methodology; and 5) development of new research technology.

Deadline: Ongoing

TRIPLL is an NIH-funded Roybal center that focuses on translational research affecting pain in later life. TRIPLL is a joint project that includes investigators at Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell Ithaca, The Hospital for Special Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Columbia University. Cary Reid is the Director of TRIPLL, and Co-directors include Karl Pillemer and Elaine Wethington. TRIPLL co-investigators include Thelma Mielenz (Columbia), Chris Murtaugh (VNSNY), Steve Passik (MSKCC), and Laura Robbins (HSS).

For more information on TRIPLL please contact Samantha Parker at sap2013@med.cornell.edu.

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