

PhRMA FOUNDATION NEWS

Supporting research and early career endeavors of scientists in drug discovery and development

> *From the President*

Dear Colleagues:

The PhRMA Foundation has exciting news to share with you this fall on several fronts:

- Our [Value Assessment Initiative](#) continues to build momentum: Just a few weeks ago we announced the recipients of our **2018 Value Assessment Challenge Awards**. A total of \$85,000 in funding was provided for several researchers who addressed this question: “What are potentially transformative strategies and methods to define and measure value at all levels of decision making that are aligned with personalized/precision medicine?”
- In addition, our **Value Assessment Centers of Excellence** – where innovative research is being supported via two \$500,000 grants – are busily working on projects that will help advance critically needed solutions for our health care system.
- We have launched a new program on [safe and effective prescribing](#) that demonstrates our commitment to use Foundation resources in new ways that tangibly impact issues of importance to medicine’s future. This exciting project offers free, online educational modules for trainees in medicine, nursing and pharmacy and addresses the need for better prescribing education by the Association of American Medical Colleges and others.
- In this issue of our newsletter you will meet **our latest grant and award recipients** – the best and brightest young researchers in America. And you will also learn more about one of our most distinguished alumni – **Craig Venter, PhD**, whose work in sequencing the human genome was instrumental in opening the way for a new era of genomic science globally.
- We also want to remind you that the deadline for **another round of awards is coming in February**. You can learn much more about the awards we offer [at our website](#) – and, always, we hope you will encourage your colleagues to consider Foundation funding for their projects.



You can read more about all of these activities below.

In its more than 54 years as a funding source, the PhRMA Foundation has provided more than \$90 million to advance research. This simply would not have been possible

without the solid network of partners who help us make a powerful, lasting impact every year. Partnership is what moves the Foundation forward.

Our unique partnership includes academic centers, medical and scientific organizations, biopharmaceutical companies, government agencies, and of course, our distinguished alumni. The contributions of all help make it possible for us to clear the path of the kinds of hurdles that might slow the work of promising young scientists.

Real collaboration across all sectors lets us do this, keeping researchers focused on their research.

As we near the end of another productive year at the Foundation, we thank our supporters and partners, and we encourage you to [consider contributing again](#). Great ideas and novel concepts need solid backing to thrive – and you can help us provide it.

We hope you have a wonderful fall!

Sincerely,
Eileen Cannon
President
PhRMA Foundation

Value Assessment



2018 Value Assessment Challenge Award Recipients Announced

The PhRMA Foundation and the Personalized Medicine Coalition (PMC) have announced the recipients of the 2018 Value Assessment Challenge Awards – designed to encourage innovative approaches in defining and measuring value in health care. This year's award recipients were recognized for submitting research proposals that focus specifically on novel methods for assessing the value of personalized medicine.

A total of \$85,000 in funding was provided for the researchers, who answered the question: **What are potentially transformative strategies and methods to define and measure value at all levels of decision making that are aligned with personalized/precision medicine?**

2018 Award recipients include:

First Place recipients (\$50,000)

Louis Garrison, PhD, University of Washington; **Adrian Towse, MPhil, MA**, Office of Health Economics, London, England.

Research Proposal: *A Strategy to Support the Efficient Development and Use of innovations in Personalized and Precision Medicine.*

Second Place recipients (\$25,000)

Robin Z. Hayeems, ScM, PhD, the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto; **Stephanie Luca**, the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto; **M. Stephen Meyn, MD**, University of Wisconsin; **Eleanor Pullenayegum, PhD**, the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto; **Wendy J. Ungar, PhD**, the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto.

Research Proposal: *Genome diagnostics: Novel strategies for measuring value.*

Third Place recipient (\$10,000)

Quang A. Le, PharmD, PhD, Western University of Health Sciences, College of Pharmacy.

Research Proposal: *Discrete-Event Simulation -- An Alternative Patient-Level Modeling Approach for Value Assessment: A Cost-Effectiveness Study of Current Treatment Guidelines for Women with Postmenopausal Osteoporosis.*

“We are delighted to be working with the Personalized Medicine Coalition on this project,” said PhRMA Foundation President Eileen Cannon. “As a not-for-profit education and advocacy organization, it shares the Foundation’s goal of improving patient outcomes and at the same time making the health system more efficient by targeting treatments to only those patients who will benefit from them.”

Recipients of Challenge Awards will be acknowledged during PMC's **14th Annual Personalized Medicine Conference** at Harvard Medical School on Thursday, November 15th. They will be asked to present their winning papers at a public forum, to be announced later, where they will be honored for their work.

Award recipients will also become part of the Value Assessment Research Network, which has been established to encourage collaboration and dissemination of findings that emerge from various projects the Foundation is supporting through its Value Assessment Initiative.

The Challenge Awards are one component of the PhRMA Foundation’s multi-faceted Value Assessment Initiative, which supports a variety of research and innovation projects to help the United States make a successful transition to a value-based health care system. The initiative has awarded more than \$1.5 million in funding to date.

Concern over rising U.S. health care costs in recent years has increased interest in promoting high-quality care while avoiding low-value or inefficient care. In response, various efforts aimed at driving value in health care have emerged, but few have offered transformative solutions that reflect patient preferences and real-world clinical practice.

New Consortium for Value-Based Care Launched with Foundation Funding

Not-for-profit health systems research and consulting organization **Altarum** and its partner, **VBID Health**, have launched the [Research Consortium for Health Care Value Assessment](#), a PhRMA Foundation-funded initiative that brings together researchers working in health value to collaborate, share findings, and develop research ideas to help address waste and inefficiency in health care.

The new research consortium will promote the pursuit of value in health care delivery in the United States by identifying high- and low-value clinical services, tracking the use of such services, helping to ensure that consumer preferences are incorporated in health care decisions. It will work with researchers to identify the strategies that lead to better value, such as health benefit designs that incentivize the use of high-value services and discourage the use of low-value services.

The Consortium will be led by **George Miller, PhD**, of Altarum and **Mark Fendrick, MD**, of VBID Health, with an advisory committee of leading experts led by **David Meltzer, PhD, MD**, University of Chicago. Other members of the advisory committee include **Beth Bortz**, President, Virginia Center for Health Innovation; **Peter J. Neumann, ScD**, Tufts Medical Center and Tufts University School of Medicine; **Neel Shah, MD, MPP**, Harvard Medical School and Harvard Ariadne Labs; and **Steven M. Teutsch, MPH, MD**, Fielding School of Public Health, UCLA, and Schaeffer Center, USC.

As a part of the initiative, Altarum and VBID Health received a \$500,000 grant to establish the consortium as one of the Foundation’s “Centers of Excellence” in value assessment.

A second Center of Excellence has been established at the **University of Maryland, Baltimore** and will be featured in an upcoming issue of *PhRMA Foundation News*.

In an article in the Sept. 20, 2018 Health Affairs Blog titled ["Optimizing Health Care Resource Allocation."](#) Consortium leaders Miller and Fendrick, joined by author Beth Beaudin-Seiler, PhD, identified key questions that the consortium will address as it begins its work.

“The value of a treatment has long been associated with benefits and costs,” the authors

write. “Yet there are countless other factors that make a treatment meaningful to a patient. Does the treatment improve function? Does it have a manageable dosing regimen? What are its effects over the long term? Quantifying value in health care requires a long-term view that weighs both direct and indirect costs.”

To learn more about the Research Consortium for Health Care Value Assessment, visit www.hcvalueassessment.org.

To learn more about the PhRMA Foundation’s Value Assessment Initiative, visit our [Value Assessment page online](#).

Safe Prescribing



New Online Educational Series Offers Instruction in Safe and Effective Prescribing



The PhRMA Foundation has launched a new online educational series for medical, nursing and pharmacy schools on safe and effective prescribing, featuring instruction from national experts.

Developed with the assistance of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Foundation for the NIH, American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (ASCPT) and the Reagan-Udall Foundation, the Safe and Effective Prescribing Initiative features five course modules, which are free and may be accessed from the PhRMA Foundation website.

Each module includes a video tutorial, led by an expert in prescribing; a self-assessment test; a case study; and a supplemental list of research and resources.

Topics include:

- [Clinically Important Drug Interactions](#), with Sarah Robertson, PharmD, Vertex Pharmaceuticals
- [Prescribing Drugs in Neonates, Infants, Children and Adolescents](#), with John N. van den Anker, MD, PhD, Children’s National Medical Center
- [Assessment and Reporting of Adverse Drug Reactions](#), with Christine Chamberlain, PharmD, BCPS, CDE, of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- [Pharmacodynamics of Aging](#), with the late Darrell R. Abernethy, MD, PhD, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- [Obstetric Pharmacology](#), with Catherine M. Stika, MD, Northwestern University

Module users are encouraged to take the self-assessment test prior to viewing the module and again post-viewing to check what they have learned. The modules range in length from 34 to 55 minutes each.

The new online resource from the PhRMA Foundation was launched in response to calls by the Association of American Medical Colleges and others for strengthened training in safe and effective prescribing for medical trainees.

Each of the modules has been designed in a way that makes them useful for a wide range of potential prescribers and others who need knowledge of safe prescribing – from medical, nursing and pharmacy students to established practitioners in all three disciplines.

Here is how you can help this project succeed in its goal of promoting safe prescribing:

- If you are a prescriber – visit the website to bolster your knowledge.
- If you have colleagues in academia that might benefit from this free resource, please forward them this link: <http://www.phrmafoundation.org/safe-and-effective-prescribing-project/>.

We are confident that this new resource will better prepare current and future prescribers, strengthening patient safety and medical effectiveness in the United States. Help us spread the word!

Foundation Funds Conference to Explore Advances in Safe and Effective Prescribing for Pregnant Women

As a part of its new efforts to promote safe and effective prescribing, the Foundation is providing funding for [“Obstetric-Fetal Pharmacology: Practical Prescribing and Research Methods Update.”](#) a conference for researchers and clinicians to be held November 1-2, 2018 at Northwestern University in Chicago.

New discoveries and innovations in obstetric pharmacology will be highlighted during the conference, which has been organized by the three National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Obstetric-Fetal Pharmacology Research Centers: Northwestern University, the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Texas Medical Branch.

The program will provide new data and research from internationally recognized experts on a variety of pharmacological issues related to pregnancy – ranging from efficacy and safety of drugs to research methods and trends in drug development and regulation.

The lack of data to support prescribing medications for pregnant women safely and effectively has resulted in these women being relegated to “pharmaceutical orphans.” Many factors influence pharmacology during pregnancy, ranging from increased cardiac output to changes in the activity of drug metabolizing enzymes. However, little is known about the effects on drugs that are necessary for the health and well-being of pregnant women and their fetuses.

Conference organizers have structured the program to address the pressing need for expanded research and understanding in this critical area of pharmacology, with the work of national obstetric-fetal researchers across the translational spectrum to be featured.

Funding for the conference has been provided by the PhRMA Foundation and Dr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Atkinson, Jr.

Grant Recipients



Congratulations to the Foundation's 2018 Fellowship and Grant Recipients

VALUE ASSESSMENT

Josh Carlson, PhD
University of Washington
Susan dosReis, PhD
University of Maryland, Baltimore
Lou Garrison, PhD
University of Washington

PHARMACEUTICS (CON'T)

Shunji Egusa, PhD
The University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Lauren Kathleen Fontana
University of Connecticut
Anjana Jeyaram
University of Maryland, College Park

Robin Z. Hays, ScM, PhD
The Hospital for Sick Children Research
Institute

George Miller, PhD
Altarum

Quang A. Le, PharmD, PhD
Western University of Health Sciences
College of Pharmacy

Shelby Reed, PhD
Duke University

Gillian Sanders Schmidler, PhD
Duke University

Andrian Towse, MPhil, MA
The Office of Health Economists

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARD IN CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL PHARMACOLOGY

Matthew M. Ippolito, MD
Johns Hopkins University School of
Medicine

HEALTH OUTCOMES

Tessa J. Hastings
Auburn University

Nathaniel D. Hendrix, PharmD
University of Washington

Ruixuan Jiang, PharmD
University of Illinois, Chicago

Uriel Kim
Case Western Reserve University School
of Medicine

Brittany R. Lapin, MPH, PhD
Cleveland Clinic

Kathy Trang
Emory University

Andrew D. Wiese, MPH, PhD
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

INFORMATICS

Cynthia R. Dickerson
University of Kentucky

Jonathon M. Gast
Purdue University

Sam B. Gelman
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Kenneth B. Hoehn, DPhil
Yale University

Hila Sberro Livnat, PhD
Stanford University

Anna Ulrika Lowegard
Duke University

Rendong Yang, PhD
University of Minnesota

PAUL CALABRESI MEDICAL STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

Mihailo Miljanic
Dell Medical School

PHARMACEUTICS

Peter Alan Kleindl

University of Kansas

William Mark Payne

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Davin Rautiola

University of Minnesota

PHARMACOLOGY/TOXICOLOGY

John A. Allen, PhD

University of Texas Medical Branch

Katelyn M. Arnold

The University of North Carolina, Chapel
Hill

Sarah Elizabeth Binion

Marshall University

Daniel J Blackwell, PhD

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Amanda Kay Davis

University of Michigan

Riann Jenay Egusquiza

University of California, Irvine

Tamara Escajadillo

University of California, San Diego

Ryan S. Funk, PharmD, PhD

University of Kansas

Jeffrey A Rappaport

Thomas Jefferson University

Taha Y. Taha

University of Illinois, Chicago

Kaitlyn Thompson

Stony Brook University

Joseph Tillotson, PhD

Johns Hopkins University School of
Medicine

Julia Tobacyk

University of Arkansas for Medical
Sciences

Shira Yomtoubian

Weill Cornell Medicine

REGULATORY SCIENCE

Melinda Johnson, PhD

Johns Hopkins University

Cameron Kieffer, PhD

Creighton University School of Medicine

TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE & THERAPEUTICS

Alex Bishara, PhD

University of California, San Francisco

Sam Emaminejad, PhD

University of California, Los Angeles

Kasi C. McPherson, PhD

University of Alabama, Birmingham

Yong Zhang, PhD

University of Southern California

AWARD IN EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL PHARMACOLOGY

Darrell Abernethy, MD, PhD

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

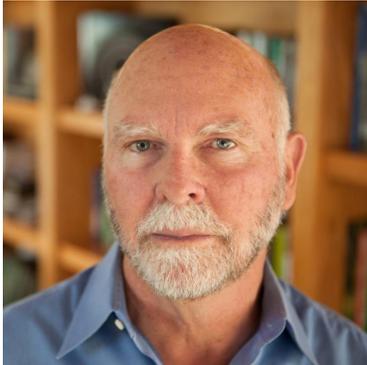
Christine Bowman
University of California, San Francisco
Julie Lorraine Calahan
University of Kentucky
Bodhisattwa Chaudhuri, PhD
University of Connecticut

(awarded posthumously)

**AWARD IN EXCELLENCE IN
PHARMACOLOGY/TOXICOLOGY**

Gavril Pasternak, MD, PhD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Awardee Spotlight



J. Craig Venter, PhD: Pioneering Leader of Genomic Research

J. Craig Venter, PhD, is regarded as one of the leading scientists of the 21st century for his numerous invaluable contributions to genomic research. He is founder, chairman, and CEO of the J. Craig Venter Institute (JCVI), a not-for-profit, research organization with approximately 250 scientists and staff dedicated to human, microbial, plant, synthetic and environmental genomic research, and the exploration of social and ethical issues in genomics.

Dr. Venter, who received a Research Starter Grant in Pharmacology/Toxicology from the PhRMA Foundation in 1977, is featured in [a new video](#) from the Foundation that highlights his work and the role the Foundation played in helping him early in his career. His work is an example of the kind of innovation the Foundation is dedicated to supporting – scientific research that is aimed at preventing diseases and finding cures.

Dr. Venter is the recipient of numerous honorary degrees, public honors and scientific awards, including the 2008 United States National Medal of Science. He is a member of numerous prestigious scientific organizations, including the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

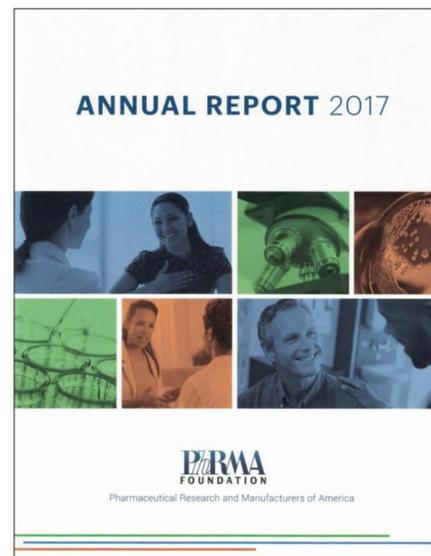
“When you are starting out as an assistant professor, you have to get your own funds to really do research,” Dr. Venter said. “Getting an initial PhRMA Foundation grant made a huge start in my research career.”

Reminder: You Can View Our Annual Report Online

Please share our [2017 Annual Report](#) with your colleagues who may be interested in PhRMA Foundation funding. The Annual Report highlights the work of our grant awardees and progress on other initiatives and projects.

The Foundation provided more than 40 awards, grants and fellowships, supporting work in a variety of disciplines over the last year – and altogether awarded more than \$3 million in funding to support this exciting new research.

Now we need your help identifying new, strong candidates for future grants. Please copy the link below and share it with your colleagues. Thank you!



Championing Women in Life Sciences and Health Care!

We announced earlier this year that the Foundation is supporting a special initiative to document the many contributions women have made to the life sciences and health care.

The initiative is being led by WhatIsBiotechnology.org (WiB), an independent non-profit educational organization that brings together stories about the [sciences](#), [people](#) and [places](#) that have enabled biotechnology to transform medicine and the world we live in today. As a part of its mission, the initiative is seeking the views of researchers on this question:

“What do you see as the most important challenge for women in the life sciences and health care?”

The PhRMA Foundation encourages alumni and stakeholders to participate in this public engagement project, which was launched in part to celebrate the 150th year of Marie Curie’s birth. To view respondents’ comments and take part visit the survey by [clicking here](#).

“Responses to our ongoing survey highlight that women’s advances in the life sciences and health care sector are still incremental,” said Dr. Lara Marks, FRBSB, Managing Editor of WhatIsBiotechnology.org. “Much more work is needed to achieve gender equality and overcome unconscious biases to recruiting women to leadership positions. Flexible working hours, greater childcare affordability and harnessing social media tools to enable women to network and share experiences are all seen as key to encouraging more women into becoming leaders in the field.”

WiB has put together a timeline of initiatives implemented around the world to promote [gender equality](#) and some of the [key biomedical discoveries in which women played a pivotal role](#). WiB is also compiling the [profiles of some of the leading women in the field](#).

To learn more about these and other WiB projects, contact Dr. Marks at lara@whatisbiotechnology.org.

> Help Sustain our Impact by Donating to the Foundation

For more than 50 years, the PhRMA Foundation has invested in the future of biopharmaceutical development by providing critically needed funding for new ideas, emerging talent and enduring scientific discoveries. Through its grants, fellowships and other programming, the Foundation has distributed more than \$90 million to fund the research and innovations of scientists early in their careers.

Please consider supporting the PhRMA Foundation, which is a direct investment in the future of biopharmaceuticals. **Our success relies on the support of our stakeholders.** Your contribution is 100 percent tax-deductible, due to the Foundation’s designation as a 501c3 organization.

The Foundation’s work is delivering hope to patients and families all over the world, who face devastating diseases and illnesses every day. We are grateful for your partnership in this important effort.

To learn more about making a contribution, please [visit our contribution page](#) or call 202-572-7756.

Questions about how to apply? Click here for our application guide.

Visit our website for more information

PhRMA Foundation | Phone: 202-572-7756 | Email: foundation@phrma.org

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