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**PRIVATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: MAY 13, 2016**

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*Please contact Corporate & Foundation Relations in the Office of Development at [devcfr@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:devcfr@mgh.harvard.edu) if you wish to submit a proposal in response to any of these opportunities. Note that proposals are still routed through the standard InfoEd/Research Management process.*

**1. Young Investigator Grants, Breast Cancer Alliance (BCA)**

The mission of the Breast Cancer Alliance (BCA) is to improve survival rates and quality of life for those impacted by breast cancer through better prevention, early detection, treatment and cure. To promote these goals, the BCA invests in innovative research, breast surgery fellowships, regional education, dignified support and screening for the uninsured and underserved.

The BCA offers the Young Investigator Grant to encourage a commitment to breast cancer research. This grant is intended to help advance the careers of young researchers who do not yet have their own major grant support.

Award Amount: \$125,000 for 2 years

Application Deadline: Jul 22, 2016

Website: <http://breastcanceralliance.org/grants/>

**2. Greater Value Portfolio, Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donaghue Medical Research Foundation New**

The Donaghue Foundation announces its 2016 Greater Value Portfolio grant program that will fund research projects for the purpose of creating new approaches to achieving a higher value healthcare system. The goal of this program is to test new approaches and tools that organizations can readily use to improve the value of the healthcare they provide to their patients and communities.

The Foundation believes value in health care is achieved with uniformly high quality outcomes and favorable patient experience for the money we spend. Symptoms of poor healthcare value are high and rising healthcare costs, unwarranted variation in prices, unacceptable variation in quality, and a lack of transparency in both price and outcomes. Investigators conducting research that expect to develop actionable solutions to one or more of these symptoms of low value healthcare are encouraged to apply to the Greater Value Portfolio program. Eligible topics include strategies to:

- Engage consumers in a better understanding of the current status of value in healthcare

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*Do you want to learn more about identifying external funding opportunities?  
See [ECOR's website](#) for information on the funding opps database, **COS Pivot** or  
contact Amy Robb [arobb@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:arobb@mgh.harvard.edu) for a research consultation.*

- Engage providers and health systems in defining and assessing the value of their services
- Encourage providers and their patients with serious illnesses to engage in difficult conversations about preferences and trade-offs related to alternative treatment options
- Identify, highlight and resolve structural dysfunctions or inefficiencies between healthcare settings
- Create economic models that evaluate and address current financial disincentives for systemic change (i.e., paying for current programs with future savings or paying for social determinants of health with the savings from lower clinical services)

In order to receive the award, the applicant must demonstrate how their research question is important to relevant stakeholders, how answers to their questions will lead to practical benefit in bringing greater value to health and healthcare, and propose a rigorous research design.

Topics that are not considered relevant to the purpose of the program are efficacy trials, comparative effectiveness research that does not include cost analysis, basic research, or research using animal models.

Award Amount: \$600,000 for up to 5 years

LOI Deadline: **May 17, 2016**

Website: <http://donaghue.org/grant-programs/grant-opportunities/>

### **3. Spinal Cord Injury Research on the Translational Spectrum (SCIRTS) - Neilsen SCIRTS Postdoctoral Fellowships, Craig H. Neilsen Foundation**

Spinal Cord Injury Research on the Translational Spectrum (SCIRTS) portfolio funding is intended to support research designed to improve understanding and advance the treatment of acute and chronic SCI and to fill gaps in the field, including mechanistic, preclinical, translational and/or clinical studies.

Neilsen SCIRTS Postdoctoral Fellowships are designed to encourage specialization in the field of SCI. Fellowships are intended to provide mentored training in SCI research to early-career investigators. The PI should be mentored (or co-mentored) by an investigator experienced in SCI research. The proposal should be written by the Fellow, with advice from the mentor(s).

NOTE: Early phase clinical trials of novel investigational drug or cell/biologic interventions under regulation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration are limited to the Senior Grant category. Postdoctoral fellows may participate in an approved trial supported by the Mentor's other funding.

Award Amount: \$150,000 paid over 2 years

LOI Deadline: May 27, 2016

Website: <http://chnfoundation.org/sci-research-translational-spectrum>

#### **4. Spinal Cord Injury Research on the Translational Spectrum (SCIRTS) - Neilsen SCIRTS Pilot Research Grants, Craig H. Neilsen Foundation New**

Spinal Cord Injury Research on the Translational Spectrum (SCIRTS) portfolio funding is intended to support research designed to improve understanding and advance the treatment of acute and chronic SCI and to fill gaps in the field, including mechanistic, preclinical, translational and/or clinical studies.

Neilsen SCIRTS Pilot Research Grants cultivate new lines of research and novel projects. These grants are intended to support pilot studies that lay essential groundwork, allow the PI to test the feasibility of novel methods and procedures and/or collect new data that can lead to or enhance larger-scale studies. Criteria for Pilot grants include the scientific merit of the project, the innovative nature of the proposed research and the likelihood that success will move the SCI field forward.

Award Amount: \$300,000 for up to 2 years

LOI Deadline: May 27, 2016

Website: <http://chnfoundation.org/sci-research-translational-spectrum>

#### **5. Spinal Cord Injury Research on the Translational Spectrum (SCIRTS) - SCIRTS Senior Research Grants, Craig H. Neilsen Foundation New**

Spinal Cord Injury Research on the Translational Spectrum (SCIRTS) portfolio funding is intended to support research designed to improve understanding and advance the treatment of acute and chronic SCI and to fill gaps in the field, including mechanistic, preclinical, translational and/or clinical studies.

SCIRTS Senior Research Grants focus on highly innovative projects by established contributors to explore new areas of SCI research or fill important gaps in the SCI field. The goal is not to substitute for federal funding, but to use Neilsen Foundation funds to encourage cutting-edge ideas and approaches that have great potential, despite some additional risk. The importance of the research goal should balance the risk due to the early stage of innovation. Criteria include the innovative nature of the proposed research, the likelihood that success will move the field forward, and a history of productivity and significant contributions by the investigator.

NOTE: Early phase clinical trials of novel investigational drug or cell/biologic interventions under regulation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration are limited to the Senior Grant category. Postdoctoral fellows may participate in an approved trial supported by the Mentor's other funding.

Award Amount: \$600,000 paid over 3 years

LOI Deadline: May 27, 2016

Website: <http://chnfoundation.org/sci-research-translational-spectrum>

## 6. Databases for Clinical Research Data in Rett Syndrome, Rettsyndrome.org (International Rett Syndrome Foundation) <sup>New</sup>

This Request for Proposals for the specific purpose of maintaining existing and/or developing new databases for clinical research data in Rett syndrome.

Investigators with "Research Associate" as their title are eligible to apply for mentored training fellowships only. Exceptions may be considered on a case by case basis.

Award Amount: \$100,000 paid over 2 years

LOI Deadline: Jun 1, 2016

Website: <http://www.rettsyndrome.org/research/funding-opportunities>

## 7. VHLA Research Grant Program, VHL Alliance

VHL or von Hippel-Lindau disease is a genetic form of cancer. VHL patients battle a series of tumors throughout their lives. The VHL gene controls the major feeding pipeline of every tumor. Curing VHL is one step closer to curing many other forms of cancer.

The VHL Alliance is pleased to announce a call for applications for research grant support on topics relevant to von Hippel-Lindau disease. Projects should further the understanding of VHL disease and may address VHL cell and molecular biology, the development and/or application of VHL-relevant animal models, or the diagnosis and treatment of VHL patients.

There will be two potential funding mechanisms:

- Research Projects
- Pilot grants

Award Amount: Up to \$100,000 for 2 years

LOI Deadline: Jun 1, 2016

Website: <http://vhl.org/research/research-grants/>