

EUREKA!



American
Urological
Association
Education & Research, Inc.

Research News & Funding Digest

NEW THIS WEEK

AUA and Partners to Host Informational Webinar on the NEW DoD Kidney Cancer Research Program: Funding for Kidney Cancer Researchers

Thanks to the unwavering advocacy efforts of kidney cancer patients and survivors, their loved ones, and their many supporters, for fiscal year 2017 (FY17), **kidney cancer research funding** will be provided through a new, \$10 million, stand-alone program in the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. This is an enormous gain for kidney cancer research—it now has a protected line of funding for the first time in the CDMRP's 24-year history. In an effort to assist researchers from urology and other disciplines in navigating the new Department of Defense (DoD) **[Kidney Cancer Research Program \(KCRP\)](#)** and submitting grant applications, the AUA and its advocacy partners, **[Action to Cure Kidney Cancer \(ACKC\)](#)**, **[KCCure](#)**, and the **[Kidney Cancer Action Network \(KCAN\)](#)** are hosting an informational webinar, with a presentation by the DoD's KCRP Program Manager, Dr. Donna M. Kimbark.

Are you interested in applying for federal funding through the new DoD Kidney Cancer Research Program (KCRP)? Please join the AUA and its advocacy partners for this complimentary webinar on **October 24th, 2017 from 2:00-3:00 PM, Eastern Time**.

[Register Now](#)

Checkpoint Immunotherapy Approved for Patients with Stomach, Gastroesophageal, and Liver Cancer

On September 22, 2017, the FDA approved anti-PD-1 checkpoint immunotherapies for two additional cancer types. The new approvals mean that patients with the most common form of liver cancer who have been previously treated with sorafenib can receive nivolumab (Opdivo®, Bristol-Myers Squibb), while patients with advanced, recurrent stomach or gastroesophageal cancer that expresses PD-L1 can receive pembrolizumab (Keytruda®, Merck). Although both immunotherapies have already been approved for other cancer types, these mark the first checkpoint immunotherapy approvals for liver, stomach, and gastroesophageal cancer, and the first approval of any immunotherapy for liver cancer.

[Learn More](#)

International Collaboration Launches New Program to Create New Cancer Models to Accelerate Research

An international project geared towards the development of a large, globally accessible bank of new cancer cell culture models for the research community has now been launched. The National Cancer Institute (NCI), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH); the [Office of Cancer Genomics](#), along with [Cancer Research UK](#); [Foundation Hubrecht Organoid Technology](#), and the [Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute](#), launched the Human Cancer Models Initiative (HCMI), which is projected to generate approximately 1,000 new cancer models that are representative of human tumors. The models will allow the research community to better study cancer initiation, development, and progression. Using new techniques to grow cells, scientists can make models that will better resemble the tissue architecture and complexity of human tumors than the cell lines that are currently being used.

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Clinical Trials to Start for New Bladder Cancer Therapy

Researchers have discovered that checkpoint immunotherapy is not as effective on some bladder cancers because of the suppression of immune cell activation. Now an agreement between Cancer Research UK and Cancer Research Technology (CRT), the charity's commercial arm, and the Canadian biotechnology company Sitka Biopharma Inc., a spin-off of the Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD) and the University of British Columbia (UBC), has made it possible for an experimental treatment for bladder cancer to move into early phase clinical trials. The new treatment: STK-01, is being developed to improve delivery of chemotherapy for non-muscle invasive bladder cancer (NMIBC).

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IN THE AUA

2018 Annual Urology Advocacy Summit - Save The Date!

The American Urological Association will host its first independent advocacy summit, on **March 12-14, 2018**, in Washington D.C. This new, AUA-led event aims to expand, strengthen and unify the voice of urology on policy matters impacting our practices and patients by bringing together a broad array of stakeholders, including patient advocates and researchers. The conference will host speakers ranging from urologists to patients, government employees and members of Congress. It will also feature training in grassroots lobbying for those new to the process, and opportunities for participants to meet with lawmakers and their staff, and officials from agencies such as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services or the National Institutes of Health. **Registration will open in October.**

[Learn More](#)

AUA Annual Meeting In May 2018 - Save the Date!

Start making plans now for the [2018 AUA Annual Meeting](#) occurring May 18-21, 2018 in San Francisco, CA. Entering its 113th year, the AUA Annual Meeting is the largest gathering of urologists in the world, providing unparalleled access to groundbreaking research, new guidelines and the latest advances in urologic medicine.

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CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

NIH Regional Seminars (Funding/Grants Administration)-Registration Is Now Open!

The National Institutes of Health invites you to participate in the 2017 NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration to be held on October 25-27, 2017, in Baltimore, MD at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel. The Seminar serves the NIH mission and training for the next generation of biomedical and behavioral scientists, and is intended to: Demystify the application and review process; clarify federal regulations and policies; and to highlight current areas of special interest or concern. Appropriate for those who are new to working with the NIH grants process – administrators, new and early stage investigators, researchers, graduate students, etc. For those with more experience, the seminar offers a few more advanced sessions, updates on policies and processes direct from NIH staff, as well as valuable presentation resources to share with your institution. **The deadline for registration is October 4, 2017.**

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Don't Miss This Year's SBUR Fall Symposium - Register Now!

Registration is open for the [SBUR 2017 Fall Symposium](#), "*Multiple Genetic and Epigenetic Mechanisms of Urologic Disease*." The symposium will be held **November 9-12, 2017** at the Westshore Grand in **Tampa, FL** and, in addition to over 30 outstanding scientific presentations, will include a "Career Choices and Survival Forum," a Q&A session with experts addressing scientific careers. **The SBUR is actively soliciting questions for this forum.** Experts include Susan Lim, Ph.D., Program Director at National Cancer Institute; Michael A Tessel, Ph.D., Director of Graduate Career Development and Employer Relations at The University of Chicago; Carolyn Best, Ph.D., Director of the Office of Research at the American Urological Association; and David Degraff, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pathology at Penn State. **The deadline for discounted early-bird registration is October 9, 2017.**

[Learn More](#)

American Cancer Association of Cancer Research (ACCR) Special Conference

The ACCR's special conference will be held on **December 2-5, 2017 in Orlando, FL**. The topic of this year's conference is: "Prostate Cancer: Advances in Basic, Translational, and Clinical Research." The conference will cover the current findings on the basic biology underlying prostate cancer and how these may be translated to the clinic, and the full range of topics from basic science to clinical research. This is a unique opportunity for interactions and exchanges between clinicians and scientists on important topics, and to join internationally-recognized experts and hear the latest in the field of prostate cancer research. **The deadline for advanced registration is October 18, 2017.**

[Learn More](#)

Surgical Outcomes Club 13th Annual Scientific Session-Registration is Now Open!

[The Surgical Outcomes Club](#) (SOC) is a consortium of surgeons and scientists interested in advancing health services and outcomes research in surgery. The Thirteenth Annual Scientific Session will be held on **Sunday, October 22 in San Diego, California**. This session will feature keynote speakers and special topics in Global Surgery Research, including, but not limited to: research conducted in low and middle income countries, health services research, and the epidemiology of surgical conditions. **Health Information Technology** will include presentations and discussions on the latest innovations and improvements in surgical care delivery, as well as visions for information technology to transform health care.

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Urology Research Opportunities For Residents: Montefiore/Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Montefiore, in its collaboration with the Albert Einstein College of Medicine is currently providing residents the opportunity to participate in pioneering research in the field of urology. Their full-time scientists, who staff the Department of Urology Research Laboratory, will provide various basic science and translational research opportunities to residents-in-training. Residents will also have the unique opportunity to work with the Institution's full-time scientists and physician researchers.

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OHF Global Registry Initiative: Open Application Deadline!

A call for proposals has been issued to develop international collaborative patient registries and databases to identify the determinants of the clinical manifestations and prognosis of patients with primary hyperoxaluria. Financial support will be given to international collaborative projects that develop and make use of well-defined patient cohorts covering a wide range of genetic and cultural backgrounds. **Application deadline is open for this initiative.**

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NIH Administrative Supplements for Validation Studies of Analytical Methods for Dietary Supplements and Natural Products (PA-17-447)

This FOA builds on existing NIH awards to support the performance and publication of formal single-laboratory validation studies of relevant quantitative analytical methods. Candidate constituents for quantitative method validation studies may include, but are not limited to: phytochemicals, nutrients, and potentially deleterious substances such as pesticides and mycotoxins. Multi-laboratory validation studies will not be supported through this FOA. **The three application deadlines are: October 15, 2017, January 15, 2018, and April 15, 2018.**

[View FOA](#)

NIA Paul B. Beeson Emerging Leaders Career Development Award in Aging (K76)

This FOA invites early-stage physician and other health-professional investigators with a commitment to aging research to apply for this award to advance their research and leadership skills in their specialty and in the broader field of aging and geriatrics research. The National Institute on Aging is pursuing this initiative to recruit new investigators who have begun to establish research programs and who, through this award, will be ready to assume leadership roles in their field of expertise and will be poised to change theory, practice and health outcomes related to the health of older individuals. Unlike other mentored K awards, candidates for this award must have received competitively awarded research support as a PD/PI at the faculty level or have otherwise leveraged faculty-level research support to develop an independent line of research. They must show evidence of leadership in the clinical or research domain. **The application deadline is October 19, 2017.**

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Pragmatic Research in Healthcare Settings to Improve Kidney Disease Prevention and Care (R18)

The purpose of this Research Demonstration and Dissemination Projects (R18) Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage research applications to test approaches to improve kidney disease prevention and/or treatment in routine healthcare settings. Research applications should be designed to test practical and potentially sustainable strategies that target the prevention or improved care of kidney disease, or the prevention or delay of the complications of kidney disease. The goal of the research is to obtain results that will improve routine healthcare practice and inform healthcare policy for the prevention or management of these conditions. **The application deadline is October 24, 2017.**

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NIH Limited Competition for the Continuation of the Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort Scientific and Data Coordinating Center (U24)

The purpose of this Limited Competition is to extend the Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort (CRIC) Study by continuing to support the Scientific and Data Coordinating Center. The CRIC Study is a multi-center, prospective, observational cohort study of men and women with chronic kidney disease (CKD). The operational components of the study include seven Clinical Centers and a Scientific and Data Coordinating Center (SDCC). The CRIC Study, established in 2001, has recruited approximately 5,500 study participants and followed them with annual in-person clinic visits and interim telephone contacts. **The Letter of Intent deadline is September 26, 2017. The application deadline is October 26, 2017.**

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Research Grant Program: Oxalosis & Hyperoxaluria Foundation (OHF)

The OHF is currently soliciting research proposals for its Fall 2017 cycle. The OHF supports research that will ultimately lead to new diagnostics, treatments, and/or a cure for primary hyperoxaluria and related hyperoxaluric conditions. Up to

\$200,000 total cost per project per year can be requested, with a maximum project length of 2 years. Meritorious projects are selected after a rigorous scientific review process. **The application deadline is November 1, 2017.**

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George M. O'Brien Kidney Research Core Centers (P30)

The goal of the [O'Brien Kidney Research Center](#) program is to make state-of-the art technologies and resources readily accessible to a broad spectrum of investigators pursuing studies in relevant topic areas. The emphases for this program are fourfold: (1) to attract new scientific expertise to and develop new tools for the study of human kidney physiology and disorders in humans and in animal and other models; (2) to encourage multidisciplinary research in these areas; 3) To explore new areas with translational potential; and 4) to generate Developmental Research (DR)/Pilot and Feasibility (P and F) studies which could lead to new and innovative approaches to study kidney disease. **The application deadline is November 1, 2017.**

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NIH Social Epigenomics Research Focused on Minority Health and Health Disparities (R21)

The purpose of this FOA is to support and accelerate innovative exploratory and developmental human epigenomic investigations focused on identifying and characterizing the mechanisms by which social experiences at various stages in life, both positive and negative, affect gene function and thereby influence health trajectories or modify disease risk in minority and health disparity populations. **The application deadline is November 15, 2017.**

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2017 Diokno/Lapides Essay Contest: Now Accepting Applications!

Win the most prestigious urology prize in the world and have your innovative ideas recognized among those of the greatest urologists of the past 30+ years. This contest is open to all physicians, PhD scientists, and MD and PhD trainees throughout the world. Essays will be judged in a blinded fashion by an independent panel. Contest winners will be announced on January 8. Winners will then be honored among peers at the AUA National Meeting, and Awards Dinner in San Francisco, CA on May 19 2018. **The essay submission deadline is December 15, 2017.**

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