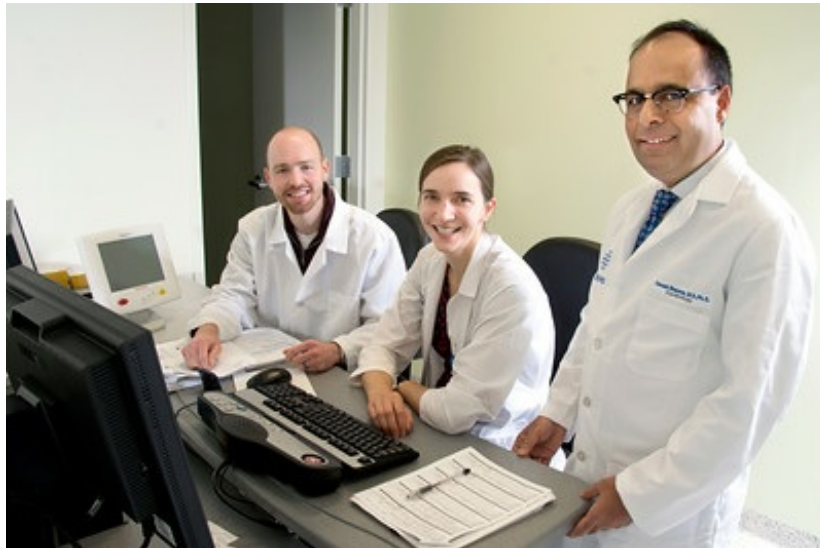


August 2017 Issue 1

Member Feature



Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

UB Assistant Professor Receives \$1 Million to Study Heart Failure After a Heart Attack

By [Ellen Goldbaum](#) | News Content Manager

August 8, 2017 | University of Buffalo

A University at Buffalo researcher studying a protein involved in heart failure has received a five-year, \$1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

The grant was awarded under the NIH K08 program, which was established to help promising young physician-scientists develop into independent investigators and to aid in filling the academic faculty gap in certain fields. The program builds on the NIH's KL2 Mentored Career Development Award, which UB received in 2015 along with the prestigious Clinical and Translational Science Award.

Umesh C. Sharma, MD, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Medicine in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at UB, a physician with UBMD Internal Medicine and a Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) Scholar in the Mentored Career Development Program, was granted the award to study a protein called galectin-3.

His hypothesis is that an excess of this protein during a heart attack promotes myocardial inflammation and fibrosis, the formation of fibrous tissue in the heart. His research is focused on finding a way to block the protein so as to inhibit inflammation, reduce fibrosis and preserve cardiac function.

[See the full article here.](#)

Immunotherapy Succeeds in Thwarting

By [Melissa Healy](#) | Contact Reporter
August 9, 2017 | Los Angeles Times

A form of immunotherapy gaining ground as a way to treat childhood food allergies has shown promise in treating another rising scourge of children and young adults: Type 1 [diabetes](#).

In a small but rigorous clinical trial, British investigators gave patients recently diagnosed with the metabolic disorder a truncated version of the chemical that gives rise to insulin.



[See the full article here.](#)

Journal of Clinical and Translational Science



Translational Science abstracts will be published soon!

The second issue of the Journal of Clinical and Translational Science has been published. [Volume 1 - Issue 2 - April 2017](#) is now available for viewing!

JCTS's mission is to provide a forum for the rapid communication of topics of interest and relevance to the large and diverse community of clinical and translational scientists with the goal of improving the efficiency with which health needs inform research and new diagnostics, therapies, and preventive measures reach the public. The Association for Clinical and Translational Science has partnered with the American Physician Scientists Association (APSA) and the Clinical Research Forum (CRF) to support the growth and development of JCTS.

Submit your article today to be featured in future issues of JCTS! Visit <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jcts>.

News from The Hill



News from The Hill: August 4, 2017

Congress adjourned for the August recess on the heels of a failed Senate effort to repeal the *Affordable Care Act* (ACA). Damaging the overall repeal effort were continuous reports from the Congressional Budget Office indicating that each proposal put forward would result in an almost immediate loss of health coverage for millions of Americans. Groups like the American Medical Association had opposed various proposals due in part to their emphasis on incentivizing non-utilization of healthcare services while patient organizations decried pricing individuals with pre-existing conditions out of the market. With no clear path forward on a single-party repeal and replace package, bipartisan working groups have formed to craft proposals to fix the ACA and stabilize the insurance markets.

See the full update on the [ACTS Advocacy Page](#).

Senate Activity Prior to Recess [Summary Memo]

The United States Senate confirmed Indiana Health Commissioner Jerome Adams, M.D. as our nation's 20th **Surgeon General**. Dr. Adams is highly respected in the public health community.

The Senate passed and sent to the President for his signature, the Food and Drug Administration Reauthorization Act of 2017 (FDARA), which reauthorizes **FDA user fee** programs for five years. The current user fee agreement was set to expire at the end of September.

Visit the [ACTS Advocacy Page](#) to see all items included in [the bill](#).

Grants & Grant News



Webinar: How to Navigate the Impacts of Recent Updates to the CCSG Guidelines

Regina Schwind | Webinar Presenter

In January of 2017, the NCI Office of Cancer Centers released updates to the Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) guidelines. While the fundamental Six Essential Characteristics remain unchanged, the changes implemented by the issuance of this funding opportunity announcement apply to several other components.

In this webinar, presenter Regina Schwind will highlight the updates made in the 2017 CCSG

an announcement and discuss the tools available to help you address these changes.

During this webinar, you'll learn:

- What the 2017 updates to the CCSG guidelines mean for the research industry
- How the updates could impact your current operations
- Current technology equipped to help you navigate these changes

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

[NINR Center of Excellence \(P30\)](#)

[P20](#) Exploratory Grants

National Institute of Nursing Research ([NINR](#))

This Funding Opportunity Announcement invites applications to establish NINR P30 Center of Excellence. The P30 mechanism is used to support planning for new programs, expansion or modification of existing resources, and studies to explore various approaches to the development of interdisciplinary programs that offer potential solutions to problems of special significance to the mission of the NIH. The P30 may lead to Center sustainability and/or the ability to be funded through other specialized or comprehensive grants. The purpose of this program is to support NINR P30 Centers of Excellence to enhance interdisciplinary, biobehavioral research for scientists conducting research in multiple complex chronic conditions in human adult populations. This FOA is specifically designed with the intent to support the NINR Common Data Element (CDE) initiative.

[Pregnancy in Women with Disabilities \(R03\)](#)

[R03](#) Small Grant Program

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development ([NICHD](#))

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) issued by the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) encourages small research project grants (R03) investigating the incidence, course, and outcomes of pregnancy among women with disabilities. Areas of interest also include studies to inform preconceptional and antenatal counseling and strategies for addressing barriers to prenatal care, and management of pregnancy, the puerperium, and the transition to parenthood in order to optimize outcomes for women with physical, intellectual and developmental, and/or sensory disabilities and their families. Applicants are encouraged to include women with disabilities and members of the community in the design and conduct of their research.

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for outstanding or groundbreaking work? Send ACTS your story to be highlighted in future versions of ACTS Connection.

Submit stories to: info@acts-science.org.

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