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## **RESEARCH AWARDS 2014-2015**

For the 2014/2015 funding year, ICRF is supporting 94 grants at a total of \$3,453,332. This is broken down as follows:

- 4 L. & S. Mark Initiative for Ovarian/Uterine Cancer**
- 4 Acceleration Grants**
- 11 Research Professorships**
  - 1 Clinical Research Career Development Award**
- 29 Research Career Development Awards (RCDAs)**
  - 1 B. S. Goodman Endowed RCDA for Pancreatic Cancer**
- 35 Project Grants**
  - 7 Postdoctoral Fellowships**
  - 2 Gesher Awards**

With the 2014/2015 grants, ICRF's funding has now reached 2,115 grants totaling \$52,361,664.

Among the areas of cancer research directly sponsored by ICRF in 2014/2015 are: studies in bladder, brain, breast, colorectal, intestinal, liver, lung, oral, ovarian, pancreatic, pediatric, skin, and vascular cancers; anticancer drug mechanisms, drug resistance, and targeted therapy; development of new diagnostic imaging techniques; leukemia, lymphoma, blood cells, and tumor blood vessel growth (angiogenesis); stem cell reprogramming; expression, regulation, and mutation of genes; tumor viruses; tumor metastasis; the relationship between inflammation and cancer, and obesity, diabetes and cancer; immunology and immunotherapy; protein interactions; oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes, such as p53; cell-cycle regulation, natural killer cells, programmed cell death (apoptosis), and the DNA damage response.

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
<b>LEN &amp; SUSAN MARK INITIATIVE FOR OVARIAN AND UTERINE/MMMT CANCERS</b>	<b>Sol Efroni, Ph.D.</b>	Bar-Ilan University	<i>A Single Mutation in BCL-2 as a Biomarker for Paclitaxel Treatment Response</i>
	<b>Rotem Karni, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Discovery of Transcriptomic Changes that Lead to Ovarian Cancer Progression</i>
	<b>Keren Levanon, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Novel Approaches for Early-Detection Biomarkers for Ovarian Cancer</i>
	<b>Varda Rotter, Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Oncogenic Mutant p53 Gain of Function in Ovarian Cancer Stem Cells</i>
<b>ACCELERATION GRANTS</b>	<b>David Gurwitz, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>SSRI Antidepressants as Anticancer Therapy: Role for Down-Regulation of miR-221</i>
	<b>Martin Kupiec, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Ribosomal Profiling of the Response to DNA Damage and Telomere Attrition</i>
	<b>Michal Sharon, Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Investigating the Molecular Details of the 20S Proteasomal Degradation Pathway</i>
	<b>Tomer Shlomi, Ph.D.</b>	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Targeting Antifolate Resistance in Cancer via Metabolic Synthetic Lethality</i>
<b>PROFESSORSHIPS</b>	<b>Yinon Ben-Neriah, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Dissecting the Role of the Casein Kinase I Family in Gut Physiology and Cancer</i>
	<b>Yehudit Bergman, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>The Role of Epigenetic Regulation in Stem Cells and Cancer</i>
	<b>Howard Cedar, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Regulation of Gene Expression in Animal Cells</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
<b>PROFESSORSHIPS</b> <i>(continued)</i>	<b>Aaron Ciechanover, M.D., D.Sc.</b>	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Ubiquitin-Mediated Generation of NF-κB: Mechanisms and Involvement in Carcinogenesis</i>
	<b>Alberto Gabizon, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Shaare Zedek Medical Center	<i>Development of Targeted Liposome Formulations of Anti-Cancer Agents</i>
	<b>Avram Hershko, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Roles of the Ubiquitin System in the Control of Cell Division and in Cancer</i>
	<b>Eli Keshet, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Tumor Neovascularization Assisted by VEGF-Recruited and Educated Myeloid Cells</i>
	<b>Ofer Mandelboim, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Learning from Viruses: MicroRNAs Controlling Tumor Cell Attack by NK Cells</i>
	<b>Yosef Shiloh, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>The ATM-Mediated DNA Damage Response: Moving between the Forest and the Trees</i>
	<b>Israel Vlodavsky, Ph.D.</b>	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Heparanase: From Basic Research to Therapeutic Applications</i>
	<b>Yosef Yarden, Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Control Circuits of Growth Factor Signaling: Relevance to Cancer Progression and Therapy</i>
<b>CLINICAL RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD</b>	<b>Einav Nili Gal-Yam, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Dissecting Tumor Heterogeneity through Epigenomic Characterization</i>
<b>BARBARA S. GOODMAN ENDOWED RCDA FOR PANCREATIC CANCER</b>	<b>Moran Amit, M.D.</b>	Rambam Health Care Campus	<i>Roles of the L1 Cell Adhesion Molecule in the Pathogenesis of Pancreatic Cancer</i>

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RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS (RCDAs)	Nabieh Ayoub, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Deciphering KDM4C (GASC1) Role in Carcinogenesis via Systematic Mapping of its Non-Histone Substrates</i>
	David Azoulay, Ph.D.	Western Galilee Hospital	<i>BDNF Gene Polymorphism and Protein Levels in Circulating Blood as Biomarkers for CIPN in Cancer Patients</i>
	Dalit Barkan, Ph.D.	University of Haifa	<i>Characterizing the Role of LOXL2 in Breast Cancer Recurrence</i>
	Michael Berger, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Targeting T-Lymphocyte Quiescence as a Novel Treatment for T-ALL</i>
	Tal Burstyn-Cohen, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Molecular and Cellular Function of Protein S in Cancer</i>
	Shay Covo, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Revealing the Role of Severe Genome Instability and Mitochondria in Drug Resistant Polyploidy Yeast</i>
	Neta Erez, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>The Role of Fibroblasts in the Formation of a Permissive Metastatic Niche in Breast Cancer Metastasis</i>
	Sara Eyal, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Non-Invasive In Vivo Optial Imaging of Cancer Multidrug Resistance</i>
	Dinorah Friedmann-Morvinski, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Reprogramming in Cancer and Novel Targets for Immunotherapy</i>
Tamar Geiger, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Elucidation of Proteome Networks in Breast Cancer – Toward Triple-Negative Specific Therapy</i>	

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
<b>RCDAs</b> <i>(continued)</i>	<b>Gabi Gerlitz, Ph.D.</b>	Ariel University Center of Samaria	<i>The Role of Global Chromatin Condensation in Melanoma Cell Migration</i>
	<b>Hava Gil-Henn, Ph.D.</b>	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Regulation of Invadopodia Formation and Function by Tyrosine Kinase Pyk2</i>
	<b>Zvi Granot, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Effect of VEGF on Neutrophil Function in the Context of Tumor Growth and Metastatic Progression</i>
	<b>Shoshana Greenberger, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>TGF<math>\beta</math> Pathway in Infantile Hemangioma Involution</i>
	<b>Yaqub Hanna, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Novel Humanized Stem Cell Based Platforms for Modeling Human Disease and Cancer Development</i>
	<b>Dan Levy, Ph.D.</b>	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	<i>Lysine Methylation in Cancer</i>
	<b>Michael Milyavsky, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Isolation and Characterization of Novel Therapy Resistance Factors in Acute Myeloid Leukemia</i>
	<b>Ariel Munitz, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Molecular Regulation of Eosinophil Activation in Colorectal Cancer</i>
	<b>Vered Padler-Karavani, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Anti-Neu5Gc Antibodies for Cancer Therapeutics</i>
	<b>Niv Papo, Ph.D.</b>	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	<i>Engineering Antagonistic Ligands as Tools for Cancer Imaging and Therapy</i>
	<b>Niv Pencovich, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center	<i>Genome-Wide Characterization of the Escape from Tumor Dormancy</i>
<b>Marjorie Pick, Ph.D.</b>	Hadassah Medical Organization	<i>Generating Functional Platelets from Human Pluripotent Stem Cells</i>	

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
<b>RCDAs</b> <i>(continued)</i>	<b>Rachaela Popovtzer, Ph.D.</b>	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Basic Research Underlining Cancer Detection with Molecularly Targeted Gold Nanoparticles</i>
	<b>Yuval Shaked, Ph.D.</b>	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Developing an Approach to Identify New Factors Promoting Cancer Resistance to Therapy</i>
	<b>Noam Shomron, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Combining Genetic and Epigenetic Markers: How SNPs and miRNAs Determine Cancer Development</i>
	<b>Ran Taube, Ph.D.</b>	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	<i>P-TEFb and SEC as Targets for Treating MLL – Role in Promoting Leukemogenesis</i>
	<b>Amit Tzur, Ph.D.</b>	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Elucidating the E2F1-E2F7/8 Circuitry in Single Proliferating- and DNA-Damaged Cells</i>
	<b>Reuven Wiener, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Structure-Function Study of MCPIP1 to Understand its Role in Cancer</i>
	<b>Karina Yaniv, Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>The Role of Lipoproteins in Tumor-Related Angiogenesis, Lymphangiogenesis and Metastasis</i>
<b>POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS</b>	<b>Shlomit Erenfeld, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Role of Natural Killer Cells in Elimination of Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Cells</i>
	<b>Noa Rabinowicz, Ph.D.</b>	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>The Role of Centrosomal Amplification and Aneuploidy in Cancer – Modeling in the Hematopoietic System</i>
	<b>Deborah Rosenberg-Nejman, Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Tumor Microbiome-Mediated Chemoresistance in Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer</i>
	<b>Alona Sarver, Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Dissecting the Role of Nitric Oxide in Colon Cancer by Regulating Arginine Substrate Availability</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
<b>POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS</b> <i>(continued)</i>	<b>Yogev Sela, Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>The Role of Lipoproteins in Tumor-Related Angiogenesis and Metastasis</i>
	<b>Sivan Shoshani, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Enhancing the Efficacy of BCG Treatment of Transitional Carcinoma of the Urinary Bladder by Means of Recombinant BCG Bacteria</i>
	<b>Manuela Vecsler, Ph.D.</b>	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Revealing the Dynamics of E2F Circuitry in Normal Proliferating Cells and Upon DNA Damage</i>
<b>GESHER AWARDS</b>	<b>Ari Meerson, Ph.D.</b>	MIGAL-Galilee Research Institute	<i>microRNAs as a Functional Link between Obesity, Diabetes, and Cancer</i>
	<b>Kobi Simpson-Lavi, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>The Role of Aup1 in Signaling from Mitochondria to the Nucleus</i>
<b>PROJECT GRANTS</b>	<b>Ami Aronheim, Ph.D.</b>	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>The Role of Host c-Jun Dimerization Protein 2, JDP2, Expression in Cancer Growth, Metastasis and Therapy</i>
	<b>Gil Ast, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>The Regulatory Effect of Splice Site Spatial Proximity and Genomic Location on Splicing</i>
	<b>Gilad Bachrach, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Role of Natural Killer Cells in Acceleration of Colorectal Carcinoma by Fusobacterium Nucleatum</i>
	<b>Michal Baniyash, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>The Role of Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells in Ulcerative Colitis and Colorectal Cancer</i>
	<b>Itai Benhar, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Studying New Design Principles for Bispecific IgGs</i>
	<b>Moran Benhar, Ph.D.</b>	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Thioredoxin and Cysteine-Based Redox Regulation in Lung Cancer</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT GRANTS (continued)	Ittai Ben-Porath, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>EZH2 and Bi-Lineage tumor Cell Identity as Drivers of Aggressive Breast Cancer</i>
	Michal Besser, Ph.D.	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Predicting and Controlling Clinical Response of Melanoma Patients Receiving T Cell Therapy</i>
	Limor Broday, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>The Role of an Evolutionary Conserved SUMO Protease in Tissue Morphogenesis and Tumorigenesis</i>
	Chaya Brodie, Ph.D.	Bar-Ilan University	<i>microRNA Delivery by Mesenchymal Stem Cells for Brain Tumor Therapy</i>
	Benjamin Dekel, M.D., Ph.D.	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Targeting Cancer Initiating Cells in Rhabdoid Tumors</i>
	Amir Eden, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>EZH2 and ErbB Family Inhibition in Rhabdoid Tumors</i>
	Michael Elkin, Ph.D.	Hadsassah Medical Organization	<i>Role of Heparanase in Coupling Inflammation and Tumorigenesis in Pancreas</i>
	Ari Elson, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Tumor Promoting Roles of the Phosphatase PTPROt</i>
	Dale Frank, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Protein Kinase 7 Isoforms Regulate Wnt Signaling in Development and Cancer</i>
	Assaf Friedler, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Disordered Proteins As Anti-Cancer Drug Targets</i>
Asaf Hellman, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Understanding Epigenetic Contribution to Cancer Risk and Malignancy Through Targeting the DNA Methylation of Transcriptional Enhancers</i>	



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PROJECT GRANTS (continued)	Fuad Iraqi, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Mapping Modifiers of APC Gene in Intestinal Cancer Development in Collaborative Cross Mice</i>
	Shai Izraeli, M.D.	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Modeling Initiation of Human Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia by Activated Cytokine Receptors Signaling</i>
	Nathan Karin, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>The Role of CCR5 in the Mobilization of CD11b+GR1+ Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells to the Tumor Site and its Implications in Melanoma</i>
	Jeremy Kark, M.D., Ph.D.	Hadassah Medical Organization	<i>Adolescent Precursors of Adult Cancer in a Cohort of 2,100,000 Israeli Males and Females</i>
	Bella Kaufman, M.D.	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Patterns of Molecular Evolution through the Course of Disease in Recurrent Breast Cancer</i>
	Agnes Klochendler, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Genetic Program of Cancer Replicating Cells</i>
	Sara Lavi, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>The Role of PPM1A, the Negative Regulator of Angiogenesis, in Granulocytes Polarization</i>
	Doron Melamed, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>A Role for microRNAs in Responsiveness and Resistance to Anti-CD20 Therapy of B Cell Lymphoma</i>
	Gera Neufeld, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Elucidation of Enzyme Activity Dependent and Enzyme Activity Independent Mechanisms by which Lysyl-Oxidases Promote Tumor Progression</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
<b>PROJECT GRANTS</b>  <i>(continued)</i>	<b>Gabriel Nussbaum, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Contribution of Chronic Oral Inflammation to Carcinogenesis and Tumor Chemoresistance</i>
	<b>Amir Orian, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>STUbl-Dependent Oncogenes Activation in Cancer – from Mechanisms to Diagnostics</i>
	<b>Shoshana Ravid, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Role of Par6-aPKCzeta Complex in EGF-Dependent Cell Migration</i>
	<b>Rina Rosin-Arbesfeld, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>How does Carboxypeptidase E (CPE) affect Wnt Signaling?</i>
	<b>Eytan Ruppin, Ph.D.</b>	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Drug Targets and Biomarkers Prediction via a Computational Study of Breast Cancer Metabolism</i>
	<b>Yosef Shaul, Ph.D.</b>	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Viral Oncogenesis and the Hippo Tumor Suppressor Pathway</i>
	<b>Boaz Tirosh, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Exploiting ER Stress/mTOR Synthetic Lethality for B Cell Tumors Treatment</i>
	<b>Yehuda Tzfati, Ph.D.</b>	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Role of RTEL1 Deficiency in Telomere Dysfunction, Genome Instability, and Cancer Predisposition</i>
	<b>Gideon Zamir, M.D.</b>	Hadassah Medical Organization	<i>Role of Ribosomal Protein rpS6 in the Development of Pancreatic and Lung Carcinoma</i>