



295 Madison Avenue, Suite 1030, New York, NY 10017-7754
Tel **212.969.9800** • fax **212.969.9822** • toll free **888.654.ICRF (4273)**
e-mail mail@icrfny.org • web site www.icrfonline.org

RESEARCH AWARDS 2015-2016

For the 2015/2016 funding year, ICRF is supporting 91 grants at a total of \$3,713,336. This is broken down as follows:

- 3 International Collaboration Grants**
- 4 L. & S. Mark Initiative for Ovarian/Uterine Cancer**
- 3 Acceleration Grants**
- 13 Research Professorships**
 - 2 Clinical Research Career Development Awards**
- 28 Research Career Development Awards (RCDAs)**
 - 1 B. S. Goodman Endowed RCDA for Pancreatic Cancer**
- 30 Project Grants**
 - 6 Postdoctoral Fellowships**
 - 2 Booster Grants**

With the 2015/2016 grants, ICRF's funding has now reached 2,206 grants totaling \$56,075,000.

Among the areas of cancer research directly sponsored by ICRF in 2015/2016 are: studies in bladder, bone, brain, breast, colorectal, intestinal, liver, lung, 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); cancer stem cells and cellular reprogramming; expression, regulation, and mutation of genes; tumor viruses; tumor metastasis; inflammation 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
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION GRANTS	Sol Efroni, Ph.D. (PI)* and Francisco Quintana, Ph.D. (Co-PI)* <i>* to begin in 2016-2017</i>	Bar-Ilan University and Brigham & Women's Hospital	<i>miR-29b and miR-9 to Target Glioblastoma Multiform via AHR and p38 Network Modulation</i>
	Ephrat Levy-Lahad, M.D. (PI) and Mary-Claire King, Ph.D. (Co-PI)	Shaare Zedek Medical Center and University of Washington	<i>Genomic Analysis of Inherited Breast and Ovarian Cancer for Israeli Women of all Ancestries</i>
	Uri Nir, Ph.D. (PI) and Eldad Zacksenhaus, Ph.D. (Co-PI)	Bar-Ilan University and Toronto General Hospital	<i>Studying the Role of Mitochondrial Reprogramming by Fer/FerT in Tumor Metastasis</i>
LEN & SUSAN MARK INITIATIVE FOR OVARIAN AND UTERINE/MMMT CANCERS	Sol Efroni, Ph.D.	Bar-Ilan University	<i>A Single Mutation in BCL-2 as a Biomarker for Paclitaxel Treatment Response</i>
	Rotem Karni, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Discovery of Transcriptomic Changes that Lead to Ovarian Cancer Progression</i>
	Keren Levanon, M.D., Ph.D.	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Novel Approaches for Early-Detection Biomarkers for Ovarian Cancer</i>
	Varda Rotter, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Oncogenic Mutant p53 Gain of Function in Ovarian Cancer Stem Cells</i>
ACCELERATION GRANTS	David Gurwitz, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>SSRI Antidepressants as Anticancer Therapy: Role for Down-Regulation of miR-221</i>
	Tomer Shlomi, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Targeting Antifolate Resistance in Cancer via Metabolic Synthetic Lethality</i>
	Ruth Sperling, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Nuclear microRNA in Cancer</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
PROFESSORSHIPS	Michal Baniyash, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Role of Immunosuppressive Cells and Gut Microbiota in Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Colorectal Cancer: Clinical Implications</i>
	Yinon Ben-Neriah, M.D., Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Dissecting the Role of the Casein Kinase I Family in Gut Physiology and Cancer</i>
	Yehudit Bergman, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>The Role of Epigenetic Regulation in Stem Cells and Cancer</i>
	Howard Cedar, M.D., Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Regulation of Gene Expression in Animal Cells</i>
	Aaron Ciechanover, M.D., D.Sc.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Ubiquitin-Mediated Generation of NF-κB: Mechanisms & Involvement in Carcinogenesis</i>
	Avram Hershko, M.D., Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Roles of the Ubiquitin System in the Control of Cell Division and in Cancer</i>
	Eli Keshet, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Tumor Neovascularization Assisted by VEGF-Recruited and Educated Myeloid Cells</i>
	Martin Kupiec, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Dissecting the Molecular Functions of Elg1/ATAD5</i>
	Ofer Mandelboim, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Learning from Viruses: MicroRNAs Controlling Tumor Cell Attack by NK Cells</i>
	Yosef Shiloh, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>The ATM-Mediated DNA Damage Response: Moving between the Forest and the Trees</i>
	Israel Vlodaysky, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Heparanase: From Basic Research to Therapeutic Applications</i>
	Yosef Yarden, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Control Circuits of Growth Factor Signaling: Relevance to Cancer Progression and Therapy</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
CLINICAL RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS	Einav Nili Gal-Yam, M.D., Ph.D.	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Dissecting Tumor Heterogeneity through Epigenomic Characterization</i>
	Ruth Perets, M.D., Ph.D.	Rambam Health Care Campus	<i>The Role of Fallopian Tube Lineage in Ovarian Cancer Pathogenesis</i>
BARBARA S. GOODMAN ENDOWED RCDA FOR PANCREATIC CANCER	Moran Amit, M.D.	Rambam Health Care Campus	<i>Roles of the L1 Cell Adhesion Molecule in the Pathogenesis of Pancreatic Cancer</i>
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>
	Michael Blank, Ph.D.	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Investigating the Role of Smurf2 in DNA Damage Response and Anticancer Genotoxic Therapies</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
RCDAs <i>(continued)</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>
	Yaron Fuchs, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Apoptotic Regulation of Cancer Stem Cells</i>
	Gabi Gerlitz, Ph.D.	Ariel University Center of Samaria	<i>The Role of Global Chromatin Condensation in Melanoma Cell Migration</i>
	Zvi Granot, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Effect of VEGF on Neutrophil Function in the Context of Tumor Growth and Metastatic Progression</i>
	Shoshana Greenberger, M.D., Ph.D.	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>TGFβ Pathway in Infantile Hemangioma Involution</i>
	Yaqub Hanna, M.D., Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Novel Humanized Stem Cell Based Platforms for Modeling Human Disease and Cancer Development</i>
	Ayelet Lamm, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Identifying the Mechanisms by which Intracellular Transport affects Pancreatic Cancer Development</i>
Dan Levy, Ph.D.	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	<i>Lysine Methylation in Cancer</i>	

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RCDAs <i>(continued)</i>	Michael Milyavsky, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Isolation and Characterization of Novel Therapy Resistance Factors in Acute Myeloid Leukemia</i>
	Ariel Munitz, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Molecular Regulation of Eosinophil Activation in Colorectal Cancer</i>
	Vered Padler-Karavani, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Anti-Neu5Gc Antibodies for Cancer Therapeutics</i>
	Niv Papo, Ph.D.	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	<i>Engineering Antagonistic Ligands as Tools for Cancer Imaging and Therapy</i>
	Niv Pencovich, M.D., Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center	<i>Genome-Wide Characterization of the Escape from Tumor Dormancy</i>
	Marjorie Pick, Ph.D.	Hadassah Medical Organization	<i>Generating Functional Platelets from Human Pluripotent Stem Cells</i>
	Shiran Shapira, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center	<i>Humanized Anti-CD24 Antibody; A Potential Biology Tool for Cancer Immunotherapy</i>
	Noam Shomron, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>Combining Genetic and Epigenetic Markers: How SNPs and miRNAs Determine Cancer Development</i>
	Ran Taube, Ph.D.	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	<i>P-TEFb and SEC as Targets for Treating MLL – Role in Promoting Leukemogenesis</i>
	Amit Tzur, Ph.D.	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Elucidating the E2F1-E2F7/8 Circuitry in Single Proliferating- and DNA-Damaged Cells</i>
	Reuven Wiener, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Structure-Function Study of MCP1 to Understand its Role in Cancer</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS	Shlomit Erenfeld, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Role of Natural killer cells in elimination of Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Cells</i>
	Noa Rabinowicz, Ph.D.	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>The Role of Centrosomal Amplification and Aneuploidy in Cancer – Modeling in the Hematopoietic System</i>
	Deborah Rosenberg-Nejman, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Tumor Microbiome-Mediated Chemo-resistance in Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer</i>
	Alona Sarver, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Dissecting the Role of Nitric Oxide in Colon Cancer by Regulating Arginine Substrate Availability</i>
	Sivan Shoshani, Ph.D.	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>
	Carmit Strauss, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Involvement of RNF20 and H2Bub1 in DNA Replication Plasticity upon Oncogenic Stress</i>
BOOSTER GRANTS	Jonathan Kornspan, Ph.D.	Hadassah Medical Organization	<i>Deciphering the Role of TLE-Corepressors as Modulators of Therapeutic Responses in Breast Cancer</i>
	Vadim Maximov, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Dissecting the Roles of WWOX in Bone Biology and Osteosarcoma</i>
PROJECT GRANTS	Ami Aronheim, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>The Role of Host c-Jun Dimerization Protein 2, JDP2, Expression in Cancer Growth, Metastasis and Therapy</i>
	Gil Ast, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv University	<i>The Regulatory Effect of Splice Site Spatial Proximity and Genomic Location on Splicing</i>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT GRANTS <i>(continued)</i>	Gilad Bachrach, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Role of Natural Killer Cells in Acceleration of Colorectal Carcinoma by Fusobacterium Nucleatum</i>
	Shay Ben-Aroya, Ph.D.	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Understanding the Roles of the Iron-Sulfur Cofactors in Regulating the Function of Proteins Involved in Maintaining Genome Stability</i>
	Ittai Ben-Porath, Ph.D.	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Regulation of Heterogeneity in Breast Cancers through Control of Symmetric Divisions</i>
	Dalit Ben-Yosef, Ph.D.	Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center	<i>Induction of APC Somatic Mutation in FAP Human Embryonic Stem Cells for Studying Early Stages in Malignant Transformation</i>
	Avri Ben-Ze'ev, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>The Role of Intestinal Stem Cell Signature Genes in Colon Cancer Progression</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>
	Cyrille Cohen, Ph.D.	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Development and Study of a Cell-Secreted 'Ligand Trap' to Mitigate TGFb Effects</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>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT GRANTS <i>(continued)</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>
	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>
	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>

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE
PROJECT GRANTS (continued)	Doron Melamed, Ph.D.	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>A Role for microRNAs in Responsiveness and Resistance to Anti-CD20 Therapy of B Cell Lymphoma</i>
	Yifat Merbl, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Elucidating Regulatory Principles of Ubiquitin HECT-Domain E3 Ligases in Mammalian Systems</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>
	Rachela Popovtzer, Ph.D.	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Detection of Metabolic Activity using CT</i>
	Shoshana Ravid, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Role of Par6-aPKCzeta Complex in EGF-Dependent Cell Migration</i>
	Yosef Shaul, Ph.D.	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Viral Oncogenesis and the Hippo Tumor Suppressor Pathway</i>
	Yehuda Tzfati, Ph.D.	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Role of RTEL1 Deficiency in Telomere Dysfunction, Genome Instability, and Cancer Predisposition</i>
	Gideon Zamir, M.D.	Hadassah Medical Organization	<i>Role of Ribosomal Protein rpS6 in the Development of Pancreatic and Lung Carcinoma</i>
	Tsila Zuckerman, M.D.	Rambam Health Care Campus	<i>AML Heterogeneity using Single Leukemic Cells; Genomic Analysis and Clonal Hierarchy</i>