## Research Update

# AAP grants provide research opportunities for residents

from the **AAP Department of Research**

Pediatric residents have an opportunity to initiate and complete projects related to their professional interests through the AAP Resident Research Grant program.

Qualifying residents receive $2,000 grants for projects related to a wide variety of child health research topics. Residents also are provided a travel stipend to attend a professional research conference. Award winners conduct their research under the supervision of a mentor who is an AAP member. Research projects are conducted for up to two years and should be completed during residency training.

The AAP Committee on Pediatric Research Subcommittee on Resident Research Grants selects the recipients each year based on criteria focused on project methodology, significance of the topic, feasibility of completion during residency and project relevance to the resident's career goals. The program is designed to encourage residents with limited research experience to apply and to begin academic careers in research.

To submit an application, visit http://bit.ly/2gPEomQ. Application deadline is Feb. 28.

### RESOURCE

To learn more about the Resident Research Grant Program, email Jeannine Hess at jhess@aap.org or call 847-434-7876.

### 2016 Resident Research Grant winners

| Name and mentor | Program name | Title of research project |
|---|---|---|
| Tam Doan, M.D.<br>**Mentor:** Olga Toro-Salazar, M.D., FAAP | University of Connecticut School of Medicine | Correlation between transthoracic echocardiography and cardiac magnetic resonance imaging in the assessment of left ventricular function in patients with repaired tetralogy of Fallot |
| Ira Holla, M.D.<br>**Mentor:** Mark Kadrofske, M.D., Ph.D., FAAP | Michigan State University | The role of mast cells in small intestinal wound healing |
| Rachael Johnston, M.D.<br>**Mentor:** Christy Turer, M.D., M.H.S., FAAP | University of Texas Southwestern | Relative importance of parent/child characteristics and specific primary-care weight-management clinical practices in facilitating weight-status improvement in 3-5 year-old children with overweight/obesity |
| Andrew Kern-Goldberger, M.D.<br>**Mentor:** Lisa Saiman, M.D., M.P.H., FAAP | New York-Presbyterian Hospital – Columbia University Medical Center | Patient and parent understanding of safety monitoring in CF clinical trials |
| Vanessa McFadden, M.D.<br>**Mentor:** Nicole St Clair, M.D., FAAP | Medical College of Wisconsin | Project PRIME (psychosocial response to international medical elective) |
| Joshua Williams, M.D.<br>**Mentor:** Sean O'Leary, M.D., FAAP | University of Colorado – Denver School of Medicine | Assessing Denver county religious leaders' beliefs and behaviors regarding vaccines |
| Hunter Wilson, M.D.<br>**Mentor:** John Lynn Jefferies, M.D., M.P.H., FAAP | Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center | Characterization of the early cardiac phenotype in Anderson-Fabry disease |
| Yanjia (Jason) Zhang, M.D., Ph.D.<br>**Mentor:** Robert Vinci, M.D., FAAP | Boston Combined | Microbiome changes in adolescent bariatric surgery |

## FDA Update

# Topical retinoid acne treatment approved for OTC use

from the **Food and Drug Administration Office of Pediatric Therapeutics**, **Division of Pediatric and Maternal Health**, and **Division of Nonprescription Drug Products**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Differin Gel 0.1% (adapalene), a once-daily topical retinoid gel, for over-the-counter (OTC) treatment of acne in individuals 12 years of age and older.

Acne affects approximately 50 million people in the United States and is the most common skin condition in adolescents and young adults. Although the exact mechanism of action is unknown, topical retinoid products may modulate keratinization, decreasing microcomedone formation, and appear to have anti-inflammatory effects.

While topical retinoid products often are prescribed as first-line therapies for acne, Differin Gel 0.1% is the first retinoid to be made available OTC for the treatment of acne. It contains the first new OTC active ingredient for acne treatment since the 1980s.

Differin Gel 0.1% originally was approved in 1996 as a prescription product.

The approval for OTC use was based on studies showing that consumers can understand the OTC label, decide whether the product is right for them and use the product appropriately. Supporting data included post-marketing safety data accrued from 1996-2016 and a skin absorption study demonstrating that absorption is limited when adapalene is applied daily over a large skin surface. Common adverse reactions include erythema, scaling, dryness, pruritus, burning/stinging and photosensitivity.

Although other retinoids have been associated with birth defects, the FDA, along with its Nonprescription Drugs Advisory Committee, has determined that there is no evidence that topical Differin Gel 0.1%, given limited absorption, causes birth defects. Nonetheless, women who are pregnant, planning to become pregnant or breastfeeding should ask a doctor before use.

### RESOURCES

- FDA advisory committee meeting materials, http://bit.ly/2fXYTOe
- OTC product labeling, http://bit.ly/2gCFh33