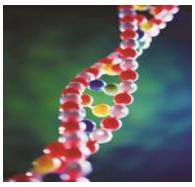

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From the Commonwealth Health Research Board

The Commonwealth Health Research Board [CHRB] has awarded $1,213,983 in grants to thirteen medical and health researchers in Virginia

The CHRB was created by Virginia Code § 23-278 to provide financial support, in the form of grants, donations, or other assistance, for research efforts that have the potential of maximizing human health benefits for the citizens of the Commonwealth. Research efforts eligible for support by the Board shall include traditional medical and biomedical research relating to the causes and cures of diseases as well as research related to health services and the delivery of health care. The grants include:

Eastern Virginia Medical School: [$99,699] The investigator plans to identify new and more effective medical treatments for women with excessive menstrual bleeding in order to improving the quality of life for these women.

Eastern Virginia Medical School: [$100,000] to continue the study of a newly developed compound that is aimed at decreasing brain damage caused by oxygen deprivation at the time of birth.

Eastern Virginia Medical School: [$100,000] This study will involve using a selective inhibitor of a pancreatic beta cell enzyme that can cause beta cell dysfunction. This selective inhibitor protects beta cell function and may halt or reverse diabetes progression.

Hampden-Sydney College: [$50,000] to continue to study melanoma-associated suppression of innate immune cells that function as critical regulators of anti-tumor immune responses.

James Madison University: [$100,000] This study will involve determining whether gene regulation in retinal neurons contributes to the pathogenesis of eye diseases such as age-related macular degeneration. The molecular mechanisms contributing to the onset and progression of age-related macular degeneration will be followed.

Old Dominion University: [$100,000] The investigator will seek to determine how normal breast tissue is able to control the development of cancer producing mutated cells and how sometimes these mutated cells are able to overcome the suppression to form breast tumors. This work could lead to new diagnostic methods of detecting breast cancer at a very early stage.

University of Virginia: [$100,000] to continue to study and provide a new effective treatment for patients with relapse breast cancer from primary endocrine therapy.

Virginia Commonwealth University: [$100,000] This investigator will study how a new molecule, 16673-34-0, inhibits NLRP3 inflammasome following traumatic brain injury. Identifying prevention of neuroinflammation may lead to a promising treatment for traumatic brain injury.

Virginia Commonwealth University: [$100,000] to continue to study the use of a modified heparin compound to prevent progression of Cystic Fibrosis.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University: [$68,885] This study will focus on the causative factors associated with the risk for obesity in children born from obese mothers. The investigator hopes to better define when during early pregnancy these adverse responses to maternal obesity occur.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University: [$100,000] to continue to identify differentially expressed proteins in either low or high juvenile body weight in non-mammalian animal models in helping to treat human obesity.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University: [$100,000] to continue the study of a protein factor that induces triple negative breast cancer which is very aggressive and more likely to recur. This could lead to the design of new drugs that will counteract this protein factor.

Washington and Lee University: [$95,399] The purpose of this study is to investigate the mechanisms involved in the early onset of obesity due to snacking. A newly developed rat model will used in this study. This work could lead to the development of appropriate interventions during early childhood.