

«National MD-PhD Grants Program»: list of grantees*

2024

Bancila Bianca, Département des neurosciences fondamentales, Université de Genève

Negative reinforcement circuits in opioid addiction: Mapping Central Amygdala inputs and outputs

CHF 208'068.–

Funded by: Théodore Ott Fund

Beetschen Anna Sophia, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Molecular mechanisms of persistent Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Born Tristan, Service des maladies infectieuses, CHUV, Lausanne

The molecular basis of HIV-specific CD4 T cell dysfunction

CHF 194'235.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Charmey Alisson, Forschungsgruppe Onkologie, Kinderspital Zürich

Priming leukemia to increase sensitivity to immunotherapy

CHF 196'551.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

De Lange Glenn, Institut für Experimentelle Immunologie, Universität Zürich

Function of eosinophils in colorectal cancer

CHF 196'551.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Futterknecht Stefan, Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology Basel, Universität Basel

Precision gene therapy toolkit for drug delivery in ocular diseases

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Guedj Danaé, Département de pathologie et d'immunologie, Université de Genève

Exploring and exploiting HPV-specific CD4 T cells for head and neck squamous cell cancer immunotherapy

CHF 138'712.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Ottersberg Rahel, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern

Ex-vivo heart perfusion enables innovations in cardiac transplantation and precision therapies

CHF 190'851.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Palombella Luca, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern

The role of TRAF2 and NCK-interacting kinase in the regulation of acute myeloid leukemia

CHF 127'234.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Pompizii Felix, Universitätsklinik für Neurologie, Inselspital/Universität Bern

Restoring cortical brain dynamics during sleep to rescue cognition in Alzheimer's disease
CHF 190'851.–

Funded by: Dementia Research Switzerland – Synapsis Foundation

Schenker Timo, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Chimeric antigen receptor microglia for glioblastoma immunotherapy
CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Monique Dornonville de la Cour Foundation

Schwenke Johannes, Departement Klinische Forschung, Universitätsspital/Universität Basel

Randomized evaluation of the routine use of circulating tumor DNA in patients with advanced malignancies using routinely collected patient outcome data

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Zoellin Jay, Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology Basel, Universität Basel

Precision gene correction to treat a common inherited macular degeneration

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

2023

Bilfeld Gilles, Institute for Molecular Health Sciences, ETH Zürich

Exploiting circulating tumor cells for the identification of immunotherapy responders
CHF 196'341.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Bürgin Damian, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern

The functional role of CD93 in multiple myeloma
CHF 190'851.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Fixemer Jonas, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Transcriptional regulation of memory B cells in chronic viral infection
CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Franzen Jan, Vetsuisse-Fakultät, Universität Bern

Identification and functional characterization of novel Clostridium perfringens hemolysin-like beta-pore-forming toxins

CHF 127'234.–

Funded by: Zinkernagel Research Foundation

Huber Aurélie, Centre médical universitaire, Université de Genève

Development of multimodal MRI to assess the quality of a kidney allograft
CHF 208'068.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Jordi Jonathan, Klinik für Psychiatrie, Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik, Zürich

Neurobiology underlying stress-induced reward pathologies: focus on the bidirectional nucleus accumbens-ventral tegmentum neural circuit in a mouse model

CHF 185'629.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Jordi Sebastian, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern

Metabolic dynamics of the small intestinal microbiota upon nutritional challenges
CHF 132'536.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Lyon Arnaud, Département de médecine et chirurgie, CHUV, Lausanne

Immuno-metabolic impact of Hydrogen Sulphide on sex-specific response to Ischemia-reperfusion injury

CHF 134'885.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Nikaj Andi, Departement Klinische Forschung, Universitätsspital/Universität Basel

Oxytocin substitution therapy in patients with central diabetes insipidus: a double-blind randomized-controlled trial - The OxyTUTION trial

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Peisl Sarah, Universitätsklinik für Viszerale Chirurgie, Inselspital, Bern

Role of biliary microbiota in biliary injury and the development of cholangiopathy
CHF 190'851.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Reiser Aurelia, Institute of Veterinary Physiology, Universität Zürich

The role of iron homeostasis in pulmonary hypertension

CHF 196'548.–

Funded by: Monique Dornonville de la Cour Foundation

Roggo Andrea, Dermatologische Klinik, Universitätsspital Zürich

Exploring the etiology of pruritus in cutaneous T-cell lymphoma towards targeted therapy

CHF 131'032.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Saccaro Luigi, Département de radiologie et informatique médicale, Université de Genève

Transdiagnostic markers of vulnerability to emotion dysregulation disorders: a multimodal approach

CHF 208'068.–

Funded by: Théodore Ott Fund)

Schönenberger Christoph, Departement Klinische Forschung, Universitätsspital/ Universität Basel

Tackling cardiovascular risk factors in Swiss people living with HIV using the «Trials Within Cohort» design

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Szalai Timéa, Département des neurosciences fondamentales, Université de Genève

High-throughput identification of disrupted molecular pathways in schizophrenia patients

CHF 208'068.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

2022

Delal Dalga, Centre médical universitaire, Université de Genève

The role of PCK1 in kidney health and disease

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Dimitrios Daskalou, Département des neurosciences cliniques, HUG, Genève

NADPH oxidase 3 inhibition to prevent radiosurgery-induced hearing loss in vestibular schwannoma

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Justine Epiney, Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research, EPFL, Lausanne

Identification of resistance mechanisms limiting Antibody-Dependent Cellular Phagocytosis (ADCP) in B-cell lymphoma

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Timothée Ferrari, School of Life Sciences, EPFL, Lausanne

Next generation multi-modal analysis of tumoral heterogeneity in peripheral blood

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Mehdi Ali Gadiri, School of Engineering, EPFL, Lausanne

Development of a microrobotic device for cardiovascular interventions

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Christian Haas, Dermatology/Biomedical Engineering, Universitätsspital/Universität Basel

OCT-guided laser skin ablation system

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Samuel Jones, Department of clinical neurosciences, CHUV, Lausanne

Identification of autoreactive CD8+ T cells in MS patients using autologous human-induced pluripotent stem cell-derived brain cells

CHF 154'307.–

Funded by: Théodore Ott Fund)

Deniz Kaymak, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Deciphering the role of ID1 in tumor-associated microglia in glioblastoma

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

James Kim, Pädiatrische Onkologie, Kinderspital Zürich

Relapsed TCF3-PBX1 ALL - Identifying drivers of resistance in a model of relapsed very high risk ALL

CHF 126'601.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Lukas Kübler, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Tumor reactive stroma in cholangiocellular carcinoma: mechanisms of induction and impact on response to chemotherapy

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Léna Mazza, Centre médical universitaire, Université de Genève

Natural substrates of multidrug efflux pumps in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*: a possible source for efflux pumps inhibitors?

CHF 146'692.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Matthias Rath, Institute of Experimental Immunology, Universität Zürich

Regulatory T cells in Th17 dominated disease

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Alexander Von Hoyningen-Huene, Département de neurosciences fondamentales, Université de Genève

Cellular determinants of subthalamic nucleus function

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

2021

Julien Angelillo, Département de pathologie et d'immunologie, HUG, Genève

Deciphering the cross-talk between innate lymphoid cells and tumor-associated lymphatic vessels to improve anti-tumor immunity

CHF 146'692.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Louis-Emmanuel Chriqui, Service de chirurgie thoracique, CHUV, Lausanne

Vascular and immune impact of photodynamic therapy combined to immune checkpoint inhibition in malignant pleural mesothelioma: insights from an intravital imaging model

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Morgane Decollogny, Institut für Tierpathologie, Vetsuisse, Universität Bern

Targeting the niche of drug-tolerant tumor-repopulating cells to eradicate residual disease in triple-negative breast cancer

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Manuel Egle, Department for Biomedical Research, Cardiovascular Surgery, Universität Bern/Inselspital

Cardiac graft preservation and evaluation in transplantation with donation after circulatory death

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Corinne Eicher, Klinik für Psychiatrie, Psychotherapie und Psychosomatik, Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik Zürich

Local sleep deprivation by closed-loop acoustic stimulation in depression: an experimental study of an innovative treatment approach

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Felix Gerber, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

Generating evidence to improve access to early initiation of antiretroviral therapy in persons living with HIV in resource-limited settings

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Tim Jonas Hallenberger, Klinik für Neurochirurgie, Universitätsspital Basel

The role of early minimally invasive endoscopic surgery in spontaneous supratentorial intracerebral haemorrhage

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Sarah Jungius, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

SHP2 as a mediator of MAPK activation in myeloproliferative neoplasms: molecular mechanism and translational potential

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Benedict Morin, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Mechanisms of intracellular persistence of Staphylococcus aureus in human infection

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Simon Schading, Zentrum für Paraplegie, Universitätsklinik Balgrist

Quantitative and functional MRI investigation of the neurodegeneration associated with spinal cord injury in neuraxis

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Ramon Stäger, Dermatologische Klinik, Universitätsspital Zürich

Unravelling the cellular and molecular mechanisms of epithelial skin cancer development through multimodal single cell and spatial analysis

CHF 179'352.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Katia Steinfeld, Laboratory for Investigative Neurophysiology, CHUV, Lausanne

Lifetime changes in visual processing associated with mild myopia

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

2020

Ludivine Bersier, Département d'oncologie, CHUV, Lausanne

Targeting chemoresistance and immune exclusion in colorectal cancer
CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Dominique Birrer, Klinik für Viszeral-und Transplantationschirurgie, Universitätsspital Zürich

Division of tasks during accelerated regeneration after ALPPS
CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Michelle Boeni, Institut für Experimentelle Immunologie, Universität Zürich

Investigation of Therapeutic Approaches against KSHV-Induced Lymphomas in vitro and in vivo
CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Mey Boukenna, Institute of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Universität Bern

TRPM4 in non-cardiomyocytic cells of the heart
CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Sandro Christensen, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern

Deciphering microbiota driven (epigenetic) programming of metabolic functions of the offspring in utero and early life

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Sophie Monnerat, Klinik für Endokrinologie, Diabetologie und Metabolismus, Universitätsspital Basel

Effects of the SGLT2 inhibitor empagliflozin in patients with euvolemic and hypervolemic hyponatremia

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Cédric Renaud, Service d'endocrinologie, diabétologie et métabolisme, CHUV, Lausanne

Role of the Nrf2 response system in the pathogenesis of autoimmune thyroiditis

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Dominic Schmid, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Mechanisms of T Cell Dysfunction in Human Tumors

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Philippe Valmaggia, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Universität Basel

Time-resolved 3D Optical Coherence Tomography Angiography for novel biomarkers

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Alexandra von Faber-Castell, Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Universität Zürich

Neuronal lactate transport in brain energy metabolism and the role of aging

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Philipp Immanuel Zens, Institut für Pathologie, Universität Bern

Molecular epidemiology of lung cancer brain metastases

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

2019**Ranjana Briner, Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin, Universität Bern**

Genital tract infections, the vaginal microbiome and preterm birth in South Africa:
cross-sectional study

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Carlo Cervia, Klinik für Immunologie, Universitätsspital Zürich

In vivo induction of tolerance by targeting critical regulatory T cell signaling pathways with
bioengineered designer cells

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Mali Cristina Coray, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Atypical chemokine receptors in multiple sclerosis – chemokine availability and clinical potential

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Maurizio Cortada, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Investigating mTOR function in the mammalian inner ear

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Dr. Inês de Paula Costa Monteiro, Département d'oncologie, CHUV, Lausanne

Engineering T cell for adoptive cell transfer therapy of cancer

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Anna Faivre, Centre médical universitaire, Université de Genève

Alterations of tubular metabolism and chronic kidney disease progression

CHF 146'692.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Dr. Kathi Ging, Anatomisches Institut, Universität Zürich

Role of PKD1 and WNK4 in the regulation of the renal thiazide-sensitive NaCl
cotransporter NCC

CHF 184'627.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Michel Godel, Département de psychiatrie, Université de Genève

Early deviations in auditory neuroprocessing development as prodromal neurobiological
markers for Autism Spectrum Disorders

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Philip Schmassmann, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Synergistic activation of microglia by targeting CD47 and Siglecs

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Dr. Irma Telarovic, Klinik für Radio-Onkologie, Universitätsspital Zürich

Radiotherapy treatment volume and its role for the tumor-oriented immune response

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Yves Zurbuchen, Klinik für Immunologie, Universitätsspital Zürich

Central versus peripheral immune tolerance mechanisms in long-term acceptance of
allografts

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

2018**David Bächinger, ORL-Klinik, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Development of a new two-phase mouse model for Meniere's disease

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Dr Aurélie Bochet, Département de psychiatrie, Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève

Understanding the comorbidity between Autism Spectrum Disorders and Attention

Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Philippe Georg Dehio, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Serine metabolism and T cell migration

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Tanay Kaymak, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Investigations on the role of IL-20 cytokine family members in eosinophilic esophagitis

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Adrien Lavalley, Département des neurosciences fondamentales, Université de Genève

Single-cell diversity of corticospinal tract neuron transcriptional programs and connectivity

CHF 135'408.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Marie-Anne Meier, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel

Molecular signature of extracellular vesicles in liver cancer: effects of epithelial-mesenchymal transition and response to Sorafenib

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

Marc Pfefferlé, Klinik und Poliklinik für innere Medizin, Universitätsspital Zürich

Hemolytic stress as a negative regulator of inflammation

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Josefine Ruder, Klinik für Neurologie, Universitätsspital Zürich

Characterization of B lymphocytes in multiple sclerosis - relation to clinical-, MRI characteristics and treatments

CHF 174'077.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

Florian Ruiz, Département des neurosciences cliniques, CHUV, Lausanne

Oxysterols and multiple sclerosis: a novel role for endothelial cells?

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

Frédérica Schyrr, EPFL-ISREC et Service d'hématologie du CHUV, Lausanne

Identifying the minimal components of the hematopoietic stem cell niche through adipose-associated extramedullary hematopoiesis

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

*since entry into force of the revised National MD-PhD Grants Program regulations of 15 November 2017