

Background Information, NHMRC Project Grants, ACT October 2008

APP ID	Simplified Title	Lay Description	Amount	CIA	Institution
525419	Using the web to prevent anxiety	Using the web to prevent anxiety - This project will evaluate the effectiveness of a new automated Internet program which is designed to reduce the risk of Generalised anxiety disorder and to promote self help. If found to be effective, this website will provide assistance to those at risk living in rural and remote areas without access to other resources, and individuals who prefer to seek help anonymously.	\$ 605,125	Prof Helen Christensen	Australian National University
525447	Polo kinase function and the treatment of drug resistant tumours.	Treatment of drug resistant tumours - Death from cancer often results from tumours becoming resistant to chemotherapy drugs. Some cancers, particularly the common bowel cancers, have high levels of drug resistance that seem to be caused by loss of the controls that act during normal cell division. This project will assess whether a recently developed therapeutic approach will kill these drug resistant cancer cells and identify factors that can be targeted to increase the potency and specificity of the therapy.	\$ 538,125	Prof Robert B Saint	Australian National University
525424	Mechanisms that underpin chromosome stability	Unstable chromosomes and cancer: This investigation will show that a key cellular mechanism that determines how the chromosome is organised into stable domains is by changing the make-up of chromosomal domains through the replacement of histone proteins with specialised forms of histones called variants . This fundamental research will provide important new information on how chromosomes become unstable in cancer.	\$501,250	Prof David J Tremethick	Australian National University
525431	Mucosal immunity and CTL avidity	Antiviral immunity for protection against HIV/AIDS: Production of strong antiviral immunity at the local mucosa (genito-rectal track) is essential for protection against HIV/AIDS. We believe that expression of small hormone-like molecules known as Th2 cytokines IL-4/IL-13 negatively influence the generation of protective immunity against HIV. Thus we aim to counteract these effects by co-expressing proteins known as chemokines together with vaccine antigens to improve the quality of mucosal vaccine immunity.	\$531,500	Dr Charani Ranasinghe	Australian National University
525458	Gamma-glutamylcyclotransferase as a novel target for cancer therapy	A potential new treatment for cancer: Gamma glutamylcyclotransferase (GGCT) plays a pivotal role in regulating the synthesis of glutathione, a compound that is essential for life and regulates many intracellular processes. Several recent studies have shown that GGCT is highly expressed in cancer cells . This study will determine if GGCT is a target for cancer chemotherapy or if it can be used for cancer diagnosis. This study may also provide a new treatment for patients with glutathione synthetase deficiency.	\$416,625	Prof Philip G Board	Australian National University
525460	Action potential initiation and propagation in neurons	Understanding nerve impulses: Nerve impulses, or action potentials, are the fundamental electrical signals used by the nervous system for communication. Critical to an understanding of neuronal function is the knowledge of where these events are initiated and how they propagate. Furthermore, this knowledge is required for understanding what goes wrong under conditions where there is a disturbance in neuronal communication, as occurs in many neurological disorders such as multiple sclerosis and epilepsy.	\$304,500	Prof Greg J Stuart	Australian National University