

Background information - Project Grants, Victoria, October 2008

App_ID	Scientific_Title	Lay Description	Value	Institution	Total
526615	Atherosclerosis and HIV	Understanding Atherosclerosis through HIV - Current treatment for atherosclerosis (a major underlying cause of cardiovascular disease) reduces cardiovascular disease by 30-40%, but the remaining risk is unacceptably high. A new idea how to treat atherosclerosis came from unexpected source, HIV infection. We propose to investigate how HIV causes atherosclerosis and if similar mechanisms are involved in "common" atherosclerosis.	\$ 364,500	Dr Dmitri SVIRIDOV	Baker Heart Research Institute
533815	An intervention to reduce sedentary behaviour, promote physical activity and improve children's health	Promoting physical activity for good health in 8-year olds - Sedentary behaviours and physical inactivity play a major role in the rising prevalence of obesity among children in Australia. This study will take place in the school and family settings which play a critical role in shaping children's health behaviours. The objective is to determine whether a 2-year behavioural intervention reduces sedentary behaviour and promotes physical activity and results in improved health among 8-9 year old children.	\$ 815,025	Assoc Prof Jo L Salmon	Deakin University
546084	Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulators (SERMs) A Potential Treatment for Psychotic Symptoms of Schizophrenia?	Brain estrogen fights schizophrenia - schizophrenia is a serious disease with increasing social and economic costs. New treatments are needed to improve the life and functioning of people with schizophrenia. We have shown that estrogen is potentially a new treatment for schizophrenia. This project will conduct a clinical trial of a Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulator, which has fewer side-effects than standard estrogen, in 180 postmenopausal women with schizophrenia.	\$ 673,750	Prof Jayshri Kulkarni	Monash University
566614	Identification of Biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease	Biomarkers for Alzheimer's Disease - Alzheimer's disease is the most common age-related neurodegenerative disease, and the most common cause of dementia. Currently there are no definitive diagnostic methods for Alzheimer's disease. This research seeks to identify and validate a range of biomarkers in the blood of patients that would be suitable for diagnostic purposes.	\$ 583,162	Asoc Prof Kevin J Barnham	University of Melbourne

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566621	Neuroprotection by Ndfip1 in brain injury - identifying targets and understanding mechanisms	Better treatments for brain injury - approximately 30,000 Australians per year suffer brain injury from trauma and motor vehicle accidents, with about 3000 victims suffering serious long term consequences, including mental, physical and behavioural impairment. This study will improve our understanding of how a brain protein we recently discovered can prevent neurons from dying following injury and provide a scientific foundation for devising therapies.	\$ 803,000	Prof Seong-Seng SS Tan	University of Melbourne
566734	How the brain controls coughing	Controlling that cough - Cough is a symptom of more than 100 clinical conditions of the respiratory system, and is the most common reason that people seek medical advice. Cough suppressant drugs are at best only modestly effective at treating cough disorders. This study aims to better understand how the brain regulates coughing in the hope of identify new therapeutic targets for relieving cough.	\$ 414,000	Dr Stuart Mazzone	University of Melbourne