

American Acne and Rosacea Society Announces Research Grant Award Recipients+

Researchers will investigate the gut microbiome in acne & possible contributors to hidradenitis suppurativa pathogenesis, as well as biomarkers of the disease.

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EINPresswire.com/ -- The American Acne and Rosacea Society (AARS) is pleased to announce that the [2024 AARS Clinical Research Scholar Grant](#) has been provided to Jean McGee, MD, PhD, of the Department of Dermatology at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

AARS Clinical Research Grants are being provided to Albert Young, MD, of Henry Ford Health Department of Dermatology, and Nina Rossa Haddad, MD, of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Department of Dermatology.

The AARS Clinical Research Scholar Grant will fund Dr. McGee's research into the effects of doxycycline on the gut microbiome of acne patients and the potential for environmental factors to modify these changes. She and her team will use various analytical techniques to compare the gut microbiome of acne patients who are undergoing doxycycline to that of those taking isotretinoin (non-antibiotic control).

Dr. McGee says that she hopes the team's findings will allow clinicians to, "take the first step towards optimizing antibiotic stewardship in dermatology that can effectively reduce the risk of antibiotic resistance and mitigate antibiotic-induced, metabolic and immunologic consequences in our patients."

With funding from the Annual AARS Clinical Research Grant, Dr. Young and colleagues seek to identify biomarkers that may predict treatment response to adalimumab among individuals with



2024 Research Grant Recipients

Jean McGee, MD, PhD
Department of Dermatology,
Brigham and Women's Hospital

Nina Rossa Haddad, MD
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine,
Department of Dermatology

Albert Young, MD
Henry Ford Health,
Department of Dermatology

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hidradenitis suppurativa (HS). Their prospective cohort study will enroll 30 patients starting adalimumab for HS and analyze their blood immune profiles at baseline and after 12 weeks of treatment with the goal of identifying immune biomarkers associated with clinical outcomes.

Dr. Haddad and her team will explore the potential relationship between endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs) like phenols and phthalates—found in ultra-processed foods as well as in plastics and food containers used for processed foods storage—and HS. An AARS Clinical Research Grant will support their efforts to collect sweat and skin biopsies from HS patients and healthy controls to compare EDCs levels between the two groups.

“Proving that EDCs are causing HS and determining the exact pathway will allow for further understanding of the underlying mechanisms of HS and particularly shed light on the role of diet and the environment in its development,” Dr. Haddad says. “Understanding this aspect may pave the way for novel treatment strategies.”

The AARS Clinical Research Scholar Grant and AARS Clinical Research Grants are conferred on an annual basis to support promising research aimed at improving the care of patients with acne, rosacea, and hidradenitis suppurativa. Noted dermatology researcher Guy Webster, MD is chair of the Grant Committee. Awards are conferred based on a rigorous application and review process, in which the grant committee assesses the feasibility of the study, its potential to expand understanding of acne, rosacea, hidradenitis suppurativa, and related diseases, and the likely practical impact of research findings.

Updates on the awardees’ research will be available from the AARS. Information on past awards can be found at acneandrosacea.org.

For more information or to schedule an interview with an AARS expert, please contact: info@aarsmember.org

About AARS

The American Acne and Rosacea Society (acneandrosacea.org) is a Section 501(c)(3) non-profit Public Benefit Corporation established in 2005. Our three-part mission is to:

Mission 1: Facilitate the interchange of knowledge and to stimulate education among experts from varied scientific backgrounds in the areas of acne, hidradenitis suppurativa (HS), and rosacea; and

Mission 2: Improve the care of patients who suffer from acne/HS, and rosacea; and

Mission 3: Promote and fund acne/HS and rosacea clinical research and mentorship opportunities for dermatology healthcare professionals.

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