



For Immediate Release

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The Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation Announces the Recipients of the 2016-2017 Research Grant-Young Clinician Investigator Awards

(April 26, 2016 - Rolling Meadows, IL) – The Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation (NREF) is pleased to announce this year’s recipients of the Foundation’s Research Grant-Young Clinician Investigator Awards.

“The NREF is grateful to the donors, sponsors and partner organizations who make it possible for us to continue funding groundbreaking neurosurgical research and providing extraordinary educational opportunities for neurosurgeons at all stages of their careers,” stated Ennio A. Chiocca, MD, PhD, FAANS, NREF Education Advisory Committee Chair.

As the premier funder of neurosurgical studies, the Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation provides funding for studies in basic, translational and patient-oriented clinical research for investigators in North America through two neurosurgical research grant programs annually.

Open to residents only, the **NREF Research Grant** provides training for neurosurgeons who are preparing for academic careers as clinician investigators. Applicants must be physicians who have been accepted into, or who are currently in approved residency training programs in neurological surgery in North America.

The **NREF Young Clinician Investigator Award** supports junior faculty who are pursuing careers as clinical investigators. Applicants must be neurosurgeons, no more than two years from the end of their clinical training, who are full-time faculty in North American teaching institutions.

The 2016-2017 Research Grant and Young Clinician Investigator Award recipients are:

- **Christopher Alvarez-Breckenridge, MD, PhD**, Massachusetts General Hospital
- **Han-Chiao Isaac Chen, MD**, University of Pennsylvania
- **Kimberly Hamilton, MD**, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- **Mark Alexander Mahan, MD**, University of Utah
- **Matthew Mian, MD**, Massachusetts General Hospital
- **Jamie Purzner, MD**, Stanford University School of Medicine
- **Visish Srinivasan, MD**, Massachusetts General Hospital
- **Ananth Vellimana, MD**, Washington University School of Medicine
- **Marcus Zachariah, MD**, Massachusetts General Hospital

The NREF is responsible for review and approval of grant applications and awards grants based upon established fellowship program criteria and the needs of the requesting hospital and/or academic institution. The NREF Education Advisory Committee was established to review and approve fellowship grant applications in an independent, unbiased manner. The committee is comprised of neurosurgeons who do not receive financial or other support from the medical device industry. Individuals serving on the committee are volunteers and do not receive compensation from the NREF for their efforts.

For more information about the Research Grant-Young Clinician Investigator Awards and all other NREF Grants and Awards, please contact Cathy Powers at (847) 378-0540 or cmp@aans.org.

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About the NREF

The Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation (NREF) is a not-for-profit 501 (C)(3) organization created in 1980 by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) to support research and education efforts that enhance and confirm the critical role neurosurgeons play in improving lives.

The NREF is dedicated to providing education to neurosurgeons at all stages of their careers, as well as funding research into new and existing neurosurgical treatments, in order to identify links between best practices and improved outcomes in patient care. Through voluntary public donations, corporate support, and donations from allied groups, the NREF supports endeavors that impact the lives of those suffering from epilepsy, stroke, brain tumors, spinal disorders, sports-related head injuries, lower back pain and Parkinson's disease.

For more information about NREF, please visit www.nref.org.