TRAINING MATTERS

The 2018 Dr Falk Pharma UK/Core Awards are open for applications

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Now in their 12th year, the Dr Falk/Core Awards recognise the achievements of those who bring new insight to gastroenterology and hepatology and the collaboration that furthers patient care. These awards are an opportunity to achieve national recognition as well as the financial support for career progression.

This year's awards comprise:

- ▶ A £1000 prize for the best essay on gastroenterology or hepatology research personally undertaken by medical students who were on an intercalated BSc/MRes/MSc/MPH/MBPhD* course during the previous academic year (2016–2017).
- ▶ Four £1500 prizes for medical students taking full-time science degrees (BSc/MRes/MSc/MPH/MBPhD*) focusing on gastrointestinal or liver-related disease in the current academic year (2017–2018).
- ▶ Two £2500 awards for F1/F2 doctors to facilitate prospective research in an area relevant to gastroenterology or hepatology.
- ▶ A £1000 award for primary and secondary care gastrointestinal/liver nurses for initiatives that have improved patient care.
- ▶ A £1000 award for dietitians working in gastroenterology or hepatology for initiatives that have improved patient care.
- ▶ Up to £10 000 is available for UK-based gastroenterology/hepatology SpR trainees who would like to conduct an audit or quality improvement project in any area of gastroenterology, liver disease or nutrition.

Applications close at 17:00 on Friday, 2 March 2018.

For further information and to apply: <http://corecharity.org.uk/research/research-awards-information/the-core-dr-falk-awards/>

*PhD students should note that they may apply for the medical student prize only once during their 3-year studentship and that they may apply for the essay prize when their PhD has been completed.

DR FALK PHARMA UK/CORE AWARD WINNERS 2017

Medical student essay prizes

Joseph Christopher

Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute

Title of the project: Quantifying intestinal stem cell dynamics using microsatellite sequencing

Project supervisor: Dr Douglas Winton

Diya Kapila

Centre for Digestive and Gut Health, Imperial College London

Title of the project: Development and optimisation of a PCR-based assay for study of gut microbiota-derived bile-metabolising enzymes

Project supervisor: Professor Julian Marchesi

Medical student prizes

Maja Kopczynska

Imperial College School of Medicine, London

Title of the project: Developing biomarkers to predict cancer risk in inflammatory bowel disease

Project supervisor: Professor Trevor Graham, Dr Ibrahim Al Bakir

Aneesh Sharma

UCL Division of Molecular Psychiatry

Title of the project: Determining the association between SNPs in the disease modifier genes PCSK7, PNPLA3, TM6SF2 & MBOAT7 and the development of significant liver injury in hereditary haemochromatosis

Project supervisor: Dr Niamh O'Brien

William Collier

Centre for Liver Research, Institute of Immunology and Immunotherapy, College of Medical and Dental Sciences, University of Birmingham

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Title of the project: The effect of hypoxia on TRAIL mediated pancreatic cancer cell apoptosis

Project supervisor: Mr Ricky Harminder Bhogal, Dr Simon Charles Afford

Haarith Ndiaye

UCL Institute for Liver & Digestive Health

Title of the project: Sensitising liver cancer cells to apoptosis through targeted inhibition of fatty acid activation

Project supervisor: Dr Mark Waugh

F1/F2 research grants

Dahlia Hopmeier

Complex Disease Genetics Group, Division of Genetics & Molecular Medicine, Guy's Hospital, London

Title of the project: Understanding the role of gene regulation in the pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel disease

Project supervisor: Dr Natalie Prescott

Laura Heath

Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford

Title of the project: The liver project

Project supervisor: Professor Paul Aveyard

Medical nurse/dietitian prize

Kim Jones

Advanced Gastroenterology Dietitian, Hinchings-brooke Hospital

Title of the project: Checking fat soluble vitamin levels in patients with pancreatic exocrine insufficiency (PEI) in the community

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