

Basic Research Grants Funded for 2006

Dr. Hynek Witchterle and Stephane Nedelec, Columbia University, "The role of SMN protein in axonal mRNAs transport using Mouse Embryonic Stem cells derived motor neurons." for \$94,500.

Dr. Beth Westlund, Cambria Biosciences, LLC, "Identification of genetic suppressors of SMN mutations in *Caenorhabditis elegans*." for \$215,587.

Dr. Michelle McWhorter, Ohio State University, "The function of SMN in motor axons: snRNP assembly or motor-axon specific?" for \$51,485.

Dr. Gregory Matera, Case Western Reserve University, "A *Drosophila* model for Spinal Muscular Atrophy." for \$65,340.

Dr. Stefan Stamm, University of Erlangen and University of Kentucky, "Regulation of SMN2 exon 7 through protein phosphatase." for \$162,000.

Dr. Jianhua Zhou, University of Massachusetts Medical School, "Chaperone Activity of SMN against motor neuron cell death under stress conditions." for \$79,633.

Dr. Umrao Monani, Columbia University Medical Center, "Does the Slow Wallerian Degeneration (Wld) mutation and compounds that mimic its activity rescue the SMA phenotype in a mouse model of the disease?" for \$60,000.

Dr. Wilfried Rossoll, Emory University, "The role of SMN in the axonal compartments of motor neurons." for \$108,000.

Dr. Michelle Hastings, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and Rosalind Franklin University, "Identification and Characterization of Small-Molecule Modulators of SMN2 Exon 7 Splicing" for \$163,174.

Dr. Klemens Hertel, University of California, Irvine, "The influence of SMN levels on pre-mRNA splicing" for \$81,941.

Dr. Rashmi Kothary, Ottawa Health Research Institute, "Establishment and Characterization of Primary Motor Neuron Cultures from an SMN Hypomorphic Series of Mice" for \$141,480.

Dr. Jocelyn Cote, University of Ottawa, "A Role for Arginine Methylation in the Regulation of SMN Activities" for \$142,800.