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# LIVER DIGEST

A weekly update of PLRC happenings

July 23, 2020



[www.livercenter.pitt.edu](http://www.livercenter.pitt.edu)

*Please acknowledge support from the PLRC (NIH/NIDDK  
**P30DK120531**) in your publications and presentations.*

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### FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Drs. Obaid Shaikh** (Department of Medicine) and **Takis Benos** (Department of Systems & Computational Biology, and co-Director of PLRC's GSBC) have been awarded a grant from **Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals** to study, "Predictive modeling of acute kidney injury-hepatorenal syndrome (AKI-HRS) among US veterans with cirrhosis." The team is proposing to perform a case-control study of US veterans to determine factors associated with the development of AKI-HRS, and to develop and validate a predictive model of the syndrome. Additionally, they will employ machine learning tools to develop highly accurate adaptive algorithms and predictive models. The study will be performed with data acquired from the Veterans Affairs (VA) Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW), and the total award amount is \$316,000 over two years. Their goal is that the application of a predictive model

with a high level of accuracy will help improve resolution of AKI-HRS and overall survival. Helping to establish such multidisciplinary teams is one of the major goals of the PLRC, and we wish them much success!

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**NEXT VIRTUAL SEMINAR: TUESDAY, JULY 28 AT 12:00 PM**

Our next virtual seminar is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 28 at 12:00 PM**. A Zoom link to access the seminar has been sent out to all members via email. **Dr. Andy Duncan**, current PLRC member, will be giving a presentation on his research and the title of the talk will be: "Diploid and Polyploid Hepatocytes in Liver Regeneration and Injury."

If you have any questions, please email Amanda Bytzura at **[bytzuraam@upmc.edu](mailto:bytzuraam@upmc.edu)**.

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**ASIP VIRTUAL MEET THE EXPERTS: LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!**



LIVER PATHOBIOLOGY SCIENTIFIC INTEREST GROUP &

**Club Hepatomania™**

presents

*Virtual*

**Meet-the-Experts Event**

**Thursday, July 23**  
4:00 PM EST

The Liver Pathobiology Scientific Interest Group of the ASIP hosts a popular session at the ASIP Annual Meeting each year that provides an opportunity for members to Meet the Liver Experts. In the age of COVID-19, we are happy to bring you a Virtual Meet the Experts session featuring two internationally recognized experts in the mechanisms of liver disease. Please register to attend and encourage your colleagues that work in the field of liver pathobiology to join as well. This complimentary event is open to everyone, but with limited capacity.

**Topic:**  
**Non-alcoholic  
Fatty Liver Disease**



**Rohit Loomba, MD, MHSc**  
Director, NAFLD Research Center  
Director of Hepatology, Professor of Medicine  
Vice Chief, Division of Gastroenterology  
University of California at San Diego

**Topic:**  
**Hepatocellular  
Carcinoma**



**Satdarshan (Paul) Singh Monga, MD**  
Professor of Pathology  
Vice Chair and Chief of Division of  
Experimental Pathology  
Assistant Dean for Medical Scientist Training Program  
Director of Cellular Approaches to Tissue Engineering & Regeneration  
(CATER) Program  
Director of the Pittsburgh Liver Research Center

**Moderator**



**Kari N. Nejak-Bowen, MBA, PhD**  
Assistant Professor of Pathology  
University of Pittsburgh

**Join Us!**

**[Please click here to register for the event.](#)**

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## **UPCOMING SOTA LECTURE SERIES SCHEDULE**

The Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition will be hosting their annual State-of-the-Art Lecture series in a virtual format. Lectures are held on Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:00-8:00 am. Here is the schedule of upcoming lectures:

- **[Dr. Jaideep Behari](#)**, PLRC member, will present at **7:00 am on Tuesday, July 28** and the title of the presentation will be, "The Liver Transplant Patient: Pre- and Post-Transplant Evaluation and Management."
- **Dr. Anna Evans Phillips** will present at **7:00 am on Friday, July 31** and the title of the presentation will be, "Enteral Nutrition and Enteral Access: Successful Feeding in the ICU."

**Please click here for the Microsoft Teams link to join the meeting.**

You can also join by dialing **[412-447-5295](#)** and entering the **Conference ID: 992 093 294#**

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**JOB OPPORTUNITY**

- **Dr. Ramon Bataller** is currently recruiting a post-doc to work in his lab, which is located in the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition. The ideal candidate would have a PhD in medicine, biology, biochemistry, pharmacy, bio-engineering or similar field with experience in liver patho-physiology and/or endocrinology research. It is also preferable that the incumbent would be oriented in the translational bench-to-bedside area. You can find out more information on this position by visiting the University of Pittsburgh post-doc positions page by **clicking here**. You can also view the posting via the LinkedIn jobs page by **clicking here**.
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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Mechanistic Studies of the Interaction between SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 and Diseases and Organ Systems of Interest to NIDDK (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)**

United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)

### **Alcohol-Induced Effects on Tissue Injury and Repair (R21)**

United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

**PHS 2020-2 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH, CDC and FDA for Small  
Business Innovation Research Grant Applications (Parent SBIR  
[R43/R44] Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

(PA-20-260)

National Institutes of Health  
Food and Drug Administration  
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences  
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health  
National Center for Environmental Health  
National Cancer Institute  
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control  
National Eye Institute  
National Human Genome Research Institute  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute  
National Institute on Aging  
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases  
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering  
*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human  
Development  
National Institute on Drug Abuse  
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders



National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research  
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
National Institute of General Medical Sciences  
National Institute of Mental Health  
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities  
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke  
National Institute of Nursing Research  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health  
National Library of Medicine

Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives,  
Office of Research Infrastructure Programs

Application Receipt Date(s): Standard dates apply All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s). Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**PHS 2020-2 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH for Small Business  
Technology Transfer Grant Applications (Parent STTR [R41/R42]  
Clinical Trial Required)**

(PA-20-261)

National Institutes of Health  
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health  
National Cancer Institute

National Eye Institute

National Human Genome Research Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

National Institute on Drug Abuse

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

National Institute of General Medical Sciences

National Institute of Mental Health

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

National Institute of Nursing Research

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(PA-20-262)

National Institutes of Health

Food and Drug Administration  
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health  
National Center for Environmental Health  
National Cancer Institute  
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control  
National Eye Institute  
National Human Genome Research Institute  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute  
National Institute on Aging  
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism  
*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human  
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National Institute on Drug Abuse  
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders  
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
National Institute of General Medical Sciences  
National Institute of Mental Health  
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities  
National Institute of Nursing Research  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

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(PA-20-265)

National Institutes of Health

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health

National Cancer Institute

National Eye Institute

National Human Genome Research Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering

*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human  
Development

National Institute on Drug Abuse

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

National Institute of General Medical Sciences

National Institute of Mental Health

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Institute of Nursing Research

National Library of Medicine

Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives,

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**Promoting Research on Music and Health: Phased Innovation Award for Music Interventions (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Optional)**

(PAR-20-266)

National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health

National Cancer Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

National Institute of Mental Health

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

Application Receipt Date(s): New : October 02, 2020; June 02, 2021;

October 04, 2021; June 02, 2022; October 03, 2022; June 02, 2023

Resubmissions: October 19, 2020; June 17, 2021; October 19, 2021;

June 17, 2022; October 19, 2022; June 19, 2023

**BRAIN Initiative: Tools for Germline Gene Editing in Marmosets (U01  
- Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

(RFA-DA-21-006)

National Institute on Drug Abuse

National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health

National Eye Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering

*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human  
Development

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

National Institute of Mental Health

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

Application Receipt Date(s): October 15, 2020 and October 14, 2021



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