
BAND2 - Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases 2

- BAND2 is a global funding collaboration between the Weston Brain Institute, Alzheimer's Association, The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, and Alzheimer's Research UK
- The objective of BAND2 is to stimulate analyses across Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and other neurodegenerative diseases of aging to increase understanding of the differences and similarities in disease pathogenesis
- Applicants may request funding for up to two years and \$150,000 in total costs
- Projects are required to use established datasets (e.g., ADNI, PPMI, FTLD cohort datasets)
- LOIs are due **April 9th**, submit at: <https://proposalcentral.altum.com/>

MCDN - Mechanisms of Cellular Death in Neurodegeneration

- MCDN is a global funding collaboration between the Weston Brain Institute, Alzheimer's Association, and Alzheimer's Research UK
- The aim of the program is to discover and understand the mechanisms and pathophysiological processes of brain cell loss and seek insights and potential targets for therapeutics to sustain healthy brain function
- LOIs are due **May 8th**, submit at: <https://proposalcentral.altum.com/>

Coming Soon:

Rapid Response 2015

- Provides seed funding for novel translational research projects that will accelerate the development of therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging
- Grants of up to \$150,000 each over 12-18 months
- LOIs are due **June 23rd**
- More Information here: <http://westonbraininstitute.ca/funding-opportunities/funding-overview/>

Clinical Trials 2015

- Provides support for Phase I and IIa clinical trials for therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases of aging
- Grants of up to \$1,500,000 per project over up to 4 years
- LOIs are due **August 25th**
- More Information here: <http://westonbraininstitute.ca/funding-opportunities/funding-overview/>

More details to follow in the coming weeks.

Research in Focus - Dr. Isabelle Aubert and Dr. Kullervo Hynynen



The collaborative team of Dr. Aubert and Dr. Hynynen at Sunnybrook Research Institute pioneered the use of focused ultrasound for the development of potential treatments for Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Hynynen was the first to develop the ultrasound technology that transiently and non-invasively opens the blood-brain barrier, which is a major hurdle for therapeutic delivery to the brain. In addition, Dr. Aubert and Dr. Hynynen were the first to report that ultrasound reduced beta-amyloid plaque load in the brain. Their teams showed that MRI-guided focused ultrasound (MRIGFUS) reduced cortical and hippocampal beta-amyloid plaque load and improved memory in a transgenic mouse model of Alzheimer's disease. The research duo has also demonstrated that MRIGFUS can stimulate hippocampal neurogenesis in mice with and without amyloid pathology. Their work has received international recognition and other researchers are currently employing their techniques to further study and find new treatments for neurodegenerative diseases of aging. Presently, Dr. Aubert and Dr. Hynynen are working on new and exciting research that includes developing novel therapeutics and a low-cost, portable clinical focused ultrasound device for the delivery of these therapeutics to specific brain regions. Together, their work contributes to the development of new, more effective tools and therapeutics to treat Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases of aging.



Link to publications: [click here](#)

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