

Actelion Awards Grants to 2017 ENTELLIGENCE™ Young Investigators for Research in Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Washington, DC – June 6, 2017:

Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc. and the ENTELLIGENCE Steering Committee recognized four young researchers and their mentors this year for their efforts in advancing research in pulmonary vascular pathobiology. Each researcher will receive a 12-month mentored grant of up to \$100,000, funded through the Actelion-supported ENTELLIGENCE program. The announcement was made at a recent award luncheon held in Washington, DC during the time of the American Thoracic Society's annual meeting. The recipients of the 2017 awards gave an overview of their proposed work during the luncheon.

"This is the 13th year of the ENTELLIGENCE Young Investigator Program. After 12 years of great success, we continue to receive extremely high quality, competitive submissions," said Dr. Ronald J. Oudiz, ENTELLIGENCE Steering Committee Chairman and Director of the Liu Center for Pulmonary Hypertension at the LA Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. At the annual ENTELLIGENCE luncheon at ATS, Actelion Pharmaceuticals' Senior Vice President, US Medical, Dr. Gary Palmer, delivered an inspirational speech to kick off the award ceremony. There were several past awardees and past mentors in attendance who were recognized. Many of the past awardees are now seasoned investigators, and some are now mentors to new young investigators. "The Steering Committee members are so proud of the impressive science that ENTELLIGENCE has produced over the years," said Dr. Oudiz. "For the past 12 award cycles, ENTELLIGENCE, with over \$5 million in funding, has supported innovative basic, translational, and clinical research that has fostered the development of 59 young investigators' careers in pulmonary vascular research. During this time, the awardees' research findings have been published in numerous peer-reviewed journals, and with the momentum of their ENTELLIGENCE award, many have obtained external funding to continue their research. We remain proud of the ENTELLIGENCE program and the important milestones achieved thus far, and we very much look forward to next year's program," Oudiz said.

Attendees included Dr. Martine Clozel, Chief Scientific Officer and Co-founder, Bill Fairey, President, Gary Palmer, MD, MBA, Senior Vice President, US Medical, Michael Zastrow, PhD, Associate Medical Director, and Lee Ann McDowell, PharmD, Senior Medical Science Liaison, of Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc. Additional leaders and researchers in the field of pulmonary vascular disease included Brad Wong, President of the Pulmonary Hypertension Association.

The 2017 award winners, their mentors, and the supported projects are:

Nadine Al-Naamani, MD, MS

Co-investigator: David Lederer, MD

Mentor: Steven Kawut, MD

Institution: University of Pennsylvania

Title: *Exploring the Association of Visceral Intrathoracic Fat with Vascular Stiffness in Pulmonary Hypertension*

Jonathan Davies, MD

Mentor: Michael Blackburn, PhD

Institution: Baylor College of Medicine

Title: *The Role of Adenosine Signaling in Pulmonary Hypertension Associated with Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia*

Rebecca Kameny, MD

Mentor: Jeffrey Fineman, MD

Institution: University of California, San Francisco

Title: *Translating the Natural History of Pulmonary Vascular Disease Secondary to Congenital Heart Disease into Basic Mechanisms and Therapeutic Targets*

Stephanie Thorn, PhD

Mentors: Hyung Chun, MD, and Albert Sinusas, MD

Institution: Yale University

Title: *Pilot Study to Engage the Apelin-MEF2 Signaling Axis for Myocardial Preservation in a Large Animal Model of Right Ventricle Failure*

About ENTELLIGENCE

The ENTELLIGENCE program was established by Actelion in 2005 to support basic science, translational, and clinical research related to pulmonary vascular disease. The program provides opportunities for individual young investigators to promote quality medical care and enhance patients' lives by supporting research in pulmonary hypertension (PH) related to expanding our knowledge of the pathways involved in pulmonary vascular pathobiology. ENTELLIGENCE is led by a Steering Committee comprised of leaders in the field of PH.

The next ENTELLIGENCE grant award cycle begins on September 14, 2017. For more information regarding the Young Investigator Program, please visit www.ENTELLIGENCemd.org. For further information, please contact Medtelligence (info@medtelligence.net).



2017 Award Winners. From left: Nadine Al-Naamani, MD, MS, Rebecca Kameny, MD, Jonathan Davies, MD, and Stephanie Thorn, PhD.



2017 Award Winners and ENTELLIGENCE Steering Committee. Front row, seated, from left: Nadine Al-Naamani, MD, MS, Jonathan Davies, MD, Rebecca Kameny, MD, and Stephanie Thorn, PhD. Back row, from left: Harrison Farber, MD, Mardi Gomberg-Maitland, MD, MSc, Kurt Stenmark, MD, Harold Palevsky, MD, Ronald Oudiz, MD, Program Chair, Richard Silver, MD, Evangelos Michelakis, MD, and Jason Yuan, MD, PhD. *Not shown:* Maureen Mayes, MD, MPH.