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## 2020-2021 Annual Research Competition- Funding Decisions

### DOCTORAL AND MASTER’S STUDENTSHIPS

The MS Society of Canada is pleased to announce the funding decisions for the applications submitted to the 2020-2021 Annual Research Competition. Doctoral Studentship applicants will receive \$22,000 for one year. Doctoral Studentship applicants that hold an MD degree receive \$50,500 for one year. Master’s Studentship applicants will receive \$20,000 for one year.

In total, **26 Doctoral Studentships** and **6 Master’s Studentships** have been awarded as follows (listed in alphabetical order):

#### Doctoral Studentships

First Name	Last Name	Institution	Project Title
Irshad	Akbar	Laval university	Deciphering the mechanism of autoimmune CD8+ T cells in neurodegeneration using a mouse model of CNS autoimmunity
Nima	Alaeiikhchi	The University of British Columbia	Dietary Treatment for MS
Jessica	Allanach	The University of British Columbia	A humanized mouse model of MS to study EBV infection in disease
Stephanie	Blandford	Memorial University of Newfoundland	Investigating exosomal microRNAs as functionally relevant disease biomarkers in MS
Ana	Carmena Moratalla	Centre de Recherche du CHUM	The role of NKG2D in multiple sclerosis.
Marc	Charabati	Centre de Recherche du CHUM	MCAM+ Cells Contribute to the Development of MS and Predict its Progression
Daryan	Chitsaz	McGill University	A novel microengineered culture system to study myelin regulation and identify remyelination therapies
Sienna	Drake	McGill University	Epigenetic Mechanisms of Neuroinflammation
Tracy	Fabri	York University	Neurocognitive Outcomes and Trajectories of Brain Development in Pediatric Patients with Multiple Sclerosis and Relapsing Myelin Oligodendrocyte Glycoprotein (MOG) Antibody Disease

To be a leader in finding a cure for multiple sclerosis and enabling people affected by MS to enhance their quality of life.

Founding member of the Multiple Sclerosis Society International Foundation

Naomi	Fettig	The University of British Columbia	The roles of the gut microbiome and Epstein-Barr virus infection in the development of multiple sclerosis
Timothy	Friedman	University of Alberta	Sex Differences in Toll-like Receptor Signaling of the Peripheral Nervous System
Dylan	Galloway	Memorial University of Newfoundland	Exploring the Clinical and Functional Significance of Altered MiR-223 Expression in Multiple Sclerosis and its Animal Models
Camille	Grasmuck	Centre hospitalier de l'université de Montréal	Interactions of various B cell subsets with the CNS barriers in multiple sclerosis
Seth	Holland	The University of British Columbia	Activating Transcription Factor 3: The critical mediator behind dimethyl fumarate's (Tecfidera) immunomodulation in multiple sclerosis
Hélène	Jamann	Centre de Recherche du Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal	Targeting molecular mechanisms underlying Th17 cell/oligodendrocyte interactions for neuroprotection in MS
Hanwen	Liu	The University of British Columbia	Diffusely Abnormal White Matter in Different MS Phenotypes: Impact on Myelin, Axons and Brain Volume
Ali	Mirza	Vancouver Hospital & Health Sciences Centre	Assessing the functional capacity of the Gut Microbiome in Pediatric MS
Sarah	Morris	The University of British Columbia	Characterizing multiple sclerosis spinal cord microstructure: Insights into demyelination, inflammation, gliosis and axonal loss from advanced magnetic resonance imaging and histology
Tautvydas	Paskevicius	University of Alberta	Targeting calnexin and fatty acid binding protein 5 complex in brain endothelial cells in multiple sclerosis
Rose-Marie	Rebillard	Centre de Recherche du Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal	Characterization of the distinct contribution of sex hormones versus sex chromosomes to the clinical sexual dimorphism in multiple sclerosis
Julia	Segal	Queen's University	Neuroimmune mechanisms underlying circadian control of pain in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis
Kelsi	Smith	Karolinska Institutet	Pigmentation genes and the timing of sun exposure in MS development and progression
Yodit	Tesfagiorgis	University of Western Ontario	Identifying pathogenic B cells in an animal model of central nervous system autoimmunity and determining their susceptibility to therapeutic depletion
Alexandra	Tremblay	Université du Québec à Montréal	Aging and Cognition in Multiple Sclerosis: The Role of Cognitive Reserve

Anran	Wang	University of Toronto	Characterizing the Localization and Survival of Meningeal IgA-Antibody Secreting Plasma Cells in Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis
Darrin	Wijeyaratnam	University of Ottawa	From motor command to performance: Training upper limb sensory, motor and cognitive function in individuals affected by multiple sclerosis

### Master's Studentships

First Name	Last Name	Institution	Project Title
Charbel	Baaklini	University of Alberta	Roles of Microglia in Remyelination
Jason	Fernandes	University of Alberta	Mechanistic Characterization of Pyroptosis in Multiple Sclerosis Pathogenesis
Emily	Kamma	The University of British Columbia	Characterizing the clinical and immunopathological alterations associated with the Nr1h3 R415Q mutation in a novel mouse model of progressive multiple sclerosis
Jennifer	Sebali	Centre de Recherche du Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal	The role of Melanoma Cell Adhesion Molecule (MCAM) in Regulatory T cell migration over CNS barriers in Multiple Sclerosis.
Risavarshni	Thevakumaran	McGill University	Assessing Sub-Pial Demyelination in Progressive MS Using Multimodal High Field MRI and PET Neuroimaging
Adrienne	Watson	University of Alberta	The role of fractalkine signalling in precursor cells and implications for remyelination