Medical Research

Carmen Stavarache

"With the help of funding from The James Tudor Foundation, Coventry University has employed Carmen Stavarache, a post doctoral researcher from Romania, to work on a project making protein capsules containing chemotherapy agents and nanometals. Once in the body the capsules would be moved by magnets to the site of the cancer tumour and high intensity focussed ultrasound used to break the capsules open.

The aim is to minimise the side effects of chemotherapy and enhance the success rate of the cancer treatment itself."

Dr Larysa Paniwnyk, Coventry University July 2015

With the awards from The Foundation we have devised and evaluated a safe means of protecting islets from being rejected using stem cell "chaperones" with the natural ability to suppress the immune system. Our research has indicated that such stem cells play a vital role in supporting transplanted islets and may, in time, allow the treatment to be given without having to use harmful anti-rejection drugs. The James Tudor Foundation recently provided funding for a specialised tissue culture system which we will use to further modify islets prior to transplantation, by embedding them in a bio-compatible scaffold. Along with the stem cells we believe that the scaffold will provide an optimal transplant environment, promoting long-term islet survival and thereby increasing the clinical effectiveness of this treatment approach.

Hilary Murray, The Islet Laboratories, July 2015

"We are indebted to the Trustees of The James Tudor Foundation, not only for their financial support but for their sustained interest in and engagement with this novel programme of research. The grants awarded have made our work possible, allowing us to make a significant contribution to the development of islet replacement therapy, with important findings that are readily transferable to the clinical setting".

Professor Richard Downing, Laboratory Director, July 2015

Professor Richard Grundy

"Funding research into childhood brain tumours is the key to improving diagnosis & treatments and ultimately increasing survival of these difficult to treat tumours whilst also reducing disability rates.

We are very grateful to The James Tudor Foundation for supporting the Clinical Research Post to help us drive this vital and underfunded research forward".

Professor Richard Grundy, Professor of Paediatric Neuro-Oncology and Co-Director of The Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre, Nottingham July 2015

Hardeep with her Genome Sequencer

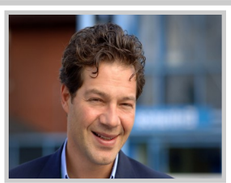
'"The first step to tackling the issue of "Superbugs" is to understand their genetics, and how this links to their behaviour Thanks to the generous support provided by The James Tudor Foundation we have been able to study the causative agent of one of the most common hospital infections, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, using a combination of whole genome sequencing and laboratory experiments. As a result of this project, we have gained a deeper understanding of the diverse nature of P. aeruginosa genomes, both in the clinical setting and the laboratory. While whole genome sequencing is currently used for research purposes, it is becoming more likely that one day this technique will be used in hospitals in order to diagnose and effectively treat bacterial infections, and detect and prevent outbreaks.

It has been a pleasure sharing the results of my work with The Foundation through reports and annual meetings, and I look forward to sharing a copy of my thesis very soon!"

Hardeep Singh, Centre for Hospital Acquired Infections, Nottingham University July 2015

"It has been a pleasure and privilege to work with The James Tudor Foundation over a number of years across a vibrant range of projects. The support of the Foundation has played an important role in transforming our capability to improve health outcomes, forging new research pathways and maximizing our ability to respond to new and world leading research opportunities, improving health and making a global impact. This is enabling us to make a fundamental and positive difference to people's lives. We are immensely grateful for The Foundation's continued support and look forward to our partnership continuing in the years to come."

Professor Sir David Greenaway, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Nottingham, July 2015



"I am very grateful to the James Tudor Foundation for their support. With their help, we are able to investigate whether some women are genetically more inclined towards Post Natal Depression (PND). Through this, the translational potential of our research can be developed, and in-time, lead to a practical new solution for women who are struggling to get the help they need to cope with their condition. Thank you to The James Tudor Foundation for believing in this work. It means we are getting closer every day to developing a very simple blood test which will diagnose PND early on. This will improve the lives not just of the parents, but also of their children".

Professor Dimitris Grammatopoulos, Professor of Molecular Medicine, Warwick Medical School, Consultant in Clinical Biochemistry, UHCW NHS Trust, July 2015