

## «National MD-PhD Fellowships Program»: list of grantees\*

### 2025

**Amrein Fanny Lucie, Centre de Recherche Translationnelle en Onco-Hématologie, Université de Genève**

Deciphering the role of TIM-1 expressing B cells on anti-tumor immunity

CHF 207'903.–

Funded by: ISREC Foundation

**Benhassine Rym, Département d'oncologie, Université de Lausanne**

Uncovering and Exploiting Chemotherapy-Induced Proteins in Colorectal Cancer

CHF 188'688.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Beyersdorf Benjamin, Klinik für Neurochirurgie, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Anatomical and Molecular Phenotyping of Brain Arteriovenous Malformations for Risk Stratification and Staging

CHF 130'928.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Casalino Francesca, Département de pédiatrie, gynécologie et obstétrique, Université de Genève**

Wnt Signaling and Cell Fusion in Ovarian Cancer: A New Frontier for Targeted Therapy

CHF 207'903.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Chavaz Lara, Département de pédiatrie, gynécologie et obstétrique, Université de Genève**

Genetic susceptibility and drug-drug interactions in pediatric Platinum-Induced Hearing Loss (PIHL): a translational approach towards personalized medicine

CHF 207'903.–

Funded by: ISREC Foundation

**Čypaitė Gabrielė, Endokrinologie, Diabetes und Metabolismus, Universitätsspital Basel**

Metformin as a therapeutic approach for muscle preservation in obesity treatment

CHF 133'892.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Deseö Julian, Klinik für Neurologie, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Detecting a cardioembolic source of stroke. A deep learning analysis of imaging and clinical data

CHF 130'928.–

Funded by: Théodore Ott Fund

**Fankhauser Severin, Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine, Universität Bern**

Prospective Multicenter Cohort Study of Cardiac Dysfunction in Childhood Cancer Survivors

CHF 137'726.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Favre-Bulle Berenice, Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience, EPFL**

Exploring the behavioral and neural coupling between the sense of agency and episodic memory in healthy individuals and patients with memory impairments using virtual reality and fMRI

CHF 196'185.–

Funded by: Dementia Research Switzerland – Synapsis Foundation

**Frank Konstantin Johannes, Département de médecine, Université de Genève**

Replication of endemic and emerging respiratory viruses in airway epithelial cells

CHF 207'903.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Lanz Loyse, Département de chirurgie, Université de Genève**

Impact of surgery on anti-Cancer immunity in Humans

CHF 207'903.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Mohbat Emmanuelle, Global Health Institute, EPFL**

Hematopoietic mosaic Chromosomal Alterations in people living with HIV : epidemiology, longitudinal dynamics, cell-specificity and clinical impact

CHF 190'735.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Romann Lucas Sven, Institute of Experimental Immunology, Universität Zürich**

The role of 4-1BB (CD137/TNFRSF9) during immune control of the oncogenic Epstein Barr virus

CHF 152'749.–

Funded by: Prof. Dr. Max Cloëtta Foundation

**Sandu Arnav, Département d'oncologie, Université de Lausanne**

Investigating the role of the microenvironment in driving glioblastoma recurrence

CHF 194'079.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Sökeland Greta, Universitätsklinik für Neurologie, Inselspital/Universität Bern**

Neurorehabilitation for IntraCerebral hemorrhage and Functional RElevance of perihemorrhagic edema (NICE-REHA)

CHF 127'132.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Stolte Thorald, Cardiovascular Research Institute Basel, Universität Basel**

Improving outcomes of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation through optimized medical therapy

CHF 192'804.–

Funded by: Faculty Pool

**Studer David Emanuel, Universitätsklinik für Diabetologie, Endokrinologie, Ernährungsmedizin und Metabolismus, Inselspital/Universität Bern**

Linking Estradiol with the Entero-Insular Axis: Mechanistic Insights into Menopausal Hormone Therapy

CHF 148'321.–

Funded by: Monique Dornonville de la Cour Foundation

**Trüssel Simon, Neurologie, Universitätsspital Basel**

Personalised Enhancement of Stroke Recovery

CHF 133'832.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**2024**

**Bancila Bianca, Département des neurosciences fondamentales, Université de Genève**

Negative reinforcement circuits in opioid addiction: Mapping Central Amygdala inputs and outputs

CHF 208'068.–

Funded by: Théodore Ott Fund

**Beetschen Anna Sophia, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Molecular mechanisms of persistent Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Born Tristan, Service des maladies infectieuses, CHUV, Lausanne**

The molecular basis of HIV-specific CD4 T cell dysfunction

CHF 194'235.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Charmey Alisson, Forschungsgruppe Onkologie, Kinderspital Zürich**

Priming leukemia to increase sensitivity to immunotherapy

CHF 196'551.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**De Lange Glenn, Institut für Experimentelle Immunologie, Universität Zürich**

Function of eosinophils in colorectal cancer

CHF 196'551.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Futterknecht Stefan, Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology Basel, Universität Basel**

Precision gene therapy toolkit for drug delivery in ocular diseases

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Guedj Danaé, Département de pathologie et d'immunologie, Université de Genève**

Exploring and exploiting HPV-specific CD4 T cells for head and neck squamous cell cancer immunotherapy

CHF 138'712.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Ottersberg Rahel, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern**

Ex-vivo heart perfusion enables innovations in cardiac transplantation and precision therapies

CHF 190'851.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Palombella Luca, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern**

The role of TRAF2 and NCK-interacting kinase in the regulation of acute myeloid leukemia

CHF 127'234.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Pompizii Felix, Universitätsklinik für Neurologie, Inselspital/Universität Bern**

Restoring cortical brain dynamics during sleep to rescue cognition in Alzheimer's disease

CHF 190'851.–

Funded by: Dementia Research Switzerland – Synapsis Foundation

**Schenker Timo, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Chimeric antigen receptor microglia for glioblastoma immunotherapy

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Monique Dornonville de la Cour Foundation

**Schwenke Johannes, Departement Klinische Forschung, Universitätsspital/Universität Basel**

Randomized evaluation of the routine use of circulating tumor DNA in patients with advanced malignancies using routinely collected patient outcome data

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Zoellin Jay, Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology Basel, Universität Basel**

Precision gene correction to treat a common inherited macular degeneration

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**2023**

**Bilfeld Gilles, Institute for Molecular Health Sciences, ETH Zürich**

Exploiting circulating tumor cells for the identification of immunotherapy responders  
CHF 196'341.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Bürgin Damian, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern**

The functional role of CD93 in multiple myeloma  
CHF 190'851.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Fixemer Jonas, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Transcriptional regulation of memory B cells in chronic viral infection  
CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Franzen Jan, Vetsuisse-Fakultät, Universität Bern**

Identification and functional characterization of novel Clostridium perfringens hemolysin-like beta-pore-forming toxins  
CHF 127'234.–

Funded by: Zinkernagel Research Foundation

**Huber Aurélie, Centre médical universitaire, Université de Genève**

Development of multimodal MRI to assess the quality of a kidney allograft  
CHF 208'068.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Jordi Jonathan, Klinik für Psychiatrie, Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik, Zürich**

Neurobiology underlying stress-induced reward pathologies: focus on the bidirectional nucleus accumbens-ventral tegmentum neural circuit in a mouse model  
CHF 185'629.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Jordi Sebastian, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern**

Metabolic dynamics of the small intestinal microbiota upon nutritional challenges  
CHF 132'536.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Lyon Arnaud, Département de médecine et chirurgie, CHUV, Lausanne**

Immuno-metabolic impact of Hydrogen Sulphide on sex-specific response to Ischemia-reperfusion injury

CHF 134'885.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Nikaj Andi, Departement Klinische Forschung, Universitätsspital/Universität Basel**

Oxytocin substitution therapy in patients with central diabetes insipidus: a double-blind randomized-controlled trial - The OxyTUTION trial

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Peisl Sarah, Universitätsklinik für Viszerale Chirurgie, Inselspital, Bern**

Role of biliary microbiota in biliary injury and the development of cholangiopathy  
CHF 190'851.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Reiser Aurelia, Institute of Veterinary Physiology, Universität Zürich**

The role of iron homeostasis in pulmonary hypertension

CHF 196'548.–

Funded by: Monique Dornonville de la Cour Foundation

**Roggo Andrea, Dermatologische Klinik, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Exploring the etiology of pruritus in cutaneous T-cell lymphoma towards targeted therapy

CHF 131'032.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Saccaro Luigi, Département de radiologie et informatique médicale, Université de Genève**

Transdiagnostic markers of vulnerability to emotion dysregulation disorders: a multimodal approach

CHF 208'068.–

Funded by: Théodore Ott Fund)

**Schönenberger Christoph, Departement Klinische Forschung, Universitätsspital/ Universität Basel**

Tackling cardiovascular risk factors in Swiss people living with HIV using the «Trials Within Cohort» design

CHF 192'957.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Szalai Timéa, Département des neurosciences fondamentales, Université de Genève**

High-throughput identification of disrupted molecular pathways in schizophrenia patients

CHF 208'068.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**2022****Delal Dalga, Centre médical universitaire, Université de Genève**

The role of PCK1 in kidney health and disease

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Dimitrios Daskalou, Département des neurosciences cliniques, HUG, Genève**

NADPH oxidase 3 inhibition to prevent radiosurgery-induced hearing loss in vestibular schwannoma

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Justine Epiney, Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research, EPFL, Lausanne**

Identification of resistance mechanisms limiting Antibody-Dependent Cellular Phagocytosis (ADCP) in B-cell lymphoma

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Timothée Ferrari, School of Life Sciences, EPFL, Lausanne**

Next generation multi-modal analysis of tumoral heterogeneity in peripheral blood

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Mehdi Ali Gadiri, School of Engineering, EPFL, Lausanne**

Development of a microrobotic device for cardiovascular interventions

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Christian Haas, Dermatology/Biomedical Engineering, Universitätsspital/Universität Basel**

OCT-guided laser skin ablation system

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Samuel Jones, Department of clinical neurosciences, CHUV, Lausanne**

Identification of autoreactive CD8+ T cells in MS patients using autologous human-induced pluripotent stem cell-derived brain cells

CHF 154'307.–

Funded by: Théodore Ott Fund)

**Deniz Kaymak, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Deciphering the role of ID1 in tumor-associated microglia in glioblastoma

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**James Kim, Pädiatrische Onkologie, Kinderspital Zürich**

Relapsed TCF3-PBX1 ALL - Identifying drivers of resistance in a model of relapsed very high risk ALL

CHF 126'601.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Lukas Kübler, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Tumor reactive stroma in cholangiocellular carcinoma: mechanisms of induction and impact on response to chemotherapy

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Léna Mazza, Centre médical universitaire, Université de Genève**

Natural substrates of multidrug efflux pumps in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*: a possible source for efflux pumps inhibitors?

CHF 146'692.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Matthias Rath, Institute of Experimental Immunology, Universität Zürich**

Regulatory T cells in Th17 dominated disease

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Alexander Von Hoyningen-Huene, Département de neurosciences fondamentales, Université de Genève**

Cellular determinants of subthalamic nucleus function

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**2021**

**Julien Angelillo, Département de pathologie et d'immunologie, HUG, Genève**

Deciphering the cross-talk between innate lymphoid cells and tumor-associated lymphatic vessels to improve anti-tumor immunity

CHF 146'692.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Louis-Emmanuel Chriqui, Service de chirurgie thoracique, CHUV, Lausanne**

Vascular and immune impact of photodynamic therapy combined to immune checkpoint inhibition in malignant pleural mesothelioma: insights from an intravital imaging model

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Morgane Decollogny, Institut für Tierpathologie, Vetsuisse, Universität Bern**

Targeting the niche of drug-tolerant tumor-repopulating cells to eradicate residual disease in triple-negative breast cancer

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Manuel Egle, Department for Biomedical Research, Cardiovascular Surgery, Universität Bern/Inselspital**

Cardiac graft preservation and evaluation in transplantation with donation after circulatory death

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Corinne Eicher, Klinik für Psychiatrie, Psychotherapie und Psychosomatik, Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik Zürich**

Local sleep deprivation by closed-loop acoustic stimulation in depression: an experimental study of an innovative treatment approach

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Felix Gerber, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel**

Generating evidence to improve access to early initiation of antiretroviral therapy in persons living with HIV in resource-limited settings

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Tim Jonas Hallenberger, Klinik für Neurochirurgie, Universitätsspital Basel**

The role of early minimally invasive endoscopic surgery in spontaneous supratentorial intracerebral haemorrhage

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Sarah Jungius, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

SHP2 as a mediator of MAPK activation in myeloproliferative neoplasms: molecular mechanism and translational potential

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Benedict Morin, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Mechanisms of intracellular persistence of Staphylococcus aureus in human infection

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Simon Schading, Zentrum für Paraplegie, Universitätsklinik Balgrist**

Quantitative and functional MRI investigation of the neurodegeneration associated with spinal cord injury in neuraxis

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Ramon Stäger, Dermatologische Klinik, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Unravelling the cellular and molecular mechanisms of epithelial skin cancer development through multimodal single cell and spatial analysis

CHF 179'352.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Katia Steinfeld, Laboratory for Investigative Neurophysiology, CHUV, Lausanne**

Lifetime changes in visual processing associated with mild myopia

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**2020**

**Ludivine Bersier, Département d'oncologie, CHUV, Lausanne**

Targeting chemoresistance and immune exclusion in colorectal cancer  
CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Dominique Birrer, Klinik für Viszeral-und Transplantationschirurgie, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Division of tasks during accelerated regeneration after ALPPS  
CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Michelle Boeni, Institut für Experimentelle Immunologie, Universität Zürich**

Investigation of Therapeutic Approaches against KSHV-Induced Lymphomas in vitro and in vivo  
CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Mey Boukenna, Institute of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Universität Bern**

TRPM4 in non-cardiomyocytic cells of the heart  
CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Sandro Christensen, Department for Biomedical Research, Universität Bern**

Deciphering microbiota driven (epigenetic) programming of metabolic functions of the offspring in utero and early life

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Sophie Monnerat, Klinik für Endokrinologie, Diabetologie und Metabolismus, Universitätsspital Basel**

Effects of the SGLT2 inhibitor empagliflozin in patients with euvolemic and hypervolemic hyponatremia

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Cédric Renaud, Service d'endocrinologie, diabétologie et métabolisme, CHUV, Lausanne**

Role of the Nrf2 response system in the pathogenesis of autoimmune thyroiditis

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Dominic Schmid, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Mechanisms of T Cell Dysfunction in Human Tumors

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Philippe Valmaggia, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Universität Basel**

Time-resolved 3D Optical Coherence Tomography Angiography for novel biomarkers

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Alexandra von Faber-Castell, Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Universität Zürich**

Neuronal lactate transport in brain energy metabolism and the role of aging

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Philipp Immanuel Zens, Institut für Pathologie, Universität Bern**

Molecular epidemiology of lung cancer brain metastases

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**2019**

**Ranjana Briner, Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin, Universität Bern**

Genital tract infections, the vaginal microbiome and preterm birth in South Africa:  
cross-sectional study

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Carlo Cervia, Klinik für Immunologie, Universitätsspital Zürich**

In vivo induction of tolerance by targeting critical regulatory T cell signaling pathways with  
bioengineered designer cells

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Mali Cristina Coray, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Atypical chemokine receptors in multiple sclerosis – chemokine availability and clinical potential

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Maurizio Cortada, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Investigating mTOR function in the mammalian inner ear

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Dr. Inês de Paula Costa Monteiro, Département d'oncologie, CHUV, Lausanne**

Engineering T cell for adoptive cell transfer therapy of cancer

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Anna Faivre, Centre médical universitaire, Université de Genève**

Alterations of tubular metabolism and chronic kidney disease progression

CHF 146'692.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Dr. Kathi Ging, Anatomisches Institut, Universität Zürich**

Role of PKD1 and WNK4 in the regulation of the renal thiazide-sensitive NaCl  
cotransporter NCC

CHF 184'627.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Michel Godel, Département de psychiatrie, Université de Genève**

Early deviations in auditory neuroprocessing development as prodromal neurobiological  
markers for Autism Spectrum Disorders

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Philip Schmassmann, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Synergistic activation of microglia by targeting CD47 and Siglecs

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Dr. Irma Telarovic, Klinik für Radio-Onkologie, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Radiotherapy treatment volume and its role for the tumor-oriented immune response

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Yves Zurbuchen, Klinik für Immunologie, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Central versus peripheral immune tolerance mechanisms in long-term acceptance of  
allografts

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**2018****David Bächinger, ORL-Klinik, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Development of a new two-phase mouse model for Meniere's disease

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Dr Aurélie Bochet, Département de psychiatrie, Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève**

Understanding the comorbidity between Autism Spectrum Disorders and Attention

Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

CHF 203'112.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Philippe Georg Dehio, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Serine metabolism and T cell migration

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Tanay Kaymak, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Investigations on the role of IL-20 cytokine family members in eosinophilic esophagitis

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Adrien Lavalley, Département des neurosciences fondamentales, Université de Genève**

Single-cell diversity of corticospinal tract neuron transcriptional programs and connectivity

CHF 135'408.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Marie-Anne Meier, Departement Biomedizin, Universität Basel**

Molecular signature of extracellular vesicles in liver cancer: effects of epithelial-mesenchymal transition and response to Sorafenib

CHF 188'250.–

Funded by: Swiss Cancer Research

**Marc Pfefferlé, Klinik und Poliklinik für innere Medizin, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Hemolytic stress as a negative regulator of inflammation

CHF 189'902.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Josefine Ruder, Klinik für Neurologie, Universitätsspital Zürich**

Characterization of B lymphocytes in multiple sclerosis - relation to clinical-, MRI characteristics and treatments

CHF 174'077.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

**Florian Ruiz, Département des neurosciences cliniques, CHUV, Lausanne**

Oxysterols and multiple sclerosis: a novel role for endothelial cells?

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

**Frédérica Schyrr, EPFL-ISREC et Service d'hématologie du CHUV, Lausanne**

Identifying the minimal components of the hematopoietic stem cell niche through adipose-associated extramedullary hematopoiesis

CHF 191'553.–

Funded by: Swiss National Science Foundation

\*since entry into force of the National MD-PhD Grants Program regulations of 15 November 2017, and of the new National MD-PhD Fellowships Program regulations from 27 January 2025