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RESEARCH AWARDS 2020-2021

For the 2020 / 2021 funding year, ICRF is supporting 71 grants valued at \$5,151,335. This is broken down as follows:

8 Jacki and Bruce Barron Cancer Research Scholars' Program Grants <i>(A Partnership between ICRF and City of Hope)</i>	2 Max Ritvo, Alan Slifka and Desiree Dato Fund Grants <i>(A Partnership between ICRF, SWCRF, and ABSF)</i>
3 Immunotherapy Promise Grants <i>(A Partnership between ICRF and Cancer Research Institute)</i>	1 ICRF-Conquer Cancer Career Development Award <i>(A Partnership between ICRF and Conquer Cancer [The ASCO Foundation])</i>
2 Gesher Awards for Academic Excellence <i>(A Partnership between ICRF and the Israel Ministry of Science and Technology)</i>	1 B. S. Goodman Endowed RCDA for Pancreatic Cancer
2 Brause Family Initiative for Quality of Life Grants	12 Research Career Development Awards (RCDAs)
4 L. & S. Mark Initiative for Ovarian/Uterine Cancers Grants	17 Project Grants
3 Acceleration Grants	12 Research Professorship Grants
4 Postdoctoral Fellowships	

With the 2020 / 2021 grants, ICRF's funding has now reached 2,569 grants totaling \$78,018,667.

Among the areas of cancer research directly sponsored by ICRF in 2020 / 2021 are: studies in blood, brain, breast, colorectal, lung, oral, ovarian and uterine, pancreatic, pediatric, and skin cancers; drug development; pain management and quality of life issues; cancer stem cells and cellular reprogramming; imaging and early detection; expression, regulation, and mutation of genes and DNA repair; tumor metastasis; inflammation and cancer; immunology and immunotherapy; proteomics and computational biology; cell signaling and cell-cycle control.

AWARD	AWARDEE	INSTITUTION	PROJECT TITLE	TOPIC
JACKI & BRUCE BARRON CANCER RESEARCH SCHOLARS' PROGRAM GRANTS <i>(A Partnership between ICRF and City of Hope)</i>	Ziv Gil, MD, PhD (PI) and Laleh Melstrom, MD (Co-PI)	Rambam Health Care Campus and City of Hope	<i>Targeting Pyrimidine Metabolism to Improve Chemotherapy Response in Pancreatic Cancer</i>	Improving Chemotherapy for Pancreatic Cancer
	Emmilia Hodak, MD, PhD (PI) and Christiane Querfeld, MD, PhD (Co-PI)	Rabin Medical Center and City of Hope	<i>Targeting Epigenetic Mechanisms in Cutaneous T Cell Lymphoma</i>	Lymphoma, Immunology and Immunotherapy
	Noah Isakov, PhD (PI) and Zuoming Sun, PhD (Co-PI)	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and City of Hope	<i>Dual Function of TCF-1 in Lymphoma Development</i>	Lymphoma, Immunology and Immunotherapy
	Erez Levanon, PhD (PI) and Kevin Morris, PhD (Co-PI)	Bar-Ilan University and City of Hope	<i>RNA Edited Long Non-Coding RNAs and their Role in Cancer</i>	Genetics and Genomics
	Ariel Munitz, PhD (PI) and Hua Yu, PhD (Co-PI)	Tel Aviv University and City of Hope	<i>Uncovering the Roles of Eosinophils in Lung Metastasis</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy, Metastasis
	Yardena Samuels, PhD (PI) and Yuan Yuan, MD, PhD (Co-PI)	Weizmann Institute of Science and City of Hope	<i>Identifying PIK3CA Neoantigen-Specific T Cell Receptors for Cell Therapy of Solid Tumors</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy, Genetics and Genomics
	Idit Shachar, PhD (PI) and Flavia Pichiorri, PhD (Co-PI)	Weizmann Institute of Science and City of Hope	<i>Regulation of CD84 expression and function in multiple myeloma</i>	Multiple Myeloma
	Tomer Shlomi, PhD (PI) and Saul Priceman, PhD (Co-PI)	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology and City of Hope	<i>Overcoming Immunosuppression of Adoptive T Cell Therapy for Solid Tumors via Metabolic Engineering</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy, Metabolism and Cancer

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<p>THE IMMUNOTHERAPY PROMISE GRANTS <i>(A Partnership between ICRF and Cancer Research Institute)</i></p>	Cyrille Cohen, PhD	Bar-Ilan University	<i>CRISPR-Based Editing and Manipulation of TIGIT/CD96 to Enhance T-Cell Anti-Tumor Function</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy
	Lior Nissim, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>A Synthetic-Biology Based Modality for Lung Cancer Immunotherapy</i>	Lung Cancer, Immunology and Immunotherapy
	Asya Rolls, PhD	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Neuronal Regulation of Anti-Tumor Immunity</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy
<p>MAX RITVO, ALAN SLIFKA AND DESIREE DATO FUND GRANTS FOR FUSION-ONCOPROTEIN CANCERS AND METASTASIS <i>(A Partnership between ICRF, Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation, and Alan B. Slifka Foundation)</i></p>	Ido Amit, PhD (PI) and Miriam Merad, MD, PhD (Co-PI)	Weizmann Institute of Science and Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Medical Center	<i>Elucidating the Mechanisms by which Pyk2 Regulates Tumor-Macrophage Interactions in Metastasis</i>	Metastasis
	Yosef Yarden, PhD (PI) and Elizabeth Lawlor, MD, PhD (Co-PI)	Weizmann Institute of Science and Seattle Children’s Research Institute	<i>Impact of Steroid Hormones on Ewing Sarcoma: Mechanisms and Implications for Treatment</i>	Ewing Sarcoma
<p>ICRF-CONQUER CANCER CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD <i>(A Partnership between ICRF and Conquer Cancer [The ASCO Foundation])</i></p>	Albert Grinshpun, MD	Hadassah University Hospital	<i>Universal Detection of Breast Cancer</i>	Early Diagnosis for Breast Cancer

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GESHER AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE <i>(A Partnership between ICRF and the Israel Ministry of Science and Technology [MOST])</i>	Uri Ben-David, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>Dissecting the Selection Pressures that Shape Aneuploidy Landscapes in Cancer</i>	Genetics and Genomics
	Erez Hasnis, MD, PhD	Rambam Health Care Campus	<i>Role of RNF125 in Acinar-to-Ductal Metaplasia and Pancreatic Cancer</i>	Pancreatic Cancer
BRAUSE FAMILY INITIATIVE FOR QUALITY OF LIFE GRANTS	Yafit Gilboa, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Combined Model of Online Remote Interventions for Cancer-Related Cognitive Decline</i>	Preventing Cancer-Related Cognitive Decline
	Avi Priel, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Non-Opioid Specific Analgesics for Cancer Pain: Modulating the Pain Receptor TRPV1</i>	Developing Non-Opioid Treatments for Cancer Pain Management
LEN & SUSAN MARK INITIATIVE FOR OVARIAN AND UTERINE/MMMT CANCERS GRANTS	Rotem Karni, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Role of FOXL2 in Ovarian Cancer Progression</i>	Ovarian Cancer
	Ruth Perets, MD, PhD	Rambam Health Care Campus	<i>Novel Structural Based Mechanism of Targeting Ovarian and Endometrial Carcinomas</i>	Ovarian and Endometrial Cancers
	Itay Tirosh, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Single Cell Analysis of Ovarian and Uterine Cancers</i>	Ovarian and Uterine Cancers
	Yosef Yarden, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Towards Immunotherapy of Ovarian Cancer: Disabling the Immuno-Suppressive Microenvironment</i>	Developing Immunotherapy for Ovarian Cancer

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ACCELERATION GRANTS	Shay Ben-Aroya, PhD	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Identifying Proteasome Targets Involved in DNA Double Strand Breaks Repair</i>	DNA Breakage and Repair
	Lucio Frydman, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Deuterium Metabolic MRI: An Emerging Radiation-Free Surrogate of PET</i>	Improving Imaging for Early Detection of Cancer
	Yifat Merbl, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Reshaping Dysfunctional T Cells by Modulating Ubiquitin-Dependent Regulation</i>	Predicting Responses to Immunotherapy
RESEARCH PROFESSORSHIP GRANTS	Michal Baniyash, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Role of Immunosuppressive Cells and Gut Microbiota in Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Colorectal Cancer: Clinical Implications</i>	Colorectal Cancer
	Yinon Ben-Neriah, MD, PhD	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>CKI Regulation in Normal and Malignant Stem Cells</i>	Colorectal Cancer and Cancer Stem Cells
	Yehudit Bergman, PhD	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>The Role of Epigenetic Regulation in Stem Cells and Cancer</i>	Cancer Stem Cells, Inflammation and Cancer, Breast and Colon Cancer
	Howard Cedar, MD, PhD	Hebrew University/ Hadassah Medical School	<i>Regulation of Gene Expression in Animal Cells</i>	Molecular Genetics
	Aaron Ciechanover, MD, DSc	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Unraveling the Tumor-Suppressing Mechanisms Involved in Ubiquitin-Mediated Activation of NF-kappaB</i>	Ubiquitin System, NF-κB Protein, Involvement in Inflammation and Cell Proliferation

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RESEARCH PROFESSORSHIP GRANTS <i>(continued)</i>	Jacob Hanna, MD, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>New Cancer Therapy Related Mechanistic and Applied Frontiers with Patient Specific iPSCs</i>	Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells
	Avram Hershko, MD, PhD	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Roles of the Ubiquitin System in the Control of Cell Division and in Cancer</i>	Ubiquitin System
	Martin Kupiec, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>Dissecting the Molecular Functions of Elg1/ATAD5</i>	Molecular Biology
	Ofer Mandelboim, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Development of New Checkpoint Inhibitors Based on Novel TIGIT Ligands</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy
	Ronit Satchi-Fainaro, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>P-Selectin-Targeted Nanomedicines and Immunotherapy for Brain Metastases Prevention</i>	Designing Treatment to Prevent Brain Metastases
	Yosef Shiloh, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>The ATM-Mediated DNA Damage Response: Moving between the Forest and the Trees</i>	The DNA Damage Response and Maintaining Genomic Stability
	Israel Vlodaysky, PhD	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Heparanase: From Basic Research to Therapeutic Applications</i>	Improving Anti-Heparanase Therapies for Cancer Treatment
BARBARA S. GOODMAN ENDOWED RCDA FOR PANCREATIC CANCER	Oren Parnas, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>A Functional Investigation of Acinar Metaplastic and Pancreatic Tumor Expressed Genes</i>	Pancreatic Cancer

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RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS (RCDAs)	Sheera Adar, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>A DNA Repair Role for SWI/SNF Chromatin Remodelers in Cancer Prevention and Therapy</i>	Cancer Prevention and Therapy
	Yaron Carmi, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>Identifying the Mechanisms Underlying Melanoma Relapse Following Curative Surgery</i>	Skin Cancer
	Idan Cohen, PhD	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	<i>Polycomb Repressive Complex 1 and Histone H2AK119 Mono-Ubiquitination in Skin Cancer</i>	Skin Cancer
	Rony Dahan, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Increasing the Therapeutic Window of CD40 Agonistic Antibodies</i>	Immunology, Immunotherapy, and Cancer Metastasis
	Moshe Giladi, MD, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>Molecular Basis of cis-Prenyl-Transferase Activity Underlying Aberrant Cancer Glycosylation</i>	Studying Sugars on the Surface of Cancer Cells as Treatment Targets
	Nir London, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Targeting Melanoma with Covalent Drugs</i>	New Drug Targets for Melanoma
	Katy Margulis, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Development of New Therapies in Cancer Using Ambient Mass Spectrometry Imaging</i>	Developing New Therapies for Skin Cancer
	Rotem Rubinstein, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>Structural Biology of VISTA - an Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy
	Maayan Salton, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Splicing Modulation to Combat Vemurafenib Resistant Melanoma</i>	Melanoma and Skin Cancers

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RCDAs <i>(continued)</i>	Yoav Shaul, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>The Essential Role of Dihydropyrimidines in Breast Cancer Progression</i>	Breast Cancer Metastasis
	Ziv Shulman, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Reconstruction of Tumor Niches using NICHE-CyTOF</i>	Inflammation and Cancer, Pancreatic Cancer and Melanoma
	Yonatan Stelzer, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Studying Non-Canonical Expression of IGF2 and its Role in Tumorigenesis</i>	Epigenetics in Cancer Biology
PROJECT GRANTS	Ronen Alon, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>A-Type Lamins in Melanoma Invasion, Pulmonary Extravasation, and Lung Metastasis</i>	Skin Cancer and Metastasis to the Lungs
	Gil Ast, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>Long and Short Introns Reside in Different Nuclear Subcompartments</i>	Computational Biology, Genetics and Genomics
	Sivia Barnoy, RN, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>Cascade Screening for Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer and Lynch Syndrome in Israel</i>	Breast, Ovarian and Colorectal Cancers
	Irit Ben Aharon, MD, PhD	Rambam Health Care Campus	<i>Cancer and Pregnancy: Role of Vascular Toxicity in Chemotherapy-Induced Placental Insult</i>	Chemotherapy, Cancer and Pregnancy
	Shamgar Ben-Eliyahu, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>A Novel Clinical Perioperative Intervention to Improve DFS in Colorectal Cancer Patients</i>	Colorectal Cancer
	Michael Berger, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Generating Metabolically Superior T Cells as Novel Immunotherapy to Treat Solid Tumors</i>	Improving Immunotherapy

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PROJECT GRANTS <i>(continued)</i>	Neta Erez, Ph.D.	Tel Aviv University	<i>Uncovering the Role of Stromal and Immune Cells in the Lung Metastatic Niche of Breast Cancer</i>	Breast Cancer Metastasis to the Lungs
	Hava Gil-Henn, PhD	Bar-Ilan University	<i>A Peptide-Based Approach for Blocking Breast Cancer Metastasis</i>	Breast Cancer Metastasis
	Zvi Granot, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Neutrophil Specific Targeting of TORC1 Signaling as a Novel Mode of Cancer Immunotherapy</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy
	Shoshana Greenberger, MD, PhD	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Role of Melanosomes in Tumor-Associated Lymphangiogenesis and Immune Tolerance</i>	Skin Cancer
	Avi-Hai Hovav, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>A Shift in Epithelial Antigen-Presenting Cells Drives Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma</i>	Oral Carcinoma
	Tomer Kalisky, PhD	Bar-Ilan University	<i>Characterizing Cellular Heterogeneity in Renal Cell Carcinoma Using Single-Cell Genomics</i>	Kidney Cancer
	Nathan Karin, PhD	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>CXCL10 as a Positive Immune Checkpoint for Effector CD8+ T Cells in Cancer Immunotherapy</i>	Immunology and Immunotherapy for Melanoma
	Yaacov Lawrence, MBBS	Chaim Sheba Medical Center	<i>Mechanistic Exploitation of Metabolic Rewiring Overcomes Radioresistant Pancreatic Cancer</i>	Radiation-Resistant Pancreatic Cancer

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PROJECT GRANTS <i>(continued)</i>	Michael Milyavsky, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>Characterization and Targeting of a Novel Epigenetic Circuit in Acute Leukemia</i>	Pediatric Leukemia
	Yoram Reiter, PhD	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>Overcoming Resistance to CAR-T cell Therapy due to Antigen Modulation by New Receptors</i>	Improving Immunotherapy
	Thomas Schultheiss, MD, PhD	Technion, Israel Institute of Technology	<i>An In Vivo Model for Studying Mesenchymal-to-Epithelial Transition (MET)</i>	Metastasis
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS	Ofer Elhanani, PhD	Weizmann Institute of Science	<i>Revealing Tumor-Clone Interactions in Melanoma using Multiplexed Ion Beam Imaging</i>	Skin Cancer
	Tal Falick Michaeli, MD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Epigenetic Landscape in the Metastatic Liver Before and After Hepatic Resectio</i>	Colorectal Cancer and Metastasis to the Liver
	Lina Jaber, PhD	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Dissecting the Role of Tumor Suppressor WWOX in Antagonizing Pancreatic Cancer</i>	Pancreatic Cancer
	Lirin Michaeli, PhD	Tel Aviv University	<i>SUMO Regulation on UPRmt and Apoptosis Resistance</i>	New Targets for Cancer Treatment