

WHRI Team and Catalyst Grant Award Winners - 2009

ISMAILI WALK

From 2008 to 2010, the Ismaili Muslim Community of British Columbia has entered a partnership with the Women's Health Research Institute by making the WHRI the beneficiary of its annual Ismaili Walk for Women fundraising event. The 2009 Ismaili Walk raised over \$280,000, with all funds directly benefiting the research of the WHRI. Through the generous support of the Ismaili Community, the WHRI was pleased to offer catalyst grants to four research projects, as well as infrastructure grants to two project teams.

2009 GRANT COMPETITION

Two types of awards were provided by the WHRI in 2009:

1. **Team Infrastructure Funding:** with the aim of supporting new groups of researchers to come together to plan collaborative research activities related to women's health. The goal of the funding was to support team planning activities such as the determination of research plans, priority setting, formation of further collaborations and refinement of research methodologies.
2. **Catalyst Grant Funding:** with the aim of supporting pilot studies in women's health which had the goal of generating preliminary data, or testing new approaches, methodologies or tools. The funding was designed to support activities that would enable the pursuit of more ambitious studies and foster further funding applications.

A total of 50 applications were received for the six awards, with \$25,000 awarded to each successful applicant.

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	Title	Lead Investigators	Brief Summary
Team Grants	ICARE: Immigrant Older Women Accessing Care – Care Accessibility Research and Empowerment	Sharon Koehn, PhD Centre for Healthy Aging at Providence Health Care Karen Kobayashi, PhD Department of Sociology, University of Victoria	This team grant application aimed to develop research questions that explore ways in which intersecting oppressions, experienced before and after migration, influence access to health care by older visible minority immigrant women.
	CART: Clinical Abortion Research Team	Wendy Norman MD, FCFP, DTM&H, MHSc Women's Services Clinic, Kelowna General Hospital, BC Women's CARE Program and Elizabeth Bagshaw Women's Clinic	This community-hospital-university partnership team aimed to focus on fostering research of relevant important questions in abortion practice, with a priority given to projects that engage multidisciplinary teams, mentor new researchers and address concerns that will better the lives of women.
Catalyst Grants	Perimenopausal Night Sweats: A Four-Cycle Observational Study	Christine L. Hitchcock, PhD Jerilynn C. Prior MD, FRCPC UBC Centre for Menstrual Cycle & Ovulation	The goal of this study was to collect pilot data to enable sample size estimation for a randomized controlled trial of cyclic progesterone therapy in early perimenopause.
	Screening Young Adults in Whistler, BC, for Chlamydia Trachomatis Infection, using Non-Traditional and Non-Clinic Settings – A Pilot Program	Marisa Collins BIS MD MHSc CCFP UBC Department of Family Practice, S.A.F.E. Clinic Physician, Options for Sexual Health BC, Whistler Branch	The goal of this study was to optimize and evaluate a pilot program of outreach screening for Chlamydia infection in non-traditional and non-clinical settings. Identification of program components that have a direct impact on the numbers of patients tested and treated, and numbers of partners notified and treated, is paramount to the goal of developing a sustainable, effective program that can be delivered by nurses and trained volunteers.
	The IMPROVED Study: Integrated Mindfulness for Provoked Vestibulodynia (PVD)	Lori Brotto, PhD UBC Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology	There is no gold-standard medical treatment for women with provoked vestibulodynia (PVD), and cognitive-behavioural treatments have been found to be as effective as medical management for some women with PVD. The objective of this study was to test the IMPROVED intervention, which has been modified for women with PVD, against a wait-list control condition.
	Non-invasive Assessment of Embryo Quality in Human <i>In Vitro</i> Fertilization: Metabolomic Profiling of Embryo Culture Media with Raman Spectroscopy	Anthony Cheung, MBBS MPH MBA FRANZCOG FRCSC UBC Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, IVP Program	The goal of this study was to assess embryo quality using metabolomic profiling of embryo culture media with Raman spectroscopy as a non-invasive approach to predicting embryo viability, and consequently, implantation and pregnancy.