Overview of 2017 Grants, Including Percentages of Grants Portfolio per Category

In 2017 The Mayday Fund’s grants represent the continuation of several multi-year projects and the beginning of new ones. With increasing attention being drawn to pain, in part as a result of the Opioid Crisis and in part as more basic researchers and clinicians have identified it as a vital research target, the Trustees of the Fund reviewed many proposals that fell within the targets of the National Pain Strategy.

The grants for the year represent both the Trustees’ interest to address pain across the life span and to support the development of future leaders in pain research.

Also prominent in 2017 was the Trustees’ commitment to increasing public awareness about pain and its consequences. One strategy was to support projects that train researchers and clinicians to better communicate with the public by using their evidence-based work to more effectively tell the story of pain and how it might be addressed. Communication skills and support for a film on Migraine form part of the Fund’s ‘nimble’ portfolio, as does a continuing interest in the use of Virtual Reality to address pain.

Grants made to support Research, Research Network Building and Model Programs for Direct Clinical Care

**Adult Medicine:**

**Aggregate Grants Amount: $485,645 or 46% of the grant budget of $1,053,704**

- A grant was made to the PsychoNeuroImmunological Society to study the role of gene therapy in a veterinary population with Osteoarthritis. (Yr 2 of this grant was paid in December 2016)
- Two grants were made to the American Pain Society. $56,000 was dedicated to support Future Leaders in Pain Research and $30,000 was dedicated to create a pain measurement tool (METER) dataset.
- The Department of Anesthesia and Clinical Measurement at the University of Washington received $70,000 to continue its development of a ‘TeleCoaching’ app to optimize pre- and post-operative pain management. (Yr 2 of 2)
- The Department of Pharmacological and Physiological Science at St. Louis University received the first payment of a 2 year grant to pursue “Clinical Evaluation of Novel Biomarkers to Select and Treat Chronic Pain Conditions.” (Yr 1 of 2)
- The Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center received $145,145 to support research on ‘mu’ Opioid Receptors. This is a 3-year research project where years 1 and 2 were paid in 2017.

**Pediatric Pain:**

**Aggregate Grants Amount: $333,355 or 32% of the grant budget of $1,053,704**

- The Children’s Hospital of Minnesota received $47,421 to continue its work on the 3-year project ‘Eliminating Needle Pain in Children: A Multisite Program to Reduce Painful Needle Procedure Experiences.’ (Yr 3 of 3)
- The Psychology Department at the University of Minnesota received $63,994 to continue its research project to identify biomarkers for pain in children with Rett’s Syndrome. (Yr 3 of 3)
The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto received two years of support, $148,940, to develop ‘I Can Cope’ an app to address and manage post-operative pain. (Yr 1 and 2)

Boston Children’s Hospital received two grants to pursue research on how pain might be measured. $40,000 was dedicated to ‘Identifying Central Sensitization in Pediatric Primary Pain Disorders: the Role of Quantitative Sensory Testing. $33,000 was dedicated to exploring how EEG and fMRI identify pain signals.

Grants made to the study of Pain in the Context of Emergency Medicine
Aggregate Amount $55,000 or 5% of the grant budget of $1,053,704

- The Fund added support to research being conducted by the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of North Carolina to identify biomarkers for those patients at risk to develop chronic pain after being treated in an Emergency Department for mental health and PTSD. Mayday’s contribution of $55,000 per year for 5 years supplements research funded through a larger NIH grant. (Yr 2 of 5)

Grants made to support Knowledge and Networking and to be Nimble
Aggregate Amount $174,754 or 17% of the grant budget of $1,053,704 –most of these were 1 year grants

- Weill Cornell Hospital, Department of Geriatrics, received $3300 as a supplement to a grant made in 2016 to support a Workshop on Pain and Aging held in conjunction with the International Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology (IAGG) Conference.
- The Cedars Sinai Medical Center received $22,484 in support of a special session on Pain as part the annual Medical VR Conference.
- The International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) received two grants to provide communications training as part of the 2018 World Congress on Pain held in Boston. $31,900 underwrote two workshops for World Congress attendees and $37,070 was targeted to a Leadership Training Grant for pain clinician and research leaders from Developing Countries.
- The Center for Practical BioEthics received its Year 2 payment of $50,000 of support for the PAINS Project to disseminate and promote public information on Pain and the National Pain Strategy. (Yr 2 of 2)
- The Human Arts Association received an additional tranche of $30,000 of support for the Migraine Film Project, ‘Out of My Head.’ The film premiered in 2018 and won the Best International Documentary award at the Melbourne, Australia Film Festival.

Grants made for Foundation Citizenship
Aggregate Amount $4950 or less than 1% of the grant budget of $1,053,704

- Philanthropy New York $2250 and The Council on Foundations $3800 received grants to promote their work on best practices in the foundation sector.