

WHAT'S HAPPENING

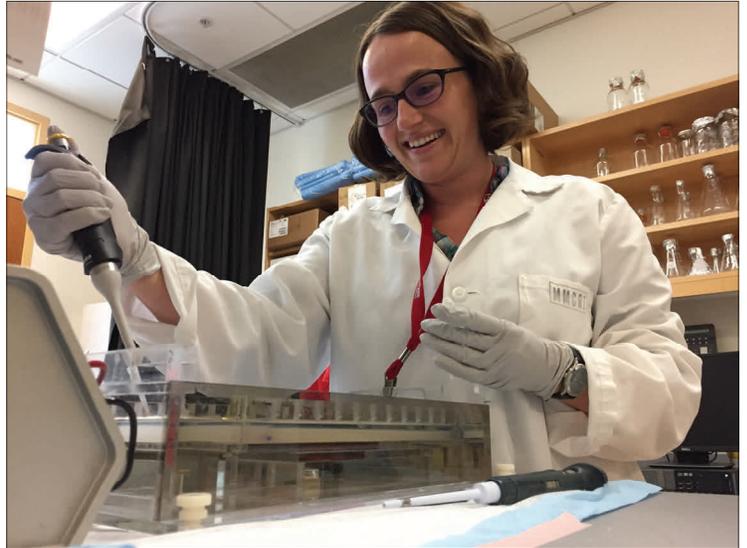
A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

Maine Medical Center Research Institute Awarded \$11M by the NIH

The Maine Medical Center Research Institute (MMCRI) has been awarded a five-year, \$11 million Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) grant by the National Institutes of Health. This funding will establish a multidisciplinary research center at MMCRI to model the basis of human metabolic diseases. This program includes partnerships between Maine Medical Center and the University of Maine, the University of New England and Brown University.

This award comes just seven weeks after the NIH announced a separate \$20 million award to MMCRI and two partnering institutions to establish the Northern New England Clinical and Translational Research Network. These two new programs at Maine Medical Center will complement each other and expand MMCRI's capacity to translate basic laboratory

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Dr. Katherine Motyl, Ph.D., is a faculty scientist who will be working on one of the four areas of research funded by the grant.

PEOPLE NEWS



Christopher Racine, M.D., MPH, has joined Maine Medical Center — Department of Psychiatry.

Dr. Racine is Board certified in General and Forensic Psychiatry and will be working with adult inpatients. He graduated from University of North Carolina School of Medicine. Dr. Racine completed his residency and fellowship training at New York University Department of Psychiatry. He comes to MMC from Long Island Jewish Medical Center, where he was Director of Emergency Psychiatry. Dr. Racine's clinical interests include consult-



Jared Cassin, M.D., has joined Maine Medical

liaison, emergency and tele-psychiatry. In his spare time, he enjoys bowling, golfing and coaching his daughter's soccer team.

Partners – Hospital Medicine. Dr. Cassin will work at Maine Medical Center and Stephens Memorial Hospital. He received his medical degree from Stony Brook University School of Medicine and completed his residency at New York University School of Medicine. Dr. Cassin's clinical interests include resident education and infectious disease. In his spare time, he enjoys playing guitar, singing, mountain biking, cooking and spending time with his family.

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'MMCRI' From Front

research discoveries into clinical care for patients.

Researchers at MMCRI have been studying how metabolically active tissues, including fat, bone and the brain use energy and control overall metabolism in the body. The COBRE award provides funding to four young investigators to conduct cellular, molecular, biochemical and clinical research. The award

also supports the expansion of state-of-the-art technology, including advanced protein and lipid analysis and bone measurements, and the assessment of physiology and body metabolism.

As the new scientists obtain independent grant funding, additional new junior investigator projects will be added to the program, providing a process to recruit new research talent into Maine. The overall goal of the program is to address obesity,

osteoporosis and diabetes – all metabolic diseases common in Maine – by understanding pathways that lead to these disorders.

“One feature of this COBRE award is that it supports young investigators as they embark upon independent research projects,” said MMCRI Faculty Scientist and Program Director Lucy Liaw, Ph.D. “We have established a network of mentors and consultants to provide strong support for these in-

vestigators as they launch their careers. Fostering and maintaining talent in Maine is crucial for the growth of biotechnology in our state.”

The foundational research these investigators will be conducting will contribute to the development of cures for metabolic diseases and obesity. In 2015, the CDC listed Maine as having an obesity rate of 30 percent, the highest in New England.

'People News' From Front



Amy Riviere, D.O., has joined Maine Medical Center – Hospital Medicine. Dr. Riviere will be working at Maine Medical Center and Stephens Memorial Hospital. Dr. Riviere received her medical degree from University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her residency here at MMC. Dr. Riviere’s clinical interests include quality improvement and

cardiology. When not working she enjoys spending time with her family, running and skiing.



Elizabeth DesJardin, M.D., has joined the Breast Care Center at Maine Medical Center Cancer Institute. She earned her medical degree at the University of Minnesota Medical School and completed a residency in surgery at Maine Medical Center. Dr. DesJardin also

completed a breast surgical fellowship at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. She joins three fellowship-trained specialists: Paige Teller, M.D., Chiara Battelli, M.D., and Lisa Rutstein, M.D., as well as Lynn Reid, APRN-ANP, and Karen Gronberg, APRN-ANP.



Elbert A. White IV, M.D., has joined Maine Medical Partners – Neurosurgery &

Spine. He is Board certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery and has joined as a Neurosurgery Hospitalist. He is a graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Medicine and completed his residency at University of Mississippi Medical Center. His clinical interests include traumatic spine fracture, traumatic brain injury, intracranial hemorrhage and geriatric spine. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, boating, camping and spending time with his wife and two young sons.



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