

# Career Development Program

- Main purpose is to help junior faculty develop careers in dystonia research
- Focus is clinical & translational research in dystonia
- Plan is for 1-2 awards each year
- Each award is about \$50,000

*17 awards have been made so far  
Several were co-funded by the DMRF or NSDA*

# Career Development Program

- Review criteria
  - **Candidate:** prior record, potential, and career goals
  - **Research plan:** relevance to primary dystonia, impact, feasibility
  - **Career development:** will the award really help?
  - **Mentor:** experience, ability, track record
  - **Environment:** local or collaborative
  - Use of projects exploiting data/resources already collected by DC
- Review committee
  - **Cindy Comella** (Chair)
  - Committee members (rotating): Chuck Adler, Alberto Albanese, Mark Hallett, Tony Lang, Codrin Lungu, Kathleen Shannon, Jan Teller, Marina Tijssen, Marie Vidailhet



# Career Development Awards

- Carbon-Corell (2009); Feinstein Institute, New York, USA
- Zurowski (2010); Toronto Western Hosp, Canada
- Espay (2010); Univ Cincinnati, Cincinnati, USA
- Karimi (2011); Washington Univ, St Louis, USA
- Kimberley (2011); Univ Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA
- Berman (2012); Univ Colorado, Denver, USA
- Wagle-Shukla (2012); Univ Florida, Gainesville, USA
- Pirio Richardson (2013); Univ NM, Albuquerque, USA
- Peterson (2013); Univ Calif San Diego, USA
- Bologna (2013); Univ of Rome, Italy
- Arkadir (2013); Hadassah Univ, Israel
- Shaikh (2016); Case Western, Cleveland OH, USA
- Udupa (2016); Toronto Western Hospital, Canada
- Hammer (2016); Univ Wisconsin, Madison, USA
- **Rocchi (2020); Univ Rome, Italy**
- **Parlakturk (2020); Duke Univ, Durham NC, USA**
- **Scorr (2021); Emory Univ, USA**

# Three Most Recent Awards



Lorenzo Rocchi, Sapienza Univ, Rome

Repetitive somatosensory stimulation in focal hand dystonia: A study of inhibitory circuitry plasticity of the somatosensory system and primary motor cortex



Noreen Bukhari-Parlakturk, Duke University

Non-invasive neuromodulation to study long-term plasticity mechanisms in task-specific dystonia



Laura Scorr, Emory University

Immune mechanisms in cervical dystonia

# Career Development Program

- Can I apply?
  - Any junior investigator interested in dystonia
  - USA citizenship is **not required**
  - Dystonia Coalition membership is **not required**
- When is the next opportunity?
  - Announcements are made once yearly
  - Next announcement expected **Jan-Feb 2022**

# Recent CDA Recipient

Lorenzo Rocchi, MD  
Rome, Italy

## Presentation

Repetitive somatosensory stimulation in focal hand dystonia:  
A study of inhibitory circuitry plasticity of the somatosensory  
system and primary motor cortex

