



NEWS RELEASE

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The Geneva Foundation's 2016 Researcher of the Year Announced

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Tacoma, WA – The Geneva Foundation (Geneva) is pleased to announce the 2016 Researcher of the Year award recipient. Geneva's Researcher of the Year award honors an individual who, in partnership with Geneva, spearheads innovative medical research within the U.S. military for the benefit of service members and veterans, their families, and the global community. Geneva's 2016 Researcher of the Year was selected by Geneva's Scientific Advisory Board, who evaluated an accomplished and diverse selection of nominees in the areas of research quality, dissemination, mentorship, innovation, collaboration, and impact.

"On behalf of Geneva's Scientific Advisory Board, I would like to extend my appreciation to all of the 2016 Researcher of the Year nominees. This outstanding group of researchers is leading the way in advancing cutting-edge therapies, treatments, and practices surrounding the health and well-being of U.S. service members as well as the greater public," said Dr. David Shoultz, Chairman of Geneva's Scientific Advisory Board.

John M. Dye, Jr., PhD, Chief of Viral Immunology at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), was selected as Geneva's 2016 Researcher of the Year.

As the Chief of Viral Immunology within the Virology Division at USAMRIID, Dr. Dye oversees the execution of research programs in medical countermeasures against viral biological warfare agents in a high-hazard, multi-suite, biocontainment laboratory that operates at Biosafety Levels 2, 3, and 4. Dr. Dye's research focuses on filovirus vaccines and therapeutics, with the ultimate aim to counteract the Ebola virus and other high risk pathogens.

"It is no question that Dr. Dye's work is innovative – he has been on the forefront of research and the development of filovirus vaccines and therapeutics throughout his career and during his partnership with Geneva," said Elise Huszar, President of The Geneva Foundation. "Dr. Dye's ability to continue rapid innovation in response to the recent Ebola virus epidemic is impressive, as is his commitment to research collaboration and integrity."

Dr. Dye is on the cutting edge of research and development of medical countermeasures against filoviruses (e.g., Ebola virus, Sudan virus, and Marburg virus) and other biological threat agents. Since 2012, Dr. Dye has been traveling to Uganda to track the immune response in



over 200 survivors of Ebola virus disease. Specifically, he assesses the immune responses of these survivors over time in hopes of determining an “immune profile” to drive vaccine and therapeutic development for the future. His extensive network of research collaborators has influenced basic science research on various aspects of virology and immunology, including the identification and publication of filovirus and Lassa virus receptors in the journals *Nature* and *Science*, respectively. These findings have driven protein-specific medical countermeasures against both viruses in order to provide a treatment option.

Since 2013, Geneva has proudly supported six research projects in partnership with Dr. Dye. His current funded NIH RO1 research award, the objective of which is to develop an antibody-based immunotherapy for the treatment and management of Sudan virus infection, directly addresses a gap in the current Ebola virus therapeutics portfolio. If successful, it will provide an effective countermeasure against Sudan virus that is positioned for investigational new drug (IND)-enabling studies.

Geneva’s 2016 Researcher of the Year award includes a grant of \$10,000. Funds are managed by Geneva, consistent with DOD regulations and Geneva practices.

About The Geneva Foundation

The Geneva Foundation (Geneva), is a non-profit organization headquartered in Tacoma, WA. Established in 1993, Geneva supports innovative medical research within the U.S. military in the areas of federal grants, industry-sponsored clinical trials, federal contracts, and event management. We build enduring partnerships with world-renowned researchers, dedicated sponsors, and highly-skilled research and administrative professionals, all dedicated to the health and well-being of U.S. service members, their families, and the global community. www.genevaUSA.org

About United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases

USAMRIID’s mission is to provide leading edge medical capabilities to deter and defend against current and emerging biological threat agents. Research conducted at USAMRIID leads to medical solutions—vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, and information—that benefit both military personnel and civilians. The Institute plays a key role as the lead military medical research laboratory for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency’s Joint Science and Technology Office for Chemical and Biological Defense. USAMRIID is a subordinate laboratory of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. For more information, visit www.usamriid.army.mil

