

# PARTNERSHIP FOR **clean competition**

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## **Partnership for Clean Competition Awards more than \$3 Million in Grant Funding**

*PCC Awards Six New Grants for Innovative Anti-Doping Research*

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** – The Partnership for Clean Competition (PCC) – which aims to ensure integrity in sport by supporting high-quality, high-impact, novel research – announced today that it has awarded \$3.2 million in grant funding since its inception in 2008. The announcement comes after the PCC awarded funding to six new research projects.

The PCC is an innovative research collaborative founded by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), Major League Baseball (MLB) and the National Football League (NFL), whose focus is to make targeted grants in support of non-partisan and independent scientific research. The PCC considers research that has a high likelihood of developing new methods and products that will advance the anti-doping field and ensure integrity in sport.

In addition to the 5 grants previously awarded by the PCC, the research conducted under six new grant awards will address the detection of a range of performance enhancing drugs and methods. Recipients include **Dr. Barbara Daniel** of King's College London, **Dr. James Rupert** from the University of British Columbia, **Dr. Jason Dragoo** of Stanford University, **Dr. Vanessa Agon**, **Dr. Adam Cawley** and **Dr. Catrin Goebel** of the National Measurement Institute of Australia, **Dr. Anthony Butch** of the University of California Los Angeles, and **Dr. Peter Van Eenoo** from Ghent University. The six grants total \$1.3 million in funding, and bring the total number of grants awarded since the PCC's inception to 11.

"The six new grants demonstrate the wide spectrum of anti-doping issues faced in sports and the potential impact of the PCC in addressing very pressing and timely topics," said PCC Board of Governors Chairman and USOC Chief Operating Officer, Norman Bellingham.

The next deadline for PCC pre-applications is November 1, 2010. Applications will be reviewed by the PCC's Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), which consists of internationally-recognized experts. The Board of Governors, comprised of representatives from the USOC, USADA, MLB and NFL, considers the SAB recommendations and makes final determination on grant recipients.

Also participating and contributing financially to the PCC are the National Basketball Association (NBA), National Hockey League (NHL) and the PGA TOUR.

To apply for PCC funding, please visit the PCC website at [www.cleancompetition.org](http://www.cleancompetition.org).

## **SUMMARIES OF NEW GRANTS**

### **BLOOD DOPING GRANTS**

**Dr. Barbara Daniel, King's College London**

**“Can genomic analysis be the answer to autologous blood transfusion detection?”**

Based on the recent discovery of RNA in red blood cells (RBCs), the investigators propose measuring the changes in RBC RNA during refrigerated storage in an attempt to identify “storage lesion signatures” that may be indicative of autologous (self) transfusions.

**Dr. James Rupert, University of British Columbia**

**“Development of a genotype-based assay for homologous blood doping”**

Dr. Rupert aims to develop a gene-based test for homologous blood doping, in which blood from one individual is transfused into another individual for the purpose of improving endurance, to improve upon current red blood cell-based testing strategies.

### **CONTROLLED METHODS**

**Dr. Jason Drago, Stanford University**

**“Effect of intra-muscular and intra-tendinous Platelet Rich Plasma injections on systemic concentrations of performance enhancing growth factors”**

This project seeks to measure the blood concentrations of growth factors and the short-term systemic effects of local PRP injections after injection in muscle.

### **PEPTIDE HORMONE GRANTS, INCLUDING HGH AND EPO**

**Dr. Vanessa Agon, Dr. Adam Cawley and Dr. Catrin Goebel, National Measurement Institute of Australia**

**“Analysis of labeled carbohydrate moieties of natural and recombinant peptide hormones by LC/MS/MS”**

The primary goal of the research by the National Measurement Institute is to improve the detection and distinction of recombinant peptide hormones, such as hCG, LH and EPO, from their natural counterparts. Results from this project may assist in characterizing the structural differences of the carbohydrate groups of recombinant proteins to the ones produced endogenously.

**Dr. Anthony Butch, University of California, Los Angeles**

**“Establishment of IRMS 13C/12C reference intervals for improved detection of endogenous steroid use and the development of a sensitive LC/MS/MS method to detect various forms of hCG”**

Dr. Butch aims to establish population limits for the carbon isotope ratio of various testosterone and DHEA metabolites and determine the optimal metabolites to monitor in order to enhance detection of testosterone and DHEA use. Furthermore, UCLA seeks to develop a LC/MS/MS method to detect different forms of hCG, which stimulates testosterone production, in order to establish specific population limits for them.

## **DESIGNER STEROID GRANTS**

**Dr. Peter Van Eenoo, Ghent University**

**“Metabolism of designer steroids and prohormones via the chimeric mouse with humanized liver”**

The administration to humans of black market steroids without toxicological information is prohibited, and conversely, animals which may be approved for administration can have significantly different metabolism than humans and may not be relevant to detection in human urine. Van Eenoo's team has bred a mouse in which human liver cells have developed in place of a mouse liver and could therefore support the identification of metabolites of those steroids that can be used for detection in human urine. This work may facilitate the synthesis of reference materials for the testing laboratories and provide guidance for development of methods of detection.

***For more information, please contact the USOC Communications Division at (719) 866-4529 or visit [www.cleancompetition.org](http://www.cleancompetition.org).***