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The Dr. Jeffrey Thomas Stroke Shield Foundation Awards \$75,000 in Stroke Research Grants

SAN FRANCISCO – February 16, 2015 – The Dr. Jeffrey Thomas Stroke Shield Foundation (JTSSF) has awarded its inaugural three research grants, totaling close to \$75,000, to researchers at Stanford University, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and The Ohio State University.

The research conducted by the grantees directly reflects JTSSF’s mission to promote and support clinically relevant, important stroke research projects chosen for their potential to change stroke incidence and treatment. These research projects will provide important data on brain repair (treatment), neuro-rehabilitation, and computer technology to aid recovery after stroke.

The 2014 recipients are:

- Minang Turakhia, M.D., Assistant Professor, Stanford University School of Medicine and Chief Cardiac Electrophysiology, VA Palo Alto Healthcare System. Dr. Turkahi was awarded a \$25,000 grant to fund his research, A Big Data Approach to Determine Thresholds of Atrial Fibrillation Burden and Duration for Prevention of Ischemic Stroke.
- Farzaneh A. Sorond, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School and Director, Cerebrovascular Laboratory at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, MA. A \$25,000 grant was awarded to Dr. Sorond to help fund her research, Deferoxamine: An Emerging Therapy to Prevent Delayed Cerebral Ischemia after Subarachnoid Hemorrhage.
- Lynne Gauthier, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, The Ohio State University. Dr. Gauthier will receive a \$24,000 grant to support her research, Immersive 3-D Gaming Therapy for Treating Hemispatial Neglect.

Dr. Jeffrey Thomas, Founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors, states that, "We are very pleased with the number and caliber of the applications we received for our first cycle of funding. Our foundation is uniquely positioned to support stroke research and we are confident that the 2014 grantees are scientists and investigators who can move the best ideas in stroke research prevention and treatment forward."

Stroke is among the most common and debilitating conditions in the world. It is the fourth-largest killer in North America and the number one killer in many other parts of the world, like China. Because it attacks the brain, the very core of human existence, creativity and accomplishment, the affliction carries special gravity and distress for humans, who are often robbed by it of their most precious faculties. JTSSF has the expertise to direct funding to carefully selected, focused stroke research that will make an impact to stop first and subsequent strokes before they happen, and to improve the treatment outcomes of those affected by stroke.

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The Dr. Jeffrey Thomas Stroke Shield Foundation (JTSSF) is a charitable 501 (c)(3) organization dedicated to preventing stroke and optimizing stroke treatment and recovery. JTSSF believes that preventing stroke is possible, and that vital research questions to that end can be answered right now. Derived from its clinical expertise in treating stroke and cerebrovascular disease every day, JTSSF is unique among organizations in its ability to select clinically relevant, important stroke research. Our funding of targeted stroke research on human behavior, risk factor modification, and treatment technologies will accelerate the inevitable change in the landscape of stroke.