NASS Announces $149,999 in Research Grants and Traveling Fellowships
Latest Grants Bring Total NASS Research Funding to $3.8 Million

ORLANDO, FL—During its 32nd Annual Meeting, the North American Spine Society (NASS) announced the winners of its 2017 Research Grants and Traveling Fellowships. These grants provide funding for promising projects by qualified investigators in the spine care field. Since 1989, NASS has funded more than $3.8 million in grants for spine-related research.

NASS Research Traveling Fellowships span at least five months at one medical center other than the facility at which the applicant currently practices. Clinical Traveling Fellowships span at least one month to be spent in three to five different medical centers studying spine techniques.

A total of $149,999 was awarded to this year’s recipients based on scientific merit, significance of the project, approach and feasibility. Winners were selected by the NASS Research Project Management Committee and Research Council, and approved by the Executive Committee.

The 2017 Research Grant award winners are:

- **Clinical:** “A Prospective, Double-Blind, Randomized Control Trial of Postoperative Acetaminophen versus Ketorolac in Lumbar Spinal Fusion”
  Primary Investigator: Harvinder Sandhu, MD
  Amount: $46,550

- **Young Investigator—Translational:** “Identifying Molecular Determinants of Local Control After Radiation Therapy to Spinal Metastases from Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLS)”
  Primary Investigator: Erik S. Anderson, MD, PhD
  Amount: $43,875 Funding Year One Only of a Two-Year Grant

- **Young Investigator—Basic:** “Real-Time Non-Radiation Based Navigation Using 3D Ultrasound for Pedicle Screw Placement”
  Primary Investigator: Ilker Hacihaliloglu, BSC, MSc, PhD
  Amount: $46,905 Funding Year One Only of a Two-Year Grant

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The **2017 Traveling Fellowship** award winners are:

- **Clinical Traveling Fellowship**: Mohammed Hassan Ibrahim Mahboub, MD  
  (Oregon Health & Science University; University of Southern California; UT Southwestern Medical Center)  
  Amount: $7,169

- **Clinical Traveling Fellowship**: Abduljabbar Alhammad, MD  
  (Rothman Institute; Hospital of Special Surgery; Rush University)  
  Amount: $5,500

More than 3,000 spine professionals will meet at the NASS 32nd Annual Meeting in Orlando, October 25-28, 2017 at the Orange County Convention Center to share the latest information, innovative techniques and procedures, best practices and new technologies in the spine field. NASS is a multidisciplinary medical organization dedicated to fostering the highest quality, evidenced-based and ethical spine care by promoting education, research and advocacy. NASS is comprised of more than 8,000 members from several disciplines, including orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery, physiatry, neurology, radiology, anesthesiology, research and physical therapy. For more information, visit [www.spine.org](http://www.spine.org), [NASS Facebook](http://NASSFacebook) and [NASSTwitter](http://NASSTwitter).

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