

# RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL

*A Lifespan Partner*

For immediate release

July 29, 2015

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## **\$600K NIH Training Grant Renewed at RIH**

*Third renewal signals strong support for fellowship program*

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The [Division of Surgical Research](#) at [Rhode Island Hospital](#) successfully renewed funding for its trauma and inflammation research training fellowship from the National Institutes of Health. The \$600,000 award will support clinician-scientists studying trauma-related diseases and how the body reacts to them.

"Trauma is a leading cause of death and disability in the U.S.," said William Cioffi, M.D., chairman of the department of surgery. "Because major injuries initiate a wide variety of responses within the human body, the study of traumatic injury and inflammation can advance understanding of all types of diseases and reactions outside of normal conditions. The capacity of well-trained individuals to simultaneously think as scientists and act as clinicians provides the most rapid and efficient path for the identification of new issues to investigate and to drive forth cutting-edge therapies."

The NIH-sponsored program is a superb vehicle for surgical residents to initiate a successful academic career in research while maintaining their clinical activities. Faculty at the [Alpert Medical School](#) of Brown University instructing the fellows represent the following departments: molecular biology, cell biology and biochemistry; medicine; molecular microbiology and immunology; molecular pharmacology, physiology and biotechnology; pathology and laboratory medicine; orthopedics; and surgery. In addition to classroom study at the Alpert Medical School, the fellows have access to Level 1 trauma and burn centers at Rhode Island Hospital to augment their academic activities.

"Rhode Island Hospital stands with only 17 other institutions in the U.S. that offer trauma, burn and peri-operative injury research training programs for postdoctoral candidates," said Jorge E. Albina, M.D., director of the program.

"We have created an exceptional and competitive fellowship that helps the providers bridge the gap between academia to bedside medicine," said Alfred Ayala, Ph.D., co-director.

### **About Rhode Island Hospital**

Founded in 1863, Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, R.I., is a private, not-for-profit hospital and is the principal teaching hospital of the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. A major trauma center for southeastern New England, the hospital is dedicated to being on the cutting edge of medicine and research. Last year, Rhode Island Hospital received more than \$50 million in external research funding. It is also home to Hasbro Children's Hospital, the state's only facility dedicated to pediatric care. For more information, visit [www.rhodeislandhospital.org](http://www.rhodeislandhospital.org),

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