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LSDF announces five new grants to support commercial development of health-care products

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The Life Sciences Discovery Fund (LSDF) today announced over \$1 million in five awards to support commercial development of new health and health-care products within both the non-profit and for-profit sectors in Washington.

Two of the five new grants were made under the 2012 Commercialization grant competition and focus on promising diagnostic technologies developed in the state's non-profit research organizations. Gerard Cangelosi of the University of Washington will develop and evaluate a rapid test to detect health care-associated infections. Nathan Sniadecki of the University of Washington will create a prototype device to assess risk of internal bleeding in trauma patients.

Two awards were made under the 2012-2013 Proof of Concept granting program to help position early-stage Washington companies for private equity investment. Epoch Medical Innovations, Inc. (principal investigator Michael Ballas) will develop a system that improves the fit and comfort of prosthetic legs by automatically adjusting to volume changes in the residual limb. Crux Medical Innovations (principal investigator Bob Clements) will create a prototype device to enhance quality, yield, and speed of gastrointestinal [biopsy](#) collection, with the ultimate aim of improving disease diagnosis.

The fifth award provides additional funding to advance commercialization of technology developed through one of LSDF's previous grants. Daniel Chiu of the University of Washington has created an assay that would allow doctors to detect signs of [cancer](#) recurrence early to improve survival. The new funding will support validation of novel technology to further increase the test's sensitivity and better position the team to commercialize the product in Washington.

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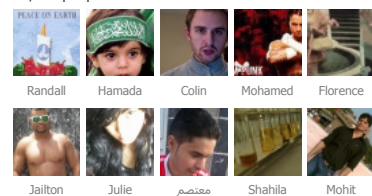
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