USC RESEARCHER DR. PINCHAS COHEN RECEIVES GLENN FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH BREAKTHROUGHS IN GERONTOLOGY (BIG) AWARD

Los Angeles, CA—Pinchas Cohen, M.D., of the University of Southern California has been awarded a two-year, $200,000 Glenn Foundation for Medical Research Breakthroughs in Gerontology (BIG) Award. The award provides $200,000 for research aimed at discoveries to address human aging and healthspan.

Dr. Cohen is the Dean of the Leonard Davis School of Gerontology at the University of Southern California.

With the support of the award, Dr. Cohen will investigate a mitochondrial protein, humanin (HN), that plays a role in aging and longevity.

Upon receiving the BIG Award, Dr. Cohen shares: “This grant provides unique support for my research, along with recognition of the importance of such investigations. We’ve identified molecules derived from mitochondria that may be important diagnostic and potentially therapeutic targets for diseases of aging. This research is exciting because it is part of a larger effort focused on understanding the activity of these peptides and how they may reveal new methods for drug development for age-related diseases.”

“Our aim is to support research that leads to a greater understanding of biological aging that will contribute to the development of treatments or preventive measures that extend human healthspan,” notes Mark R. Collins, President of The Glenn Foundation for Medical Research.

Since 2005, the Breakthroughs in Gerontology (BIG) Awards have provided more than $5,800,000 to 30 investigators nationwide. Awardees are selected by a committee of distinguished scientists working in the field of aging research.

“We are pleased to collaborate with The Glenn Foundation for Medical Research to translate the knowledge in the basic biology of aging into therapies and interventions that will help us all live healthier and longer as we grow older,” notes Stephanie Lederman, Ed.M., Executive Director, AFAR.

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About the Glenn Foundation for Medical Research Founded by Paul F. Glenn in 1965, the mission of the Glenn Foundation for Medical Research is to extend the healthy years of life through research on mechanisms of biology that govern normal human aging and its related physiological decline, with the objective of translating research into interventions that will extend healthspan with lifespan. Learn more at glennfoundation.org.

About AFAR The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to support and advance healthy aging through biomedical research. Founded in 1981, AFAR has championed the cause and supported the funding of science in healthier aging and age-related medicine. To address the shortage of physicians and researchers dedicated to the science of healthier aging, AFAR funds physicians and scientists probing the fundamental mechanisms of aging, as well as specific diseases associated with aging populations at critical points throughout their careers. Learn more at afar.org or follow AFAR.org on Twitter and Facebook.