Diabetes Institute UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Our Mission



Research



Patient Care



Education



Outreach

UFDI News



Mark Atkinson, Ph.D., director of the UF Diabetes Institute, has been awarded the 2019 Jacobæus Prize, one of the top international honors in the field of endocrinology and metabolism, for his contributions to groundbreaking type 1 diabetes (T1D) research.



Ashby Walker, Ph.D., director of health equity initiatives at the UF Diabetes Institute and assistant professor in the department of health services research, management and policy, was named one of **Diabetes Forecast's 2019 People to Know.**



We are excited to present our **2019-2020 UFDI Student Ambassadors!** They are outstanding undergraduate and graduate students who are committed to supporting the UF Diabetes Institute with initiatives, such as National Diabetes Awareness Month.



Save the Date: World Diabetes Day is approaching! The UF Diabetes Institute will host a Research Poster Session, a Discussion Panel and a Seminar on November 14 in the HPNP Building. Poster session registration is open at diabetes.ufl.edu.

Grants & Awards



A group of **University of Florida researchers** will use a new \$5 million grant to develop a **"pancreatic islet on a chip"** — a platform that will allow them to more efficiently and effectively study T1D and potential treatments for the condition.

These scientists, including **UF Diabetes Institute affiliate faculty Todd Brusko, Ph.D.** and **Cherie Stabler, Ph.D.**, aim to develop a device known as a microphysiological system which can provide insight into what triggers the disease and offer a way for them to rapidly and safely test new treatments.

A group of University of Florida researchers – including UFDI members **Graciela Lorca**, **Ph.D.**, **Mark Atkinson**, **Ph.D.**, **Michael Haller**, **M.D.**, **and Clayton Mathews**, **Ph.D.**, alongside Claudio Gonzalez, Ph.D. and Wendy Dahl, Ph.D. – will use a new **\$3.5 million grant from JDRF and NIH NIDDK** to evaluate safety, tolerability, and general response to Lactobacillus johnsonii N6.2 in children, adolescents, and adults with T1D.



The scientists aim to determine if the probiotic Lactobacillus johnsonii N6.2 has a positive impact on gastrointestinal health and general wellness for individuals with **T1D**.









Additional Info & Updates

Kara & the (Not So) Dire Beastie is an animated series aimed at helping young patients and their families better understand T1D. Creators Dr. Angelina Bernier and Alan Caudel spoke about the impact of this project on the Pediacast Podcast:

https://www.pediacast.org/diabetes-kara-not-dire-beastie-pediacast-438/

UFDI Fitness Fest: Every year, in honor of National Diabetes Awareness Month, the UF Diabetes Institute hosts a community event to promote diabetes awareness. Please join us for the 2019 Fitness Fest on November 17 at Depot Park! The event will consist of a wellness walk, yoga, vendors & more. Check our website and social media for more details.

The Gator Chapter of the College Diabetes Network, a community group that enables students with T1D to thrive in their personal, healthcare, & scholastic accomplishments, recently announced the 2019-2020 leadership group: Mykenzie Jonhson is the president, Shaun DeJaneys is the VP, and Brooke Miller is the treasurer! Congratulations!

The **UF Pediatric Diabetes group** is now piloting telemedicine directly to children at schools. This program, directed by clinical assistant professor Anastasia Albanese O'Neill, Ph.D., **seeks to reduce the communication gaps** that often exist between school nurses, teachers, and the diabetes team. The program also **allows school nurses to be more directly involved in the care of children with diabetes** who often receive a large portion of their diabetes care during the school day.

The T1D Toolkit, a program designed to complement the diabetes education provided in clinic program is now being used by the American Diabetes Association, JDRF and other diabetes support groups. The program was envisioned by Anastasia Albanese O'Neill, Ph.D., clinical assistant professor from UF Pediatrics, and developed in partnership with pediatric endocrinologists, certified diabetes educators, dietitians, psychologists, artists, graphic designers, people with T1D, and parents of children with T1D of all ages.

Featured Publications

Advances in Type 1 Diabetes Technology Over the Last Decade. Zimmerman C, Albanese-O'Neill A, Haller MJ. European Endocrinology. 2019;15(2):70–6.

Designing Online and Mobile Diabetes Education for Fathers of Children With Type 1 Diabetes: Mixed Methods Study. Albanese-O'Neill A, Schatz DA, Thomas N, Bernhardt JM, Cook CL, Haller MJ, Bernier AV, Silverstein JH, Westen SC, Elder JH. JMIR Diabetes. 2019 Aug 6;4(3):e13724. doi: 10.2196/13724.

Human Factors Associated with Continuous Glucose Monitor Use in Patients with Diabetes: A Systematic Review. Smith MB, Albanese-O'Neill A, Macieira TGR, Yao Y, Abbatematteo JM, Lyon D, Wilkie DJ, Haller MJ, Keenan GM. Diabetes Technol Ther. 2019 Oct;21(10):589-601. doi: 10.1089/dia.2019.0136.

Is There a Benefit to Patients Using Wearable Devices Such as Fitbit or Health Apps on Mobiles? A Systematic Review. Jo A, Coronel BD, Coakes CE, Mainous AG 3rd. Am J Med. 2019 Jul 11. pii: S0002-9343(19)30553-4. doi: 10.1016/j.amjmed.2019.06.018.

Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease: The Overlooked Complication of Type 2 Diabetes. Akshintala D, Chugh R, Amer F, Cusi K. In: Feingold KR, Anawalt B, Boyce A, Chrousos G, Dungan K, Grossman A, Hershman JM, Kaltsas G, Koch C, Kopp P, Korbonits M, McLachlan R, Morley JE, New M, Perreault L, Purnell J, Rebar R, Singer F, Trence DL, Vinik A, Wilson DP, editors. Endotext [Internet]. South Dartmouth (MA): MDText.com, Inc.; 2000-.2019 Jul 9.

Plasma Fibroblast Growth Factor 21 Is Associated With Severity of Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis in Patients With Obesity and Type 2 Diabetes. Barb D, Bril F, Kalavalapalli S, Cusi K. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2019 Aug 1;104(8):3327-3336. doi: 10.1210/jc.2018-02414.

Pleiotropic roles of the insulin-like growth factor axis in type 1 diabetes. Shapiro MR, Atkinson MA, Brusko TM. Curr Opin Endocrinol Diabetes Obes. 2019 Aug;26(4):188-194. doi: 10.1097/MED.000000000000484.

The FoxO-Autophagy Axis in Health and Disease. Cheng Z. Trends Endocrinol Metab. 2019 Sep;30(9):658-671. doi: 10.1016/j.tem.2019.07.009.

Teach-Back Experience and Hospitalization Risk Among Patients with Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions: a Matched Cohort Study. Hong YR, Cardel M, Suk R, Vaughn IA, Deshmukh AA, Fisher CL, Pavela G, Sonawane K. J Gen Intern Med. 2019 Aug 5. doi: 10.1007/s11606-019-05135-y.

Working together for a diabetes-free world