



Funding Radiology's Future®

Researchers Awarded 2024 GE HealthCare/RSNA Research Grants

OAK BROOK, Ill – October 30, 2024 - The Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) Research & Education (R&E) Foundation awarded its GE HealthCare/RSNA Research Scholar Grants to Sharath Bhagavatula, M.D., and Karthik M. Sundaram, M.D., Ph.D., for second year renewals and the GE HealthCare/RSNA Research Resident Grant to Anna Dornisch, M.D., M.A.S. and Luke Bonham, M.D. These grants are made possible by GE HealthCare's support of the RSNA R&E Foundation as a Vanguard Program donor.

The GE HealthCare/RSNA Research Scholar Grant is designed for emerging leaders in radiology research. This career development award facilitates the transition of young faculty into independent investigators and prepares them for NIH funding. The grant award is \$100,000 per year for a two-year study. Each of these two investigators are in the second year of their funding for the projects listed.

Sharath Bhagavatula, M.D., Brigham and Women's Hospital, will assess whether superparamagnetic iron-oxide nanoparticles delivered into tumors prior to percutaneous microwave ablation (MWA) can enable more selective MWA by optimizing antitumoral thermal and immune effects.

Karthik M. Sundaram, M.D, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, will develop an image-guided approach using a novel theranostic agent to enable greater intraoperative visualization and treatment of sub-optimally resected high-grade ovarian cancer and allow the minimally invasive treatment of locally recurrent and oligo-metastatic disease.

The GE HealthCare/RSNA Research Resident Grant provides \$50,000 to a top resident to devote 30% of their time for a research project under the guidance of a scientific advisor. Through this project, residents can learn about scientific investigation and develop competence in research techniques.

Anna Dornisch, M.D., M.A.S., University of California, San Diego, will compare lesions identified on prostate MRI to pathology to evaluate the accuracy of using imaging-based lesions as targets for focally increasing radiation dose to treat prostate cancer.

Luke Bonham, M.D., University of California, San Francisco, is exploring the role of glutamate, a neurotransmitter important in brain signaling and inflammation, in patients with frontotemporal dementia (FTD). The results will have the potential to provide new imaging tools to improve the diagnosis of FTD and to test novel treatments for this debilitating disease.

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"The RSNA R&E Foundation greatly appreciates the generosity of GE HealthCare, especially this year during our 40th Anniversary. As we celebrate this distinguished milestone, we look forward to the Foundation's next 40 years. We're committed to building upon this incredible legacy and continuing to make a positive impact on patient care together," said Satoshi Minoshima, M.D., Ph.D., Chair of the RSNA R&E Foundation Board of Trustees. "True to the Foundation's critical mission of Funding Radiology's Future, the Board of Trustees decided to fund an unprecedented amount—\$5.26 million—for grants to help ensure a bright future for all medical imaging professionals. This funding level is impossible without the dedicated support of our generous donors."

Established in 1989, the Vanguard Program allows companies to provide seed money for investigators working towards major discoveries. GE HealthCare was a founding Vanguard company in 1989 and since that time has committed nearly \$5.5 million to fund named grant awards. 67 Research Scholar, Education Scholar, and Research Resident Grantees have been funded by GE in that time, with collective accomplishments including 55 manuscripts published, 27 patents generated, and 1 start-up company founded.

The RSNA R&E Foundation Board of Trustees approved funding for 81 grants in 2024 valued at over \$5 million.

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RSNA is an association of radiologists, radiation oncologists, medical physicists and related scientists promoting excellence in patient care and healthcare delivery through education, research and technologic innovation. The Society is based in Oak Brook, Ill. ([RSNA.org](https://www.rsna.org))

The mission of the R&E Foundation is to invest in the future of radiology by developing investigators and supporting lifelong innovative research and education. ([RSNA.org/Foundation](https://www.rsna.org/Foundation))

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