

## Award Roster

### Targeted Research Initiative for Seniors FY2008

**Investigator:** David Mott, Ph.D.  
**Institution:** University of South Carolina Research Foundation  
**Title of Project:** Impaired dendritic inhibition during aging enhances seizure susceptibility  
**Lay Summary:** Recent studies have suggested that there is a significant increase in the incidence of epilepsy, specifically in those over the age of 65. However, the reasons for this increased incidence remain unexplored. As well, the evidence of inflammatory processes in the clinical manifestations and neuropathological sequelae of epilepsy have accumulated in the last decade. The proposed studies will determine if increased inflammatory signaling contributes to the increased neurodegeneration observed in aged epileptic animals.

**Award Amount:** \$50,000.00

**Investigator:** Mary Jo Pugh, Ph.D.  
**Institution:** University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio  
**Title of Project:** Potential Drug Interactions: Is Exposure Linked to Patient Outcomes?  
**Lay Summary:** Most older patients with newly diagnosed epilepsy receive an epilepsy drug that interacts with at least one of their other medications. Many believe that these drug interactions are dangerous, but no large studies have examined this in older patients with epilepsy. Because 60% of older patients with newly diagnosed epilepsy have drug interactions, it is critical to find out how these interactions affect the patients' health. This study examines this question using National Veterans Affairs data from 2000-2006.

**Award Amount:** \$50,000.00