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Investigator Awards Foster Career Development Among Heart Disease Scientists



Dr. Khadijah Breathett (left) with members of her research team, including Natalie Pool, PhD (on screen), Ashley Larsen, MS, Janice Crist, PhD, Erika Yee, BS.

Focused on scientists early in their careers or education, UA Sarver Heart Center Investigator Award recipients for 2018-2019 include an undergraduate, graduate students and early-career faculty members who represent molecular science, psychology and cardiology, among others.

"The unflagging generosity of our donors ensures the ongoing

success of the Sarver Heart Center Investigator Award Program," said **Nancy K. Sweitzer, MD, PhD**, director of the UA Sarver Heart Center and chief of cardiology. "This allows us to foster career development on our campuses with this program as a predictable resource."

Investigator Awards provide funding up to \$25,000 and support innovative pilot projects that commonly lead to larger regional and national grants. The return on investment for this program has been as high as 10 to 1, said Dr. Sweitzer.

[Read more](#)

Flu Shot May Help You Avoid a Silent Killer



If protecting others from risk of infection wasn't reason enough to get a flu shot, here's one more. Did you know that vaccination could potentially reduce the risk of a silent killer? Although the correlation isn't yet clearly understood, recent research has shown that aortic aneurysm ruptures often closely follow a bout of flu, wrote

David Bull, MD, chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Sarver Heart Center Jack G. Copeland Endowed Chair of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Michael Drummond Distinguished Professor of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery.

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Upcoming UAHS Community Programs



College of Medicine

Feb. 16 - UA Arthritis Center presents 'The Power of Precision Medicine,' Living

Healthy with Arthritis Conference, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. **Kenneth S. Ramos, MD, PhD, PharmB**, internationally-recognized expert on genetics and genomic medicine, will deliver the keynote address at Banner - University Medical Center Tucson, DuVal Auditorium, 1501 N. Campbell Ave. Limited seating. [Click here to register.](#)

March 5, 5-7 p.m., Doc Talks presented by **UA College of Medicine Tucson** and **Banner University Medicine**. Topics include **"Keeping Your Heart in Sync: What You Need to Know about Atrial Fibrillation,"** with [Mathew Hutchinson, MD](#), and "Aortic Diseases and Your Treatment Options," with [David Bull, MD](#). After Feb. 4, RSVP at BannerHealth.com/DocTalks or call 800-230-2273.

[Read more](#)

Mark Your Calendars for Green Valley 2019 Lectures

- Feb. 21 - **"Aortic Diseases: Can We Intervene Before They Turn Deadly?"** - [Craig Weinkauf, MD, PhD](#)
- March 21 - **"Stroke Prevention and Atrial Fibrillation"** - [Ranjith Shetty, MD](#)
- April 18 - **"Arthritis and Heart Disease: Is inflammation the common culprit?"** [Kent Kwoh, MD](#)

All Green Valley Lectures are held on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Canoa Hills Social Center, 3660 S. Camino del Sol in Green Valley

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National Heart Valve Disease Awareness

Day, Green Valley Event



The University of Arizona Sarver Heart Center Structural Heart Disease Program is hosting a Heart Valve Disease Awareness Day, Feb. 22 in Green Valley. In conjunction with National Heart Valve Disease Day, the UA team will raise awareness of this disease that affects 11.6 million Americans. Yet, 40 percent of adults have never heard of the disease. Visit information booths from noon to 4 p.m. and attend a lecture by members of the UA Structural Heart Team at 2 p.m. This free event will be held at the Santa Rita Springs Social Center.

[Read more](#)

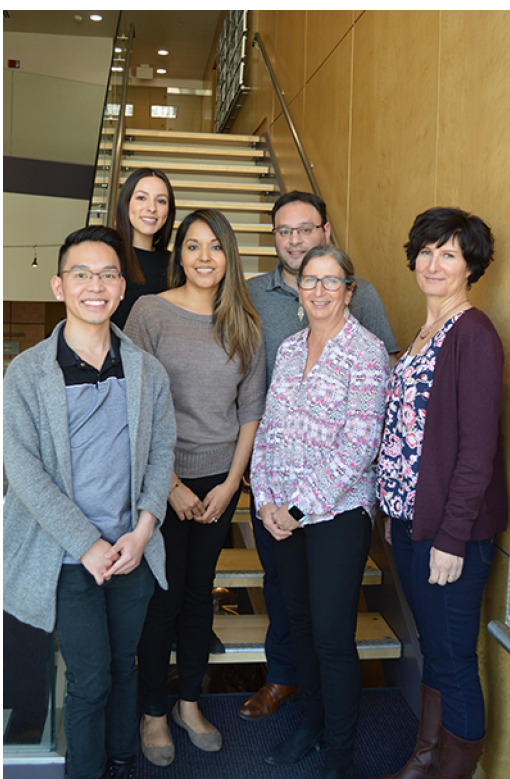
Find More Science News on Sarver Heart Center's News Webpage

More science news is available on UA Sarver Heart Center's News webpage, including:

- [Using a Patient's Own Cells in Regenerative Medicine Therapies](#)
- [UA Scientists Discover Diabetes Drug Could be Used to Treat Common Heart Failure Syndrome](#)
- [69-Year-Old Congenital Heart Patient's Story Illustrates Power of Physician Collaboration](#)
- [UA Scientist Identifies Cellular Gene Signatures for Heart Muscle Regeneration](#)
- [UA Researchers Help Discover Genetic Factor That Can Help or Hurt Risk for Heart Disease](#)
- [UA Professor Receives Grant for Innovative Research in Preventing Heart Failure](#)

[Read more](#)

Help Beat Heart Disease!



Have you ever wondered what you can do, personally, to beat heart disease? Consider becoming part of the **UA Sarver Heart Center Biorepository**. Our clinical research team will warmly welcome you to participate whether or not you have heart disease or a known risk factor. Enrollment means completing a questionnaire, signing an informed consent form that allows researchers to view your electronic medical record and donating about three tablespoons of blood. These blood samples will help scientists better understand heart disease to improve care and

treatment now and in the future. Click on the **Cardiology Research Registry link** to get started.


[Read more](#)

Support Sarver Heart Center's Mission



We are grateful for your support as we work to improve heart health in Arizona and around the world. Your gifts help us achieve our mission of life-saving, innovative patient care for generations to come.

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