

## Dr. Pitz part of team awarded funding for research in glioblastoma

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Dr. Marshall Pitz is a medical oncologist at CancerCare Manitoba and the Lead of Clinical Research at the Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology, a joint institute of CancerCare Manitoba and the University of Manitoba. His primary area of research focuses on brain tumors. Dr. Pitz is part of a multidisciplinary team of researchers recently awarded funding for research in glioblastoma multiforme (GBM), the most common primary brain tumour in adults. This is an aggressive, challenging to treat brain tumour with poor outcomes and limited life expectancy.

The research team, led by Dr. Donald Miller, Professor in Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the University of Manitoba, and the Kleysen Institute of Advanced Medicine at the Health Sciences Centre, was recently awarded \$753,432 from the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR), under the Collaborative Health Research Projects program.

The team's research will focus on examining biomarkers for early detection and treatment monitoring of GBMs. The goal is to improve treatment and develop a safe and affordable way to monitor tumour progression. As a translational study, research results can be moved to the clinic quickly. This is good news for patients with this type of brain tumor being treated at CancerCare Manitoba who will soon be able to participate in this study.

Dr. Pitz is Associate Professor at the University of Manitoba with appointments in the Departments of Internal Medicine (Section of Hematology/Oncology), Community Health Sciences, and Human Anatomy and Cell Science. Other members of the research team are Dr. Miller, Dr. Thomas Klonisch (Human Anatomy & Cell Science, UofM; Adjunct Scientist, Research Institute in Oncology and Hematology), Dr. Ted Lakowski (Pharmacy, UofM), and Dr. David Wishart, Metabolomics Innovation Centre (Alberta) in partnership with BioMark Diagnostics (British Columbia).

The Collaborative Health Research Projects Program is a joint initiative of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the CIHR.

CCMB congratulates Dr. Pitz and the research team on this achievement!