

## 2019 ASC International Research Travel Award Application

The project accepted at ASC involves granulomatous mastitis (GM), a rare, benign, chronic inflammatory breast disease that usually affects women of child bearing age. Given the paucity of information, the true etiology is currently unknown and there is generally no consensus on treatment of GM. The aim of this clinical study is to determine the effect of methotrexate in GM in our specific patient population primarily made up of Hispanic and Native American women.

The research team is from the College of Medicine-Tucson. Dr. Rebecca Viscusi, Assistant Professor and Breast Surgeon; Dr. Leigh Neumayer, Chair of the Department of Surgery; 5<sup>th</sup> year resident Dr. Jeffrey Sugandi and myself, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical student. Dr. Viscusi is my project advisor. She oversees my work and assesses my performance in several competencies including, medical knowledge, communication skills, systems-based practice and professionalism. Dr. Sugandi and I are responsible for patient recruitment, data collection/analysis and manuscript completion.

I do not have funding from my institution that covers travel costs and attendance for ASC and will have to apply for additional loans. With the support of this grant, I will be able to cover associated expenses and attend an academic surgery meeting for the first time. I am very excited about presenting our work and the opportunity to interact with medical professionals from leading institutions. I feel this conference will help solidify my interest in academic medicine and I would greatly appreciate the financial support.

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