

**CIMIT Names Audrey Chung Marshall, MD,  
Children's Hospital Boston,  
Johnson & Johnson Young Clinician Research Recipient:  
Seeks to Improve Congenital Heart Repair**

**Boston, Mass., May 1, 2006** -- It was announced today by CIMIT director John A. Parrish, MD, that Audrey Chung Marshall, MD, will be among the first recipients of the new CIMIT-Johnson & Johnson Young Clinician Research Award. The funding was made possible through Johnson & Johnson's Corporate Office of Science and Technology (COSAT).

Dr. Marshall, who received her MD from the University of Pennsylvania, is focusing on development of a fetal positioning device to facilitate reconstruction of heart abnormalities *in utero*. This device is to be used with ultrasound guidance, to accomplish percutaneous cardiac intervention. With such a device it will be possible to use minimally invasive techniques on both mother and child during the mother's second trimester. In the baby, repair of heart problems, such as aortic constriction (stenosis) and left ventricular dysfunction, is accomplished using balloon dilation.

Dr. Marshall said, "I am privileged to have the opportunity to try to make a difference in one of the top three heart abnormalities to cause problems in newborns. I believe with new technology we can facilitate cardiac intervention and lower fetal complication rates and procedure time. Additionally, we will not have to make a major incision in the mother, in order to try to operate on the baby. Both procedures will be minimally invasive."

**Dr. Parrish States Award Goal**

"With this award, we were looking to attract innovative clinicians in the Boston area, passionate about patient care and willing to dedicate part of their time for translational research," said Dr. Parrish. "It is our mission to accelerate the work of physicians who stay awake at night thinking about how to solve complex medical problems using minimally invasive technology."

Dr. Parrish noted: "I am pleased that Dr. Marshall's work was selected; it will have a lasting impact on pediatric cardiac care."

The opportunity to assist young clinicians came through \$250,000 in funding from Johnson & Johnson to identify rising clinical stars dedicated to patient care and translational research. One physician was selected from each of four member hospitals of the CIMIT Consortium.

**The Patient Care Impact**

Dr. Marshall has received many honors and has authored or co-authored 15 peer-reviewed publications appearing in well-respected journals. She is also associate director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories at Children's, an affiliate consultant for the Department of Newborn Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and an assistant professor at Harvard Medical School.



Donald Ingber, MD, PhD, CIMIT Liaison to Children's noted: "Even at such an early stage in her career, Dr. Marshall is a leading expert in the world in the techniques of fetal cardiac intervention, and particularly the use of stents to treat aortic coarctation. She also serves as a consultant interventionalist to other staff interventionalists based specifically on her outstanding skills."

**CIMIT: Overcoming Barriers to Innovation**

CIMIT is a Boston-based research consortium of the major teaching hospitals and engineering schools dedicated to advancing the standard of patient care through collaboration and development of novel technologies and therapies.

Each year CIMIT selects some 40 new research projects from multidisciplinary teams to receive science awards ranging from \$25,000 to \$250,000. There are 150 active projects from more than 300 awarded to date. Additionally there have been 400 peer-reviewed publications. CIMIT-supported projects have led to the formation of 170 invention disclosures, 80 patent applications, and 30 options and license agreements. Ten small businesses have been created or strategically impacted by CIMIT technology. With enabled funding of more than \$120 million, CIMIT has significantly impacted the standard of care.

As part of CIMIT's Award Program, its Office of Technology Development and its Industry Liaison Program help investigators overcome hurdles in business, law, intellectual property protection, and product development. The team of experts enables investigators to rapidly move ideas from bench to bedside.

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**About Children's Hospital Boston**

Children's Hospital Boston is a member of the CIMIT consortium. The hospital is home to the world's largest research enterprise based at a pediatric medical center, where its discoveries have benefited both children and adults since 1869. More than 500 scientists, including eight members of the National Academy of Sciences, nine members of the Institute of Medicine and 10 members of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute comprise Children's research community. Founded as a 20-bed hospital for children, Children's Hospital Boston today is a 347-bed comprehensive center for pediatric and adolescent health care grounded in the values of excellence in patient care and sensitivity to the complex needs and diversity of children and families. Children's also is the primary pediatric teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School.

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