

From the University of Mississippi Medical Center Division of Public Affairs

UMMC PHYSIOLOGY PROFESSOR'S RESEARCH LEADS NATIONAL AWARD, LECTURESHIP

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JACKSON, Miss. – Dr. Alejandro Chade, assistant professor of physiology and biophysics at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, has been selected by the American Physiological Society to receive the 2010 Lazaro J. Mandel Young Investigator Award and the 2010 Water and Electrolyte Homeostasis Section New Investigator Award.

The \$4,000 Mandel Award, established in 1999, is given annually to a scientist who demonstrates outstanding promise based on his or her research in epithelial or renal physiology. Chade can apply the monetary award toward his research expenses.

The award is named in memory of Lazaro J. Mandel, professor of physiology at Duke University and long-standing APS member.

In addition, as recipient of the Water and Electrolyte Award, Chade has been invited to make a presentation at the Experimental Biology meeting in Anaheim, Calif. in April. Each recipient receives an honorarium of \$1,000 and coverage of expenses.

The APS gives section awards yearly to young investigators based on outstanding contribution to physiology subject areas, one of which is water and electrolyte homeostasis.

Chade's research focuses on identifying the mechanisms activated by chronic reduction in blood flow to the kidney. He found that chronic obstruction, brought on by inflammation and fibrosis of the arteries feeding blood to the kidneys, reduces the density of the kidney's tiniest blood vessels.

That reduces circulation in the kidney and deteriorates function. By promoting new microvascular growth, kidney function significantly improves.

Chade holds an M.D. from the Universidad De Cuyo in Mendoza, Argentina. Following residency and fellowship in cardiology he completed a post-doctoral research fellowship and worked as a research associate specializing in nephrology and hypertension at the Mayo Clinic's Department of Internal Medicine. Chade joined UMMC in 2007 as an assistant professor.

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The University of Mississippi Medical Center, located in Jackson, is the state's only academic medical center. University of Mississippi Health Care represents the clinical programs of the Medical Center and includes University Hospitals and Health System and

University Physicians, the faculty group practice. UMMC encompasses five health science schools, including medicine, nursing, health related professions, dentistry and graduate studies, as well as the site where University of Mississippi pharmacy students do their clinical training. The Medical Center's threefold mission is to educate tomorrow's health-care professionals, conduct innovative research to improve human health, and to provide the highest quality care available to the state's citizens. A major goal of the Medical Center is the improvement of the health of Mississippians and the elimination of health disparities. For more information, contact the Division of Public Affairs at 601-984-1100 or visit us on the Web at <http://info.umc.edu/>.