



Here is our update of funding-research partnerships as of 12-1-2010:

New Initiatives:

Patient Impact Initiative: To date, we have signed up the Menninger Clinic in Houston as our first Charter Research Institution Partner, an industry partner in Vicus Therapeutics and a VHO partner in the AKU Society. University of Texas and University of Southern California have also signed up!

We presented to over 20 research institutions who participate in the CTSA Pharma Portal, and UMass and Northwestern have asked for MOUs to sign. We are presenting webinars on November 18 and 29 to over 200 more participants.

We are in discussions Dean of Research at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Steve Kron has introduced us to the new Dean of the medical school at UChicago. MOUs are already at Mayo Clinic and UIowa and a number of other institutions.

Cravat Foundation-We created a funding partnership with Dr. Guy Weinberg at University of Illinois Chicago and his group the CRAVAT Foundation to raise funds for a rare blood vessel tumor with a fatal outcome that might actually have an infectious cause by the bacteria Bartonella. This hypothesis is both testable and suggests a new, potential treatment: repurposing antibiotics. **This is a perfect example of digging through the literature to find a potential safe, rapid and economical cure for a deadly disease-Rediscovery Research!**

Rockford Chapter- We are still working with our Rockford volunteer leaders to set up a Rockford clinical trial location for the non-invasive brain stimulating MS work we supported at UW Madison. Len LaPasso has joined the Rockford team and he and Liz Downey have been actively working on reopening the dialogue with the Swedish American Hospital group.

Rare Disease Research-Leukemia-Henry Schueler 41 & 9 Foundation-We are almost finished with our year long genetic study, and the results show a number of interesting leads for further research. The fungal infection meeting we held is creating a publication that will describe, for the first time, a new standard of care for the treatment of the rare fungal disease that took the life of Henry Schueler.

Dogs for Cures Foundation-We have raised enough funds to support the purchase and training of a glucose monitoring service dog! This fundraising group is doing a great job getting started!

Rare Disease Research-Batten Disease-Jasper Against Batten Fund-In the last 18 months we have raised over \$1M dollars for Batten Disease research and funded projects at UIowa/Rush, UNorth Carolina, and Johns Hopkins. And we officially will kick off the first patient clinical trial of a new gene therapy technique at Weill Cornell College of Medicine in December 2010!

Prostate Cancer-Dr. Scott Eggener's human clinical trial has treated 7 patients, all with great results-no evidence of continued disease and no serious side effects. All seven patients were up and around the day after their treatment.

Dr. Russell Szmulewitz has completed the first year of work on time and budget. The project is finding markers in the blood that will help find new drugs for hormone resistant prostate cancer.

Lung Cancer Research-LUNgevity Foundation and the Judy Hirsch Foundation-All of our lung cancer projects at Mass General, Rush, Cleveland Clinic and Johns Hopkins are on budget and on schedule. The Mass General project is treating actual patients with a combination of repurposed drugs. The Hopkins project is testing a new way to give radiation that follows the lungs as they expand and contract during breathing to reduce side effects. The Cleveland Clinic Project is repurposing a "sniffer device" to find ways of screening lung cancer patients for early diagnosis. The Rush projects are creating blood tests for staging and for personalized lung cancer treatments

Rare Disease Research-Birt Hogg Dube Syndrome-Myrovlytis Trust- The three projects are all moving along. Unfortunately, one of the promising drug screening projects did not produce any likely repurposed drug candidates. Another of the studies did locate a pathway in the diseased cells that could likely be controlled by a repurposed drug.

Ongoing Initiatives:

Lymphoma Research-Brinson Foundation, the Plunkett Family Foundation and our Rockford Group: The Mayo Clinic blood cancer transplant human clinical trial is enrolling its final patients. **Early data from this project indicates that it was successful in increasing the success of these transplants from 45% TO 80%! We will continue to learn more as time passes, but this research is making an impact less that two years after the research started!**

Multiple Sclerosis Research-Rockford Chapter of PFC- With significant support from Partnership for Cures, another \$450,000 was granted to the TCNL for the next 20 patient clinical trial that includes home use of the PoNS. We are embarking on a stroke feasibility study that we hope to begin in early 2011.

CureforMS.org research at Johns Hopkins: The fundraising team on this project has not been very successful. We will be working with them to determine new ideas to raise funds for this drug repurposing trail at Johns Hopkins.

Diabetes Research-Friend United for Juvenile Diabetes Research-Our researcher, Dr. Denise Faustman at Harvard, completed the Phase I clinical trial in type 1 diabetes using Rediscovery Research compound BCG. They are currently planning a phase II trial supported in part by our funding partners at FUJDR.

Friends United gave us another grant to Exsulin Corporation to support a clinical trial of a repurposed drug for patients with established Type 1 diabetes at the Mayo Clinic and McGill University. Early results show very promising reduction in insulin use and no side effects!

We are reviewing a proposal from a company called SmartInsulin. This clinical trial, which is scheduled to begin later this year, would use a new type of insulin that is only active when needed, reducing a diabetics need to check blood sugar as often, and keeping blood sugar in a tightly controlled range.

Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS) Research Initiative-Private Funding Group-Three patient impact research projects began in June 2009. One project is testing a repurposed drug at Albert Einstein Medical center in NYC. After a year it is clear that this specific drug might not work for most MDS patients, but there are newer version of the drug that need to be tested.

The project at Northwestern is combining an existing drug with an MDS drug to see if the combination can reduce the red blood cell death. Early results seem to show reduction, but more work needs to be done.

Dr. Raza's project was delayed as her institution, St. Vincent's, went bankrupt. She is not at Columbia and we should be able to restart the project soon.