



National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society

List of Current Research Projects Funded by the National MS Society

Sorted by State/Country

January 2017

**Advocacy, Services and Research Department
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
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Introduction

The vision of the National MS Society is a world free of MS, with a key objective to drive change so that people have effective treatment choices and solutions to the challenges of living with MS. To achieve these goals, the Society supports a comprehensive strategy to stop MS, restore function, and end MS forever. We manage an international portfolio of academic and commercial research projects, train the next generation of scientists and MS specialists, foster global collaboration between MS researchers, and convene experts to identify strategic research priorities. The National MS Society is recognized as a catalyst for all major advances in MS, and we fund more MS research than any other MS organization in the world.

This document lists all current MS research projects being funded by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (USA) sorted by state and country, as of January 2017.

About Our Research Projects

The Society offers a spectrum of funding opportunities and resources to support MS investigators at virtually every stage of their careers. The research awards we fund are indicated for each project in the following list:

- **Career Transition Fellowships** – awards up to five years to facilitate the advancement of promising young investigators into full faculty positions
- **Collaborative MS Research Center Awards** – 5-year awards to help stimulate creativity and interaction among investigators working within and outside MS fields
- **Fast Forward Commercial/Drug Development** – Commercial partnerships aim at specific strategies to drive the discovery of new therapies for people with MS
- **Daniel Houghton Senior Faculty Award** – awards for established investigators to provide specialized training in new areas of MS research
- **Harry Weaver Neuroscience Scholarships** – special five-year projects by promising young investigators just starting their careers as independent researchers
- **Health Care Delivery & Policy Contracts** – initiated by the Society and awarded on a competitive basis to investigators studying subjects identified as mission priorities
- **International Progressive MS Alliance** – projects jointly funded by Alliance members; [Read more](#)
- **Mentor-based Postdoctoral Rehabilitation Fellowships** – to enhance research into MS rehabilitation to improve quality of life
- **NMSS/American Academy of Neurology Clinician Scientist Development Award** -- to train physicians in MS clinical research
- **Pilot Research Grants** – aimed at exploring new, untested ideas
- **Postdoctoral Fellowships** – research projects by young investigators working under the mentorship of senior scientists, to provide training in MS research
- **Research Grants** – full grants for basic, clinical and rehabilitation research
- **Strategic Initiatives** – special projects that focus on core resources or other important unmet research needs
- **Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships** – young doctors working under the mentorship of seasoned clinicians, to provide training and experience in conducting clinical trials in people with MS

Notes: 1) Some listed projects have indications of restricted support that has been provided by donors and other friends of the Society. These are listed in italic typeface directly beneath the project title. 2) This list is not an official record and any errors do not reflect official changes to research award agreements.

TBD = to be determined

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PROJECTS OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.A.

AUSTRALIA

Judith Greer, Ph.D.

University of Queensland
Brisbane, Australia

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$39,968

Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Glutamate transporters as potential targets of autoimmune attack in multiple sclerosis”

Investigating a novel target for stopping the immune attack in MS.

Trevor Kilpatrick, M.B.B.S., Ph.D.

Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Melbourne, Australia

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Preclinical Drug Development

Strategic Area: Restore

Funding: \$37,208

Term: 9/1/17-8/31/17

“Targeting Tyro3 to promote remyelination in Multiple Sclerosis” Developing a cutting-edge method for exploring a therapeutic target that may enhance myelin production in MS.

Trevor Kilpatrick, M.B.B.S., Ph.D.

Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Melbourne, Australia

Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Genetics

Strategic Area: End

Funding: \$384,098

Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Understanding the Role of MERTK in the Aetiology and Pathogenesis of MS” Researchers at the University of Melbourne in Australia are investigating the function of an immune cell protein which is abnormal in some people with MS, to understand its potential role in MS.

Funded by a gift from a generous donor

Justin Rubio, Ph.D.

University of Melbourne
Melbourne, Australia

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Genetics

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$40,000

Term: 11/1/16-10/31/17

“Does neuronal somatic mutation influence the progression of MS?” Investigating whether abnormalities in nerve cells influence the course of MS.

Alexandr Klistorner, Ph.D.

Macquarie University
North Ryde, Australia

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$1,124,000

Term: 7/1/14-10/1/18

“Investigating mechanisms of axonal degeneration in multiple sclerosis” What are the mechanisms that drive progressive nervous system damage in MS?

CANADA

Nandini Deshpande, M.Sc., P.T., Ph.D.

Queen's University

Kinston, Canada

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation

Strategic Area: Restore

Funding: \$40,000

Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Adaptive locomotor performance in the early stages of multiple sclerosis: a pilot study” Adaptive locomotor performance in the early stages of multiple sclerosis: a pilot study

Marcia Finlayson, Ph.D.

Queen's University

Kinston, Canada

Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation

Strategic Area: Restore

Funding: \$382,724

Term: 7/1/14-6/30/19

“Building capacity for MS self-management research and knowledge translation” Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship in MS Rehabilitation Research to provide training in research into self-management programs for people with MS.

Marcia Finlayson, Ph.D.

Queen's University

Kinston, Canada

Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research

Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$100,000

Term: 10/1/15-3/31/17

“Bone Mineral Density Screening and Fracture Risks in People with MS” Researchers at Queen’s University are seeking to expand understanding of bone health in people with MS to develop programs and guidance to reduce osteoporosis and bone fractures.

Douglas Arnold, M.D.

McGill University

Montreal, Canada

Award: International Progressive MS Alliance

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: OVER\$4M TBD

Term: 1/1/17-12/31/20

“An MRI biomarker for disability progression for use in clinical trials” Developing a composite MRI signature for disability progression for use in clinical trials.

Joint commitment with other Progressive MS Alliance members

Brent Richards, M.D.

Jewish General Hospital

Montreal, Canada

Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology

Strategic Area: End

Funding: \$128,000

Term: 10/1/16-9/30/18

“The effect of obesity and EBV on the risk and progression of MS: A Mendelian randomization analysis” Researchers from Jewish General Hospital in Montreal are using advanced genetic tools to better understand the extent to which obesity and Epstein-Barr virus are associated with increased MS risk or MS progression.

Co-funded with the MS Society of Canada

Christina Wolfson, Ph.D.

Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre
Montreal, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$145,715
Term: 4/1/13-TBD

“Developing a Tool-Kit of epidemiological resources for etiological research in pediatric MS”

Identifying high-quality questionnaires and other resources to allow researchers to search for factors that trigger MS in children and adults.

Lara Pilutti, Ph.D.

University of Ottawa
Ottawa, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$351,620
Term: TBD-TBD

“Lifestyle physical activity intervention for improving cardiorespiratory fitness and vascular comorbidity risk in multiple sclerosis”

University of Ottawa researchers are testing an intervention to increase physical activity to determine if it can improve fitness and reduce vascular disease risk in people with MS.

Goetz Ehrhardt, Ph.D.

University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$22,220
Term: 11/1/16-10/31/17

“Biomarker Discovery in Multiple Sclerosis Using Non-Conventional VLR Antibodies” Testing the ability of a biological marker to help differentiate between types of MS and responses to therapies.

Fang Liu, M.D., Ph.D.

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Toronto, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropharmacology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$450,000
Term: 10/1/12-3/31/17

“Development of novel therapeutics for the treatment of Multiple Sclerosis” Studying whether an experimental therapy can limit damage to nerve cells as a first step to develop a new treatment for MS.

E. Yeh, M.D.

The Hospital for Sick Children
Toronto, Canada
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$352,950
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/20

“Pediatric MS: Shaping the future of outcomes and disability” This training program at the University of Toronto Hospital for Sick Children will equip researchers with experience and knowledge to design and conduct research aimed at improving wellness in children with MS.

E. Yeh, M.D.

The Hospital for Sick Children
Toronto, Canada
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management
of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$565,925
Term: 10/1/12-9/30/17

“Treatment adherence in pediatric multiple sclerosis” Finding ways to improve the rate at which children and adolescents with MS take their medications as prescribed.

Marc Horwitz, Ph.D.

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Infectious Agents
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$608,493
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“How latent gammaherpesvirus enhances EAE pathology: implications on EBV's role in the etiology of MS” Studying the role of Epstein-Barr virus in a model of MS for clues to a possible MS trigger.

Alexander Rauscher, M.Sc., Ph.D.

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$309,320
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Imaging markers for tissue damage and repair in MS” Researchers at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver are improving brain MRI to better detect disease activity, severity, and changes over time in people with MS.

Helen Tremlett, B.S.Pharm., Ph.D.

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$300,362
Term: 7/1/12-TBD

“Adherence to Immunomodulators in Multiple Sclerosis: Prevalence and Clinical Impact (The AIMS Study)” Examining how following the recommendations for taking MS drugs affects the course of the disease.

Helen Tremlett, Ph.D.

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$246,433
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/17

“Do the beta-interferons prolong life in people with multiple sclerosis?” Investigating if the beta interferons can extend the survival of people with MS.

Helen Tremlett, Ph.D.

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$1,051,047
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/18

“Prodromal Multiple Sclerosis: The PrOMS Study” How early before its diagnosis can MS be detected?

FRANCE

Anne Simone Baron-Van Evercooren, Ph.D.

INSERM - Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale
Paris, France

Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$407,613
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Molecular and cellular analysis of the PNS/CNS boundary” Using myelin-making cells from outside the brain and spinal cord to repair MS lesions.

Brahim Nait-Oumesmar, Ph.D.

INSERM - Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale
Paris, France

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$40,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/17

“Generation of a new pre-clinical model for bioluminescence imaging of remyelination” Developing a novel mouse model for evaluating myelin repair strategies in MS.

Carlos Parras, Ph.D.

INSERM - Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale
Paris, France

Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$586,502
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Chd7 chromatin remodeller function in myelination and remyelination” Researchers at Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris are examining MS lesions and mouse models to investigate the role of a protein called CHD7 in chromatin remodeling, which is required for oligodendrocyte maturation and subsequent myelin repair.

GERMANY

Stefan Gold, Ph.D.

Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin
Berlin, Germany

Award: Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$490,935
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Molecular mechanisms of T cell dysfunction in multiple sclerosis-associated major depression” Researchers at Charité University Medical Center in Berlin, Germany are investigating the possible link between immune system dysfunction and depression in people with MS.

Stefan Gold, Ph.D.

Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin
Berlin, Germany

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$40,000
Term: 10/1/15-TBD

“Neural substrates of social cognition deficits in MS” Exploring how MS affects brain circuits that are important for the processing of emotional and social information.

Stefan Gold, Ph.D.

Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin
Berlin, Germany
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$1,397,712
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/20

“Online program to reduce depression in MS – a phase III international multicenter randomized controlled trial” Researchers at Berlin, Germany’s Charité University Medical Center are testing the effectiveness of a computer program for overcoming MS-related depression.

Christoph Heesen, M.D.

University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf
Hamburg, Germany
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$396,392
Term: 7/1/13-6/30/18

“Development and validation of behavioural interventions to enhance self-management in MS”

Training in research aimed at developing ways to help people with MS enhance their knowledge and ability for managing their disease.

Klaus Lehmann-Horn, M.D.

Technical University of Munich
Munich, Germany
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$130,422
Term: 1/1/16-12/31/17

“Role of B cells in spontaneous chronic CNS autoimmune disease” Exploring the role of immune B cells in MS disease progression.

Funded by a gift from an Anonymous Donor in honor of JoAnn LeMaistre, Ph

ISRAEL

Netta Levin, M.D., Ph.D.

Medical Research Fund of Hadassah Medical
Organization
Jerusalem, Israel
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$362,150
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Temporal reorganization to overcome monocular demyelination – unique plasticity mechanism in MS” Understanding how the brain compensates for damage to restore visual function in people with MS.

Kadimastem LTD.

Nes-Ziona, Israel
Award: Fast Forward Commercial/Drug Development

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$174,400
Term: 9/25/15-TBD

“Use of human oligodendrocytes for drug screening and discovery of new neuroprotection and repair therapies for MS” Developing and testing a potential therapy to promote myelin repair in MS.

Jeffrey Hausdorff, Ph.D.

Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center
Tel Aviv, Israel
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$938,522
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/20

“Virtual Reality-treadmill combined intervention for enhancing mobility and cognitive function in patients with Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Israel and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are conducting a trial to test a rehabilitation strategy that addresses walking and thinking issues in a single, integrated approach.

Lior Mayo, Ph.D.

Tel Aviv University
Tel Aviv, Israel
Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$589,849
Term: 7/1/16-4/1/21

“Role of CD38 in the control of the innate and adaptive immune responses during CNS inflammation” Researchers at Brigham and Women’s Hospital are investigating an immune-system protein for its role in driving MS progression, for clues to stopping progression in its tracks.

Batia Kaplan, Ph.D.

Sheba Medical Center
Tel-Hashomer, Israel
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$39,820
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/17

“Analysis of immunoglobulin free light chain monomers and dimers in saliva of MS patients: implications for diagnosis of MS and monitoring of response to treatment” Determining whether immunologic analysis of saliva samples can prove to be a noninvasive method of diagnosing and tracking MS.

ITALY

Paola De Candia, Ph.D.

Fondazione MultiMedica ONLUS
Milan, Italy
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$40,000
Term: 11/1/16-10/31/17

“Unveiling the role of extracellular miR146a-5p in the loss of immune tolerance during multiple sclerosis.” Exploring newly discovered mechanism related to immune function for clues to what goes wrong in MS and how to fix it.

Gianvito Martino, M.D.

Fondazione Centro San Raffaele
Milan, Italy
Award: International Progressive MS Alliance

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: OVER\$4M TBD
Term: 1/1/17-12/31/20

“Bioinformatics and cell reprogramming to develop an in vitro platform to discover new drugs for progressive multiple sclerosis (BRAVEinMS)” Identifying therapy candidates with neuroprotective and/or myelin repair activity to speed the search for treatments for progressive MS.

Joint commitment with other Progressive MS Alliance members

Stefano Morara

Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - CNR
 Milan, Italy
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$40,000
 Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Role of CGRP neuropeptide in a progressive model of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis” Studying a strategy for stopping progression in a mouse model of progressive MS.

Francesca Fallarino, Ph.D.

University of Perugia
 Perugia, Italy
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Neuropharmacology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$40,000
 Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“Targeting cellular prion protein in multiple sclerosis” Investigating a novel target for stopping the immune attack in MS.

Gabriela Constantin, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Verona
 Verona, Italy
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$140,000
 Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“The role of neutrophil trafficking mechanisms in the pathogenesis of animal models of multiple sclerosis” Researchers at the University of Verona are examining immune cells called neutrophils in mice with an MS-like disease for clues to their possible role in MS inflammation and progression.

NETHERLANDS**Maarten Kole, M.Sc., Ph.D.**

Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience
 Amsterdam, Netherlands
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$449,340
 Term: 10/1/16-9/30/20

“Mechanisms and consequences of synapse elimination in secondary progressive MS and the cuprizone model” Researchers at the Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience are exploring a strategy for improving learning and memory in secondary progressive MS by addressing damage in a specific area of the brain associated with these functions.

PORTUGAL**Carlos Duarte, Ph.D.**

University of Coimbra
 Coimbra, Portugal
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$175,000
 Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“Novel cerebrospinal fluid and serum biomarkers for Multiple Sclerosis” Investigators at the University of Coimbra, Portugal, are exploring whether proteins they have identified in the spinal fluid may be used as biomarkers or flags to help diagnose and track MS.

UNITED KINGDOM

GE Healthcare Limited

Amersham, United Kingdom

Award: Fast Forward/Commercial Drug Development

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$300,000

Term: 7/25/13-TBD

“Clinical Evaluation of the ability of a TSPO-targeting PET imaging agent to enable monitoring of disease modifying therapy in MS” Evaluating the ability of a PET imaging agent (GE180) as a tracer to monitor/detect neuroinflammation and response to disease modifying treatment in MS.

Don Mahad, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Edinburgh

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$551,702

Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Mitochondria and mechanisms of axon degeneration in progressive MS” Exploring energy failure in cells as one possible cause of progressive MS.

Sue Barnett, Ph.D.

University of Glasgow

Glasgow, United Kingdom

Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair

Strategic Area: Restore

Funding: \$126,533

Term: 9/30/15-5/31/17

“Mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) isolated from the olfactory mucosa as a source of cells for treatment of MS” University of Glasgow, Scotland researchers are investigating if adult stem cells from the nose can dampen harmful aspects of the immune system and improve myelin repair in rodent models of myelin loss.

Jeremy Chataway, M.D.

University College London

London, United Kingdom

Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: TBD

Term: TBD-TBD

“MS-STAT2 Clinical Trial of simvastatin for the treatment of secondary progressive MS” Testing the ability of a repurposed drug to protect the nervous system in people with secondary progressive MS.
The Society is co-funding this in collaboration with other agencies and organizations

Richard Reynolds, Ph.D.

Imperial College London

London, United Kingdom

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$646,187

Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“The role of meningeal inflammation induced cytokine signalling and mitochondrial dysfunction in neurodegeneration in progressive MS” Researchers at Imperial College, London, have pinpointed a molecule that may signal nerve cell death, and are investigating how to alter these signals to stop MS progression.

Kenneth Smith, Ph.D.

University College London
London, United Kingdom
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$606,444
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Towards a greater understanding of multiple sclerosis: recognising the importance of hypoxia, and new opportunities for therapy.” Can damage to the nervous system be reduced by therapeutically increasing tissue oxygen concentrations?

UCL Business

University College London
London, United Kingdom
Award: Fast Forward Commercial/Drug Development

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$804,767
Term: 11/23/15-TBD

“Lead optimisation of a novel MS therapy to prevent nerve loss” Developing a novel therapy to prevent nerve tissue damage in people with MS.

UCL Business

University College London
London, United Kingdom
Award: Fast Forward Commercial/Drug Development

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$551,726
Term: 9/27/16-TBD

“The development of selective ion channel activators for neuroprotection” Developing novel approaches to stopping nerve tissue damage in people with MS.

PROJECTS WITHIN THE U.S.A.

ALABAMA

Robert Motl, Ph.D.

University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: TBD
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/18

“Project BIPAMS: Behavioral Intervention for increasing Physical Activity in MS” Researchers are testing an internet-based behavioral intervention with people with MS to increase their physical activity and alleviate symptoms.

Robert Motl, Ph.D.

University of Alabama at Birmingham (Transfer Pending)
Birmingham, Alabama
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$235,424
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/19

“Training in Physical Activity Promotion for Multiple Sclerosis” Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship in MS Rehabilitation Research to provide training in physical activity promotion for MS

ARIZONA

Lynn Hudson, Ph.D.

Critical Path Institute

Tucson, Arizona

Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$3,000,000

Term: 10/1/12-9/30/17

“Qualifying Clinical Outcome Assessments through a Multiple Sclerosis Consortium (MSC)”

Analyzing data from MS clinical trials to develop a more sensitive tool for evaluating the benefits of treatments on clinical symptoms and progression of MS.

CALIFORNIA

Lisa Barcellos, Ph.D.

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, California

Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$403,767

Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Longitudinal Assessment of Disease Progression and Cognitive Status in Multiple Sclerosis: A Comprehensive Web-Based Approach for Clinical Research and Translation to Care”

Research collaborators in California and Buffalo are designing a web-based tool to collect data regarding individuals' MS disease progression, mood and cognitive symptoms over time to improve understanding of the disease and clinical care.

Glialogix, Inc.

Greenbrae, California

Award: Fast Forward/Commercial Drug Development

Category: Preclinical Drug Development

Strategic Area: Restore

Funding: \$503,753

Term: 8/29/14-TBD

“Preclinical and Formulation Work on a Sulfasalazine Compound” Reformulation and efficacy studies of GLX1112 for neuroprotection to treat progressive forms of multiple sclerosis.

Richard Daneman, Ph.D.

University of California, San Diego

La Jolla, California

Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$103,125

Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Mechanisms of blood-brain barrier disruption during neuroinflammation” University of California, San Diego researchers are studying how the barrier between the blood vessels and the brain becomes leaky, a condition in MS that allows potentially harmful cells and molecules to enter the brain from the bloodstream.

Michael David, Ph.D., Pharm.D.

University of California San Diego

La Jolla, California

Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$660,000

Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“The IRF - type I interferon system in autoimmunity and immune tolerance” Studying the delicate balance of the immune system to understand the causes of MS.

Alex Strongin, Ph.D.

Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
La Jolla, California
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$39,550
Term: 12/1/15-11/30/17

“Neuropathic pain in Multiple Sclerosis” Exploring whether a specific molecule is related to pain levels in people with MS.

Varghese John, Ph.D.

University of California Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“Analysis of Bloodborne Neuronal Exosomes for Preventing Multiple Sclerosis Relapse Events”
Developing a quick test for assessing treatment success in people with relapsing MS.

Rashed Nagra, Ph.D.

Brentwood Biomedical Research Institute
Los Angeles, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Tissue/DNA Banks
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$1,268,602
Term: 11/1/09-3/31/17

“Human brain and spinal fluid resource center” Developing and maintaining a tissue bank of specimens from people with MS for use in research.

Fu-Dong Shi, M.D., Ph.D.

St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center
Los Angeles, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$438,900
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Neurorepair following brain inflammation” Researchers at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix are investigating a type of cell that may play a role in inhibiting nervous system repair in MS, for clues to restoring function in people with MS.

Rhonda Voskuhl, M.D.

University of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$505,994
Term: 4/1/13-3/31/17

“Sex Chromosome Effects in the CNS during EAE” Looking at how genes on the chromosomes that determine gender may influence the severity of MS.

James Waschek, Ph.D.

University of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$496,965
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Molecular dissection of neuroprotective and immunoprotective actions of PACAP signaling in the retina in murine EAE” Researchers at the University of California, Los Angeles are investigating a molecule called PACAP to see if it has potential for protecting the visual system from damage caused by MS.

Katerina Akassoglou, Ph.D.

The J. David Gladstone Institutes
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$567,422
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Role of fibrinogen in the inhibition of oligodendrocyte differentiation” Can a blood protein that may inhibit myelin repair in MS be overridden to spur repair?

Funded by a gift from an Anonymous Donor in honor of JoAnn LeMaistre, PhD

Sergio Baranzini, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$800,898
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/20

“The MS Microbiome Consortium (MSMC): an academic multi-disciplinary collaborative effort to elucidate the role of the gut microbiota in MS” With this support to the MS Microbiome Consortium, a multi-center team is conducting a comprehensive analysis of gut bacteria in people with MS to determine factors that may drive progression and help to develop probiotic strategies for stopping progression

2014 Stephen C. Reingold Research Award for most outstanding research proposal

Sophia Bardehle, Ph.D.

The J. David Gladstone Institutes
San Francisco, California
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$175,431
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Study of the role of fibrinogen in T-cell recruitment and activation in neuroinflammatory disease.”

Investigators at the University of California, San Francisco are examining the role of a protein called fibrinogen in the damaging activation of the immune system in MS.

Riley Bove, M.D., M.Sc.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$42,299
Term: 10/1/15-3/31/17

“Effect of a tissue selective estrogen complex on menopausal symptoms in women with MS: A pilot trial” Assessing whether an FDA-approved hormonal therapy is beneficial to menopausal women with MS.

Riley Bove, M.D., M.Sc.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$406,791
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Mechanisms underlying the effect of menopause on multiple sclerosis course” Researchers at UCSF are investigating the effects of menopause on the brain in women with MS.

Jonah Chan, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$594,652
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“A Functional High-throughput Screen for Remyelination: Muscarinic Receptors Regulate Oligodendrocyte Differentiation and Myelination” Screening large numbers of molecules that may be useful for stimulating myelin repair in MS.

Kae-Jiun Chang, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$175,431
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Manipulation of membrane remodeling to maximize CNS remyelination” Investigators at the University of California, San Francisco are examining membrane-curving proteins that may play a role in making nerve-insulating myelin, and that may be targets for improving myelin repair in people with MS.

Andres Cruz-Herranz, M.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$195,427
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Longitudinal Screening of Neuroprotective Therapies in Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis with Optical Coherence Tomography” Researchers at the University of California at San Francisco are imaging the back of the eye to visualize signs of myelin repair in mice as a means of identifying agents with potential to stimulate myelin repair in people with MS.

The Jeveli Family Postdoctoral Fellow

Stephen Fancy, D.V.M., Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$516,621
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Remyelination failure in MS- Mediators and control mechanisms of Pathological Wnt activity.” Exploring why myelin is not well repaired in MS and targeting a protein as a strategy to promote myelin repair.

Carla Francisco, M.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Clinical Research/Sylvia Lawry” A promising doctor at the University of California, San Francisco will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Ari Green, M.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Harry Weaver Neuroscience Scholar Award

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$771,772
Term: 7/1/12-6/30/17

“In vivo neuronal imaging after demyelinating injury to the visual pathway” Developing a technique to measure the health and injury of nerve cells, as a potential tool for quickly evaluating the potential of therapies to protect the nervous system in MS.

Arielle Greenfield, M.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: NMSS-AAN Clinician Scientist Development Awards

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$198,867
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Antigen Targets of CNS-Infiltrating B Cells in Early, Untreated Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco are determining the targets of harmful immune cells called B cells in MS, which may lead to earlier, more effective treatment of MS or prevention.

The Kathleen C. Moore Postdoctoral Fellowship

Caroline Guglielmetti, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$107,466
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/18

“MR imaging of oxidative stress in multiple sclerosis” Examining the role of oxidative stress in MS using advanced imaging techniques at different stages of disease.

Stephen Hauser, M.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: TBD
Term: TBD-TBD

“SUMMIT: Stopping Progressive MS” SUMMIT (Serially Unified Multicenter Multiple Sclerosis Investigation) establishes an open research platform for identifying factors that influence the course of MS, with the goal of predicting and preventing progression.

Elena Hernandez Martinez de Lapiscina, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$202,635
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Retinal Molecular Imaging in MS by Raman Spectroscopy: towards a molecular biomarker for monitoring neuroinflammation and degeneration in MS” Exploring whether a novel imaging technique of the eyes can track MS inflammation and disease activity.

Bardia Nourbakhsh, M.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“MS Clinical research fellowship at UCSF” Training to design and conduct MS clinical trials.

Jorge Oksenberg, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Tissue/DNA Banks
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$1,560,377
Term: 7/1/12-6/30/17

“Establishment of a Core DNA Repository for Multiple Sclerosis” Banking genetic material from individuals and families with MS as a shared resource for studies searching for genes that confer susceptibility to MS.

Jorge Oksenberg, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$165,000
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Cell-specific microRNA profiling and function in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis” University of California, San Francisco investigators are using new methods to study a group of molecules called miRNAs specifically in myelin-making cells to understand if they may be useful targets for gene therapy to treat MS.

David Rowitch, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$529,904
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Oligodendrocyte-mediated vascular remodeling of white matter in development and remyelination” How do cells that form myelin obtain the oxygen supply they need to ramp up myelin repair?

Joseph Sabatino, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: NMSS-AAN Clinician Scientist Development Awards

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$213,981
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Myelin-specific CD8+ T cell pathogenicity in multiple sclerosis” Investigators at the University of California, San Francisco are examining the possible role of a type of immune cell in causing and/or worsening MS to determine if blocking these cells could lead to a more specific therapy for MS.

Scott Zamvil, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$545,065
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Characterization of novel MOG T cell epitopes shared in EAE and MS” Studying how harmful immune cells involved in MS attacks recognize proteins in nerve-insulating myelin.

Scott Zamvil, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$633,840
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Nrf2-dependent and –independent immune modulation by dimethyl fumarate in CNS autoimmunity” University of California, San Francisco researchers are investigating how an approved MS therapy called Tecfidera works to dampen the harmful effects of the immune system.

Annexon Biosciences, Inc.

South San Francisco, California
Award: Fast Forward/Commercial Drug Development

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$693,113
Term: 12/5/16-TBD

“Development and Validation of Complement-Associated Biomarkers to Support Clinical Development of a Novel MS Therapeutic” Validating the applicability of a new neuroprotective compound to prevent or delay neurodegeneration in progressive MS.

Meng-meng Fu, Ph.D.

Stanford University
Stanford, California
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$166,724
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Regulation of MBP mRNA Transport in Oligodendrocytes” Researchers at Stanford University are investigating how a protein critical to the formation of nerve-insulating myelin is made and how its message is transported, to gather information that may be critical to finding a way to repair myelin in people with *Funded in part by the Brodsky Family Foundation*

Naresha Saligrama, Ph.D.

Stanford University
Stanford, California
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$163,103
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“Immunophenotypic Analysis, Determination of Clonal Diversity, and Specificity of T cell Repertoire in MS and EAE” Determining which type of immune cells tend to make MS worse.

Lawrence Steinman, M.D.

Stanford University
Stanford, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$445,000
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Recombinant Crystallins for Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis-Tip of an Iceberg of Guardian Amyloids Including Crystallins, Prion, Tau, Amyloid Beta and Others” Developing a new class of therapeutics for possible application in MS. *Funded by a gift from an Anonymous Donor in honor of JoAnn LeMaistre, PhD*

Marius Wernig, Ph.D.

Stanford University
Stanford, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$605,088
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Generation of transplantable myelinating glia from human fibroblasts” Can skin cells be used to produce cells that will repair damaged myelin in MS?

Funded by The National Stem Cell Foundation and The Donald C. McGraw Foundation

J. Bradley Zuchero, Ph.D.

Stanford University
Stanford, California
Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$581,647
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/19

“What is the cellular mechanism of CNS myelin wrapping?” Can understanding the role of cellular scaffolding in the formation of nerve-insulating myelin provide new targets to promote myelin repair in MS?

Funded in part by a gift from an Anonymous Donor in honor of JoAnn LeMaistre, PhD

David Pleasure, M.D.

University of California, Davis
W. Sacramento, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$519,547
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Minimizing axon loss in a murine multiple sclerosis model by conditionally deleting astroglial CCL2 (MCP-1)” Exploring how specific cells contribute to nerve damage and progression in a model of MS.

Ameer Taha, M.Sc., Ph.D.

University of California, Davis
W. Sacramento, California
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$29,834
Term: 11/1/16-10/31/17

“Establishing quantitative lipidomic biomarkers for multiple sclerosis patients and their relationship with cognitive impairment” Determining whether specific lipids can serve as indicators and predictors of MS and cognitive issues.

COLORADO

John Corboy, M.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Aurora, Colorado
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$326,464
Term: 10/1/16-TBD

“Discontinuation of Disease Modifying Therapies in MS – co-funding with Patient Centered Outcome Research Institute (PCORI)” A trial to determine if and when MS therapies should be discontinued.

The Society is providing co-funding to this PCORI-funded trial

John Corboy, M.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Aurora, Colorado
Award: Research Grants

Category: Tissue/DNA Banks
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$214,607
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/19

“Rocky Mountain MS Center Tissue Bank” Developing and maintaining a tissue bank of specimens from people with MS for use in research.

Jeffrey Hebert, P.T., Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 10/1/15-TBD

“Falls, balance and utility of head-shake computerized dynamic posturography in persons with MS” Determining whether a computerized test is able to predict falls in persons with MS.

Jeffrey Hebert, P.T., Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$536,295
Term: 10/1/12-TBD

“Vestibular rehabilitation for persons with multiple sclerosis: who benefits the most?” The potential of balance and eye movement training for improving mobility in people with MS.

Wendy Macklin, Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$628,325
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Developing zebrafish as a drug screen model” University of Colorado researchers are investigating the usefulness of a type of fish called zebrafish to rapidly screen drugs that may someday be useful for stimulating repair of nerve-insulating myelin in people with MS.

Wendy Macklin, Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$742,500
Term: 4/1/13-3/30/17

“Mechanisms of glial injury in demyelinating disorders” Exploring brain cell interactions to shed new light on how damage occurs in MS and how to reverse the process to restore function to people with MS.
Funded jointly by the Hackstock Family Foundation and the National MS Society Colorado-Wyoming Chapter

Mary (Marnie) Preston, Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$169,946
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“Integration of Nuclear Receptor signaling cascades during myelination in zebrafish.” Searching for clues to promoting myelin repair by exploring details of the myelin-making process.

Brett Fling, Ph.D.

Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$131,820
Term: 4/1/14-9/30/17

“The neural characteristics of proprioceptive-related balance deficits in Multiple Sclerosis”

Understanding factors that influence balance control in people with MS for clues to improving function.

CONNECTICUT

Albert Lo, M.D., Ph.D.

Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital
Hartford, Connecticut
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$22,788
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Backwards Walking for Early Detection of Gait Disability and for Rehabilitation” Testing whether backward walking can improve gait problems and the detection of these problems in people with MS.

Jaime Grutzendler, M.D.

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$330,000
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“Local astrocyte contributions to myelin repair” Yale University researchers are exploring how cells called astrocytes contribute to the repair of nerve-insulating myelin and implications for promoting myelin repair in MS.

David Hafler, M.D.

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$545,399
Term: 4/1/14-4/1/17

“Can a High Salt Diet Drive Induction of Pathogenic T Cells in Humans?” Yale University researchers are studying the possibility that high salt content in diets may contribute to the development and severity of MS.

David Hafler, M.D.

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$825,000
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/20

“Collaborative MS Research Center Award: Systematic Genome Editing of the Risk Variants in Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at Yale, Harvard, and two University of California institutions have teamed up to apply highly advanced technology to manipulate MS risk genes to tease out the exact pathways by which MS develops.

Alexandra Kitz, Ph.D.

Yale University School of Medicine
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$175,431
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Role of Akt kinases in regulating high-salt induced Treg dysfunction” Yale researchers are using immune cells from the blood of healthy people and people with newly diagnosed MS to investigate how high salt may alter immune activity.

Jeffery Kocsis, Ph.D.

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$614,593
Term: 7/1/12-6/30/17

“Transplantation of OPCs into the demyelinated spinal cord” Evaluating the transplantation of myelin-producing cells to repair damaged myelin in an animal model, for clues to the possible safety and benefit in people with MS.

Kevin O'Connor, Ph.D.

Yale University School of Medicine
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$43,752
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Defining how a novel B cell population contributes to MS pathology” Exploring components of the immune system that may age prematurely in people with MS, for clues to stopping the immune attack in this disease.

Vittorio Gallo, Ph.D.

The Children's National Medical Center
Washington, District of Columbia
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$672,838
Term: 4/1/13-3/31/17

“Role of Sox17 in developmental myelination and remyelination” Investigating a protein that helps regulate the activity of myelin forming cells and its role in nervous system repair.

Vittorio Gallo, Ph.D.

The Children's National Medical Center
Washington, District of Columbia
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$538,351
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“Signaling mechanisms underlying Sox17-mediated oligodendrocyte generation and repair” Researchers at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, DC, are investigating a molecule that influences the development of cells that make nerve-insulating myelin, for clues to promoting nervous system repair in MS.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Jeffrey Huang, Ph.D.

Georgetown University
Washington, District of Columbia
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$620,386
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Role of retinoic acid synthesis in CNS remyelination” Exploring the role of a molecule in myelin repair and its potential as a target for restoring function in people with MS.

Jeffrey Huang, Ph.D.

Georgetown University
Washington, District of Columbia
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: 44000PENDING
Term: 11/1/16-10/31/17

“Analysis of the creatine synthesis enzyme, guanidinoacetate-methyltransferase (GAMT) in CNS remyelination” Understanding the importance of a natural protein to the function of myelin-making cells for clues to promoting myelin repair in MS

FLORIDA

Dorina Avram, Ph.D.

University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$515,536
Term: 5/1/15-3/31/17

“A novel ubiquitin ligase with role in EAE severity” Can understanding a regulator of immune cell function translate into the development of a treatment to stop immune attacks in MS?

Brad Hoffman, Ph.D.

University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$569,647
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“In Vivo Induction of Antigen Specific T-Cell Tolerance to a Neuro-Antigen by AAV Hepatic Gene Therapy” University of Florida researchers are exploring a way to prevent or treat MS, using the EAE model, by inducing immune tolerance.

Hong Jiang, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Miami
Miami, Florida
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$540,835
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“The role of retinal microvascular impairment on neurodegeneration in Multiple Sclerosis” University of Miami researchers are studying blood vessels at the back of the eye of people with MS to better understand nerve damage and MS progression.

Jae Lee, Ph.D.

University of Miami
Miami, Florida
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Mechanisms of fibrosis after experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis” Investigating a novel strategy in mice that may yield a solution for primary progressive MS.

University of Miami

Miami, Florida
Award: Fast Forward Commercial/Drug Development

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$564,750
Term: 9/28/12-TBD

“A Randomized Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Trial of Axona for Cognitive Impairment in Patients with Multiple Sclerosis” A study to examine the safety, tolerability, and efficacy of Axona, a medical food, for the treatment of cognitive dysfunction in MS.

GEORGIA

Deborah Backus, P.T., Ph.D.

Shepherd Center
Atlanta, Georgia
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,579
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Pilot study evaluating the impact of functional electrical stimulation cycling on fatigue in people with moderate to severe MS” A trial testing whether FES cycling improves fatigue in people with fatigue who depend on wheelchairs for mobility.

Glenn Matsushima, Ph.D.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Atlanta, Georgia
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$587,310
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/17

“Targeting Repair of Demyelinating Lesions” Searching for therapies to prevent progressive disability in MS.

2013 Stephen C. Reingold Research Award for most outstanding research proposal

Prudence Plummer, P.T., Ph.D.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Atlanta, Georgia
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,805
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“Combining dalfampridine and physical therapy for gait rehabilitation in multiple sclerosis” A clinical trial of Ampyra combined with physical therapy for improving walking and cognition in MS.

Manning Sabatier, Ph.D.

Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,980
Term: 9/1/14-TBD

“The effect of downslope walking on spinal excitability in people with multiple sclerosis”

Determining if slope walking exercise affects spinal function in a way that has the potential to improve spasticity and quality of life in people with MS.

Priya Narayanan, Ph.D.

Georgia Regents University
Augusta, Georgia
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/16-10/31/17

“Role of Arginase in Multiple Sclerosis Mediated Retinal Neuronal Injury” Exploring mechanisms that underlie damage to the eyes in people with MS.

ILLINOIS

Citlali Lopez-Ortiz, Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Champaign, Illinois
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$42,849
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Targeted dance program for improved mobility in multiple sclerosis” Testing a dance program for improving MS symptoms.

Robert Motl, Ph.D.

(MOVED TO) University of Alabama at Birmingham
Champaign, Illinois
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$403,312
Term: 7/1/15-9/30/18

“Project COMPLETE: Coordinated Multiple Sclerosis Exercise Toolkit” Researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are developing a set of tools to promote physical activity in people with MS, which is expected to reduce disability and improve quality of life.

Emerson Sebastião, M.Sc., Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Champaign, Illinois
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$43,230
Term: 10/1/15-3/31/17

“Functional Electrical Stimulation Cycling in Severe Multiple Sclerosis” Testing a cycling program for reducing vascular conditions that affect people with MS.

Emerson Sebastião, M.Sc., Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Champaign, Illinois
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: Pending
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/18

“Project BIPAMS: Behavioral Intervention for increasing Physical Activity in MS” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign researchers are testing an internet-based behavioral intervention with people with MS to increase their physical activity and alleviate symptoms.

Paid by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

Jacob Sosnoff, Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Champaign, Illinois
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$627,770
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Fall Risk and Incidence Reduction in Multiple Sclerosis” Testing an exercise program to reduce the risk of falling in older people with MS.

Paid by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

Charles Abrams, M.D.

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$255,625
Term: 4/1/16-9/30/17

“Roles of Cx32 and Cx47 in oligodendrocytes.” Does the loss of connexins, molecules that mediate communication between brain cells, make the animal model of MS worse?

Alexander Aruin, D.Sc., Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,900
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Enhancement of Anticipatory Postural Control in Individuals with Multiple Sclerosis” Investigating a method of improving balance in people with MS.

Alexander Aruin, D.Sc., Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$405,990
Term: 7/1/12-6/30/17

“Rehabilitation research training to enhance functional performance in MS” Training young scientists to conduct research in rehabilitation approaches to help people with MS achieve higher quality of life and maximal function.

Paid in part by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

Veronica Cipriani, M.D.

University of Chicago Medical Center
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/18

“Assessing Cognition and Cognitive Impairment in Multiple Sclerosis through Training in Clinical Trials” A promising doctor at the University of Chicago Medical Center will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Douglas Feinstein, Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$651,000
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Neuroprotective effects of the CRMP2 activator lanthionine ketimine ester in EAE” Researchers from the University of Illinois are testing the possibility that a natural brain molecule called lanthionine ketimine can prevent neurodegeneration in a mouse model of progressive MS.

Paid by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

Bo Fernhall, Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$685,183
Term: 10/1/12-TBD

“Exercise, Subclinical Atherosclerosis and Walking Mobility in Multiple Sclerosis” Evaluating a home-based exercise program with the potential to improve mobility and cardiovascular health in people with MS.

Paid in part by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

Eun-Jeong Lee, Ph.D.

Illinois Institute of Technology
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$42,316
Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“Microaggressions experienced by people with MS in the workplace: an exploratory study”

Examining the impact of a possible source of workplace discrimination for clues to improving employment among people with MS.

Howard Lipton, M.D.

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Research Grants

Category: Infectious Agents
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$383,139
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Generic approaches for detecting a virus in MS in acute demyelinating lesions” University of Illinois at Chicago researchers are devising a method to detect the presence of viruses in newly forming MS lesions, in hopes of identifying the cause of MS and preventing its development.

Paid by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

Brian Popko, Ph.D.

University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$41,676
Term: 9/1/17-8/31/17

“Exploring the role that reversible RNA methylation plays in regulating oligodendrocyte function”

Using advanced genetic tools to understand how myelin-making cells develop and are affected in MS, for clues to repair strategies.

Melissa Brown, Ph.D.

Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$589,722
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“c-kit differentially regulates EAE susceptibility in male and female SJL mice”

Northwestern University researchers are testing the role of a molecule called c-kit in sex-specific differences in the immune response and protection of neurons in a rodent model of MS called EAE.

Paid by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

Igal Ifergan, M.Sc., Ph.D.

Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$169,946
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“The Wnt Pathway as a Modulator of Tolerogenic APCs in MS” Exploring a molecular switch to turn on helpful immune system activity for leads to new treatment approaches to stop MS.

Haley Titus, Ph.D.

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Evanston, Illinois
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$161,218
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Immunoregulatory and myelin repair therapies in T cell-mediated mouse models of Multiple Sclerosis.” Researchers at Northwestern University in Chicago are trying to develop a possible two-step approach to therapy for MS, making the immune system tolerant of myelin rather than attacking it, and promoting myelin repair.

Paid by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

INDIANA**Peter Altenburger, P.T., Ph.D.**

Indiana University
Indianapolis, Indiana
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$33,000
Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“G-EO Gait Rehabilitation Training in Progressive Multiple Sclerosis” A trial testing a novel method of improving walking in people with progressive MS.

IOWA

Alexander Boyden, Ph.D.

University of Iowa

Iowa City, Iowa

Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$161,218

Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“The role of CD8+ regulatory T cells in modulating B cell function during EAE” Researchers at the University of Iowa are investigating the influence of two types of immune cells on each other to better understand and treat MS.

Nitin Karandikar, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Iowa

Iowa City, Iowa

Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$712,800

Term: 4/1/13-3/31/17

“Role of CNS-specific autoreactive CD8+ T cells in MS” Looking for ways to treat MS by improving the action of cells that control the immune system attack on myelin.

The 2012 Stephen C. Reingold Award for most outstanding research proposal

Ashutosh Mangalam, Ph.D.

University of Iowa

Iowa City, Iowa

Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$563,531

Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Therapeutic potential of combination therapy using Human Gut-derived commensal bacteria and conventional MS drugs” Testing the beneficial effects of gut bacteria in MS models.

Stanley Perlman, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Iowa

Iowa City, Iowa

Award: Research Grants

Category: Infectious Agents

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$562,612

Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Pathogenesis of Demyelination in Mice Infected with a Neurotropic Coronavirus” University of Iowa researchers are investigating ways to manipulate the immune system in a way that turns off the harmful effects and maintains the helpful effects as a strategy for treating MS.

Terry Wahls, M.D.

University of Iowa

Iowa City, Iowa

Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$1,098,981

Term: 7/1/16-6/30/20

“Dietary Approaches to Treating Multiple Sclerosis Related Fatigue” A team at the University of Iowa is comparing two dietary approaches to determine their effectiveness for treating MS-related fatigue.

KANSAS

Jessie Huisinga, Ph.D.

University of Kansas Medical Center - Kansas City
Kansas City, Kansas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$458,959
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Identification of gait and balance deficits in patients with multiple sclerosis using wireless sensors”

Testing new methods to rapidly assess walking and balance problems in people with MS.

KENTUCKY

Malachy Bishop, Ph.D.

University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$329,341
Term: 10/1/14-12/31/16

“Optimizing MS Care: Multiple Sclerosis Patients’ Perspectives and Priorities for Their MS Care”

Understanding the healthcare priorities and preferences of people with MS.

MARYLAND

Pavan Bhargava, M.D.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$457,540
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/21

“Targeting Leptomeningeal Inflammation for Progressive Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at Johns Hopkins University are working to establish a better model of progressive MS that will permit research into understanding and treating inflammation of the meninges, the tissue that covers the brain.

Jeff Bulte, Ph.D.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$681,654
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Immunomodulation and Remyelination by Transplanted Stem Cells and Progenitors: A Two-Prong Approach” Can cell therapy reduce immune attacks and at the same time also stimulate the repair of nerve-insulating myelin in an MS model?

Funded by a gift from the National MS Society Greater Delaware Valley Chapter

Peter Calabresi, M.D.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$825,000
Term: 7/1/12-6/30/17

“Factors Regulating Oligodendroglioneogenesis and Myelination in Multiple Sclerosis and Animal Models” Collaborators from different fields identifying factors that help to increase myelin-making cells, and using this knowledge to develop myelin repair strategies.

2011 Stephen C. Reingold Research Award for most outstanding research proposal

William Culpepper, Ph.D.

Veterans Administration Medical Center - Baltimore
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$343,719
Term: 10/1/14-TBD

“A Rasch-Based Comorbidity Measure for use in Patients with Multiple Sclerosis” Developing a tool for determining the impact of additional health conditions on outcomes for people with MS.

William Culpepper, Ph.D.

Veterans Administration Medical Center - Baltimore
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$281,874
Term: 10/1/14-TBD

“What is the comparative effectiveness of comprehensive care vs. usual care for patients with multiple sclerosis?” Exploring whether comprehensive care results in better outcomes for people with MS.

Kathryn Fitzgerald, D.Sc., M.Sc.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$187,527
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Integrative Analysis of Multiple Sclerosis Risk and Progression” Researchers at Johns Hopkins are conducting studies characterizing how vitamin D protects individuals from getting MS and looking at genetic predictors of changes and progression in MS using measures of the eye.

Daniel Harrison, M.D.

University of Maryland, Baltimore
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$43,958
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“Is leptomeningeal contrast enhancement on 7 Tesla FLAIR MRI related to meningeal lymphoid follicles?” Exploring whether inflammation is present in progressive MS using high field MRI.

Michael Kornberg, M.D., Ph.D.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: NMSS-ABF Clinician Scientist Award

Category: Biochem./Biophysics
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$259,590
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“The role and therapeutic potential of nitric oxide-induced nuclear GAPDH signaling in multiple sclerosis.” Researchers at Johns Hopkins University are conducting preliminary lab tests to understand whether a therapy called selegiline may be useful for treating MS by blocking the harmful effects of a molecule called nitric oxide.

Ellen Mowry, M.D., M.P.H.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Harry Weaver Neuroscience Scholar Award

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$781,377
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/20

“A pilot study of intermittent calorie restriction in multiple sclerosis” Researchers at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore are doing a pilot trial testing the safety and tolerability of a diet that intermittently restricts calorie intake as a treatment for disease activity in people with MS.

Ellen Mowry, M.D.,M.P.H.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$1,728,703
Term: 4/1/11-3/31/19

“A randomized controlled trial of vitamin D supplementation in multiple sclerosis” A clinical trial investigating whether vitamin D supplements can alter disease activity in people with MS who are taking a standard therapy.

Funded by a gift from the National MS Society Greater Delaware Valley Chapter

Scott Newsome, D.O.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$266,907
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“A Phase 1b, open-label study to evaluate the safety and tolerability of the putative remyelinating agent, liothyronine, in individuals with MS” Johns Hopkins University researchers are performing a pilot clinical trial of people with MS to test a new therapy called liothyronine for its potential to improve repair of nerve-insulating myelin and protect nerve fibers.

Jiwon Oh, M.D., Ph.D.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$500,000
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“Leptomeningeal Inflammation in Multiple Sclerosis: A Prospective MRI Study” Johns Hopkins University researchers are exploring a novel imaging finding that may yield clues to understanding and stopping the progression of MS.

Jennifer Orthmann-Murphy, M.D., Ph.D.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: NMSS-ABF Clinician Scientist Award

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$263,622
Term: 9/1/14-8/31/17

“The role of reactive astrocytes in cortical demyelinating lesions” How do brain cells called astrocytes contribute to destructive processes active in MS?

Thomas Shoemaker, M.D.

Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/18

“MS Clinical Trials Fellowship” A promising doctor at Johns Hopkins University will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Barbara Slusher, Ph.D.

The Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$654,166
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Development of 2-PMPA prodrugs for the treatment of cognitive impairment in multiple sclerosis”

Researchers at Johns Hopkins University are developing versions of a promising compound for possible use in improving cognitive function in MS.

Katharine Whartenby, Ph.D.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Infectious Agents
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$731,878
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Mechanisms of Increased Morbidity and Mortality of Influenza Infections in People with MS”

Researchers at Johns Hopkins University are studying mice with MS-like disease that are infected with flu virus to investigate why flu is dangerous for people with MS.

Martina Absinta, M.D.

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$191,042
Term: 1/1/16-12/31/18

“Chronic Inflammation and Remyelination Failure in MS Lesions: in vivo and Postmortem Investigation of Chronic Lesions with Phase Rims” Researchers at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda are using an advanced type of MRI to examine lesions with subtle inflammation in the brains of people with MS to better understand how inflammation affects myelin repair.

Erin Beck, M.D., Ph.D.

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: NMSS-AAN Clinician Scientist Development Awards

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$194,394
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Characterization of the pathophysiology, dynamics, and clinical implications of cortical demyelination in MS” Researchers at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke are improving magnetic resonance imaging to allow better monitoring of disease progression in people with MS.

Alessandra De Paula Alves Sousa, Ph.D.

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$161,040
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Deep sequencing of T-cell receptor repertoire in patients with neurological immune-mediated disorders” Researchers at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke are using advanced technology to identify immune cell abnormalities in people with MS, for clues to improving treatment approaches.

Dzung Pham, Ph.D.

Henry M. Jackson Foundation
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$576,675
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Imaging Biomarker Discovery With Advanced Brain Segmentation Algorithms” Researchers at the National Institutes of Health are developing software tools to automatically measure MRI-detected brain lesions in MS to improve diagnosis and clinical trials.

Matthew Schindler, M.D., Ph.D.

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: NMSS-ABF Clinician Scientist Award

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$263,622
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“Advanced imaging of acute lesion formation and repair in patients with relapse remitting multiple sclerosis” Improving MRI to allow more rapid assessment of disease progression and to improve drug discovery.

David Scott, Ph.D.

Henry M. Jackson Foundation
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$163,909
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Generation and function of engineered CNS-specific human and murine T regulatory cells” Investigators at Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in Bethesda are engineering novel cells and molecules aimed at stopping MS immune attacks and progression.

Ai-Hong Zhang, Ph.D.

Henry M. Jackson Foundation
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: 44000PENDING
Term: 11/1/16-10/31/17

“BAR regulatory T cell therapy for targeting CNS antigen-specific B cells” Testing the feasibility of targeting brain-specific immune B cells with other immune cells to treat MS.

Christopher Jewell, Ph.D.

University of Maryland - College Park
College Park, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$598,715
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Harnessing intra-lymph node controlled release to promote myelin-specific tolerance” Researchers at the University of Maryland are investigating a strategy that may help turn off the harmful aspects of the immune system that occur in MS while leaving beneficial functions of the immune system intact.

Joe Gasper, Ph.D.

Westat
Rockville, Maryland
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$989,434
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Cost-Benefit Analysis of Multiple Sclerosis Adult Day Programs” Westat investigators are surveying benefits and costs of MS adult day programs to document their impact on quality of life for people with MS and their caregivers, to expand their availability.

Funded by a gift from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

MASSACHUSETTS

Jane Kent, Ph.D.

University of Massachusetts Amherst
Amherst, Massachusetts
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,421
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Foot Tap Speed: A Biomarker for Mobility in MS?” Evaluating the usefulness of foot tap speed as a way of predicting changes in mobility in people with MS.

Barbara Osborne, Ph.D.

University of Massachusetts Amherst
Amherst, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$462,000
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“The Role of Notch Family Members in the Development of EAE” University of Massachusetts at Amherst researchers are investigating how specific proteins are important in immune attacks, results of which may suggest a new therapeutic target for treating MS.

Clare Baecher-Allan, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$593,988
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Extracellular Granzyme B mediated regulation of Treg function and immune responses in MS” Researchers at Brigham and Women’s Hospital are studying ways to restore regulation of immune system activity as a promising approach to developing better MS therapies.

Oleg Butovsky, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$248,010
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Mechanism of regulation of CNS inflammation by microglia” Exploring how one type of brain cell is both harmful and helpful in MS.

John Chen, M.D., Ph.D.

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$591,389
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Myeloperoxidase in multiple sclerosis” Researchers at Harvard are using MRI to track a harmful inflammatory molecule called MPO as a possible biomarker of disease activity, and devising ways to block its effects as a potential treatment for MS.

Tanuja Chitnis, M.D.

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$492,718
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Patient-family views on pediatric MS research needs, outcomes, and methods” Researchers at Harvard Medical School are gathering opinions about research priorities related to pediatric MS from parents of children and teenagers with MS, and adults with pediatric-onset MS.

Yulin Ge, M.D.

New York University School of Medicine
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/17

“pH-weighted MRI in multiple sclerosis: A surrogate marker of tissue metabolic stress” Investigating whether measuring pH levels in the brain is linked to MS progression or tissue injury for clues to stopping MS.

Stefanie Giera, Ph.D.

Boston Children's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$178,391
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Characterization of a novel G protein-coupled receptor in oligodendrocyte development”

Researchers at Boston Children’s Hospital are investigating the importance of a specific molecule in the ability of myelin-making cells to mature and make nerve-insulating myelin, for clues to promoting myelin repair in MS.

The Thorsten Eickenhorst Postdoctoral Fellowship

Bonnie Glanz, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“A Phase I Randomized Controlled Trial to Improve Speed of Information Processing in Patients with Multiple Sclerosis” A trial testing a method of computerized cognitive rehabilitation in MS.

Murugaiyan Gopal, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$539,320
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“MicroRNA Control of Inflammatory T cells in EAE and MS” Researchers at Harvard Medical School are investigating how a small, naturally occurring molecule regulates the function of harmful types of immune cells in MS.

Murugaiyan Gopal, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/17

“MicroRNA control of myeloid cell function in EAE” Investigating a novel strategy for stopping the immune attack in MS.

Charles Guttman, M.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$651,000
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Neurogenic Determinants of Fatigue in MS” Researchers at Harvard Medical School are investigating the relationship between fatigue in people with MS and damage to a particular circuit in the brain using advanced imaging techniques.

Elena Herranz Muelas, Ph.D.

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$111,145
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/18

“In vivo MR-PET imaging of glial activation and its correlates in MS” Researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School are investigating new brain imaging methods for inflammation to increase understanding of MS disease progression and response to treatment.

Samia Khoury, M.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$619,990
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/17

“Transcriptional Regulation of the Resistance of Memory T Cells in EAE” Can the behavior of a type of immune system cell be altered to treat MS?

Gang Li, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“High throughput screen to identify functional SNPs on MS-associated loci revealed by GWAS” Pinpointing precisely the genetic variations associated with the cause of MS.

Charlotte Madore, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$161,218
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Targeting ApoE pathway to restore unique microglial properties in EAE.” Researchers at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston are exploring the role of immune cells in the brain called microglia and their possible role in nervous system damage in people with MS.

Caterina Mainero, M.D., Ph.D.

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$705,149
Term: 4/1/13-3/31/17

“Cortical Inflammation and Demyelination in Multiple Sclerosis by Combined PET and MRI”
Developing better ways to visualize nervous system damage in people with secondary-progressive MS.

Sarah Minden, M.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$622,531
Term: 11/1/09-10/31/17

“A comprehensive analysis of the direct and indirect costs of multiple sclerosis” Documenting the complete costs of MS to individuals and society, providing much-needed statistics to aid advocacy for improved health care and quality of life.

Sarah Minden, M.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$698,337
Term: 10/1/12-9/30/17

“Financial implications of informal (unpaid) caregiving” The economic impacts for family members who provide care to people with MS.

Sarah Minden, M.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$316,266
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/17

“Sonya Slifka Longitudinal Multiple Sclerosis Study Phase III” Analyzing and making available data from people with MS to answer a wide range questions about issues faced by people living with MS.

Sarah Minden, M.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$329,613
Term: 10/1/11-9/30/17

“The impact of out of pocket health-related costs on people with MS and their families” A detailed analyses of what people with MS spend on out-of-pocket health care costs and how this affects care and quality of life.

Kassandra Munger, D.Sc.

Harvard School of Public Health
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$259,711
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Sodium intake and multiple sclerosis risk and progression” Does a high-salt diet contribute to causing MS or making it worse?

Brant Oliver, Ph.D., M.P.H.

MGH Institute of Health Professions
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$244,175
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“Understanding the impact of nurse practitioners and physician assistants in multiple sclerosis care: A three part study of utilization, quality, and patient experience.” Researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital are exploring how nurse practitioners and physician assistants may be able to assist neurologist in providing access to care for individuals with MS.

Natalia Palacios, Ph.D.

Harvard School of Public Health
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$76,553
Term: 10/1/15-TBD

“Air Pollution and Risk of Multiple Sclerosis” Investigators at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School are exploring whether exposure to air pollution is associated with risk of MS.

Kevin Patel, M.D.

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: NMSS-ABF Clinician Scientist Award

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$184,890
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Functional connectivity changes underlying cognitive decline in early multiple sclerosis - evidence of compensatory function or sequelae of structural compromise?” Researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital are using imaging to understand the relationship between cognitive problems in people with MS and differences in connections between various parts of the brain.

Funded in part by a gift from a generous donor

Nikolaos Patsopoulos, M.D., Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$511,121
Term: 7/1/14-3/31/18

“Identification of the MS specific and the shared with other autoimmune diseases genetic component and their functional impact” What can we learn by comparing genetic risk factors between MS and other immune-mediated and autoimmune diseases?

Funded in part by a gift from the CFMS Foundation

Xianhua Piao, M.D., Ph.D.

Boston Children's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$660,000
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“The role of GPR56 in CNS myelination and myelin repair” Investigators at Boston Children's Hospital are studying a protein involved in the growth of nerve-insulating myelin as a possible mechanism for stimulating myelin repair in MS.

Francisco Quintana, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: International Progressive MS Alliance

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: OVER\$4M TBD
Term: 1/1/17-12/31/20

“Development of a drug discovery pipeline for secondary progressive MS” Exploring mechanisms underlying MS and identifying existing and new therapies that could be repurposed for treating progressive MS.

Funded by an anonymous donor

Francisco Quintana, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Harry Weaver Neuroscience Scholar Award

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$766,186
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/19

“Role of astrocytes in multiple sclerosis and experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis” What role do brain cells called astrocytes play in progressive MS?

Francisco Quintana, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$624,082
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“Therapeutic and environmental control of astrocyte function during autoimmune neuroinflammation” Researchers at Brigham & Women’s Hospital are exploring an immune mechanism that may contribute to MS progression and may open doors to wellness strategies aimed at stopping progression.

Frank Schildberg, Ph.D.

Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$178,391
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Cell type-specific functions of PD-L1 in controlling EAE” Researchers at Harvard are exploring the mechanisms by which a molecule seems to control the initiation and resolution of EAE of MS-like disease.

Stephanie Tankou, M.D., Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: NMSS-ABF Clinician Scientist Award

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$191,042
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Investigation of the role of elevated archaea species in the microbiome of patients with MS.”

Researchers at The Brigham and Women's Hospital are studying the relationship between a specific type of gut microbe and immune function and disease severity in people with MS.

Funded in part by a gift from a generous donor

Howard Weiner, M.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$528,624
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Investigation of Pathogenic Gene Signature of Human TH17 cells in Multiple Sclerosis”

Researchers at Harvard Medical School are looking at genetic differences in a specific type of immune cell (“Th17”) which can be both harmful and beneficial in people with MS, to provide a strategy for more specific therapies.

Howard Weiner, M.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: TBD
Term: TBD-TBD

“SUMMIT: Stopping Progressive MS” SUMMIT (Serially Unified Multicenter Multiple Sclerosis Investigation) establishes an open research platform for identifying factors that influence the course of MS, with the goal of predicting and preventing progression.

Chuan Wu, M.D., Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$492,287
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/19

“High salt diet influences the development of autoimmunity via inducible salt sensing kinase SGK1”

How might dietary salt influence the behavior of immune cells in MS?

David Sabatini, M.D., Ph.D.

Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Uncovering the mechanism of dimethyl fumarate and the molecular pathways of autoimmunity using CRISPR-based functional genomics” Exploring the mechanism of action of one therapy approved to treat people with MS.

Ellen Bassuk, M.D.

Center for Social Innovation
Newton Centre, Massachusetts
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$297,016
Term: 7/1/09-12/31/16

“Qualitative research in care giver abuse” Developing instruments for people with MS and their caregivers that will detect abuse by caregivers with the aim of better detecting and preventing this problem in people with MS.

Robert McBurney, Ph.D.

Accelerated Cure Project for MS
Waltham, Massachusetts
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$375,000
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“The Optimizing Treatment - Understanding Progression (OPT-UP) Clinical Research Study”

Testing a way to recruit participants in a study integrated with clinical care to investigate factors that influence the risk of MS progression.

MICHIGAN

Tiffany Braley, M.D.

University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Award: Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$827,967
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/19

“A randomized trial of positive airway pressure therapy to treat cognitive dysfunction in MS patients with obstructive sleep apnea” University of Michigan researchers will determine whether a commonly used treatment for sleep apnea could improve cognitive performance in people with MS who also have sleep apnea.

Amanda Huber, Ph.D.

University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$175,804
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“Type-I Interferon regulation of lymphoid chemokines in MS and EAE.” Developing an approach to predicting a persons response to interferon beta therapy.

Paula Dore-Duffy (RPAC), Ph.D.

Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 4/1/15-12/31/16

“Human Fat Pericytes induce repair in the Cuprizone Model of chemically induced demyelination” Determining whether a novel type of adult stem cell can promote repair in MS models.

Shailendra Giri, Ph.D.

Henry Ford Health Sciences Center
Detroit, Michigan
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$387,621
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“A Metabolomics approach for identifying metabolite signature in disease progression” Researchers at the Henry Ford Health Science Center in Detroit are analyzing blood samples from people with progressive MS to develop a blood test that may be useful for predicting disease course.

Alexander Gow, Ph.D.

Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$663,959
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Neurodegeneration associated with metabolic stress in oligodendrocytes” Wayne State University researchers in Detroit are determining whether processes beyond immune attacks are responsible for nervous system damage in an MS-like disease in mice, for novel approaches to stop MS.

Robert Lisak, M.D.

Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$710,556
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“B Cell Secretory Factors and Neuronal and Oligodendroglial Toxicity” Studying toxic substances made by immune cells that may cause nervous system damage in MS.

MINNESOTA**Jacob Hines, Ph.D.**

Winona State University
Aurora, Minnesota
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$104,162
Term: 8/1/14-6/30/17

“Activity-dependent regulation of oligodendrocyte gene expression and myelination” Studying signals that control the growth of nerve-insulating myelin, for clues to finding a way to repair myelin to restore function in MS.

Wensheng Lin, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$561,891
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Oligodendrocyte impact on neurodegeneration in the experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis mouse model of multiple sclerosis” Seeking Ways to protect myelin-making cells and nerve fibers from damage in MS.

Claudia Lucchinetti, M.D., Ph.D.

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
Rochester, Minnesota
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$825,000
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/21

“Metabolic Dysfunction in MS Pathogenesis and Disease Progression: The Donald C. McGraw Foundation Collaborative MS Research Center” A multi-center team at Mayo Clinic is taking a novel approach to studying nerve cells and possible ways to protect them from injury in MS and stopping MS progression.

Funded by The Donald C. McGraw Foundation

Isobel Scarisbrick, Ph.D.

Mayo Clinic Rochester
Rochester, Minnesota
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$607,111
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Targeting Protease Activated Receptor 1 to Promote Myelin Repair” Researchers at the Mayo Clinic are investigating the importance of a molecule called PAR1 in myelin protection and repair to determine if currently approved drugs that target PAR1 for treatment of other diseases could be used to treat people with MS.

MISSOURI

Jared Bruce, Ph.D.

University of Missouri - Kansas City
Kansas, Missouri
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$315,341
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“Development of a treatment decision model in MS” Researchers at the University of Missouri are developing a model that will explain how people with MS weigh risks and benefits when deciding whether or not to take a disease-modifying therapy.

Claudia Cantoni, Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$172,444
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Role of miR-223 in multiple sclerosis and its animal model” Researchers at Washington University in St. Louis are examining the role of a molecule that may play a role in regulating immune attacks in MS.

Anne Cross, M.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$576,380
Term: 7/1/12-6/30/17

“Gradient Echo Plural Contrast Imaging to Better Understand MS” Evaluating the potential of a new MRI technique as a more sensitive measure of MS disease activity.

Daniel Hawiger, M.D., Ph.D.

Saint Louis University
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$608,376
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Hopx-dependent immunoregulation of EAE by dendritic cell-induced regulatory T cells” What role does a protein called Hopx play in determining whether the immune system will attack the brain and spinal cord in MS?

Robyn Klein, M.D., Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$662,812
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Targeting S1PR2 to prevent Disease Progression in females with CNS autoimmunity” Investigators at Washington University School of Medicine are investigating a molecule that appears to be involved in sex differences and possibly disease progression, in a model of MS and in people with MS.

Robyn Klein, M.D., Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/17

“IFN-λ signaling and regulation of leukocyte entry into the central nervous system (CNS)”

Exploring a strategy for promoting recovery from the immune attack in a mouse model of MS.

Tsen-Hsuan (Abby) Lin, Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$114,963
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/18

“Imaging optic nerve function and pathologies in MS” Researchers at Washington University School of Medicine are developing imaging methods to visualize damage in the eye and relate this damage to visual function in people with MS.

Erin Longbrake, M.D., Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/13-2/28/17

“Clinical and Translational Research Training in Multiple Sclerosis” Developing the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Funded by a gift from an Anonymous Donor

Kelly Monk, Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Harry Weaver Neuroscience Scholar Award

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$521,023
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/21

“Molecular mechanisms that govern oligodendrocyte biology” compound to prevent or delay neurodegeneration in progressive MS.

Robert Naismith, M.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$40,658
Term: 10/1/15-12/31/16

“Retinal Dysfunction in Acute and Chronic Optic Neuritis by Electroretinography” Using a variety of imaging techniques and testing of the eyes to track MS inflammation and disease activity.

John Russell, Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$657,878
Term: 10/1/13-3/31/17

“Regulation of CNS lesion localization by T cell/APC interactions” What determines the location of lesions in MS?

Sheng-Kwei Song, Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$578,247
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Understanding the pathophysiology underlying MS progression” Improving the visualization of damage to the optic nerve in an MS model to better understand MS progression.

Yong Wang, Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$201,549
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Correlating MS cervical spinal cord pathologies defined by novel diffusion MRI with clinical measures” Improving imaging techniques to detect changes in the brain and spinal cord of people with MS.

Jie Wen, Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$64,133
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/17

“Quantification of MS Tissue damage in both brain and spinal cord by using tissue specific quantitative parameters on MRI” Using novel imaging to understand mechanisms underlying the damage of nerve tissue in MS.

Jessica Williams, Ph.D.

Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$169,946
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“Mechanisms of CXCL12-mediated remyelination” The role of a family of molecules called chemokines in brain repair.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Lloyd Kasper, M.D.

Trustees of Dartmouth College
Hanover, New Hampshire
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$719,852
Term: 7/1/12-6/30/17

“Regulation of immunity by gut commensal bacteria in multiple sclerosis” Looking at whether a molecule produced by common bacteria in the intestines may hold promise for treating MS or provide clues to how MS is triggered.

Funded by a gift from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

Heather Wishart, Ph.D.

Trustees of Dartmouth College
Hanover, New Hampshire
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$315,248
Term: 7/1/12-9/30/17

“Imaging the neural basis of pain in patients with MS” Using advanced MRI analysis to determine how the brain regions associated with pain are affected by MS.

NEW JERSEY

Cheryl Dreyfus, Ph.D.

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Piscataway, New Jersey
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$607,161
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“The role of glial cell-derived factors in a cuprizone model of MS” Rutgers University researchers are investigating new molecules that may be capable of protecting cells that make nerve-insulating myelin, with the goal of preventing degeneration of myelin and enhancing its repair in people with MS.

Teresa Wood, Ph.D.

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Piscataway, New Jersey
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$706,998
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“mTOR Signaling Targets and Pathway Intersections in Oligodendrocyte Differentiation and Myelination” Researchers at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, are investigating the role of a molecule called mTOR and associated molecules in enhancing myelin repair.

Nancy Chiaravalloti, Ph.D.

Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$748,576
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/18

“Speed of Processing Training to Improve Cognition in MS: A Randomized Clinical Trial” Can a training program to improve the speed of processing information help people with MS?

John DeLuca, Ph.D.

Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$821,585
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/19

“MS Collaborative Network of New Jersey” What is the connection between cognitive and motor functions in people with MS?

John DeLuca, Ph.D.

Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$382,865
Term: 7/1/12-6/30/17

“MS Fellowship in Neuropsychological Rehabilitation” Training postdoctoral fellows for success in careers dedicated to research in cognitive rehabilitation to improve the lives of people with MS.

John DeLuca, Ph.D.

Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,947
Term: 9/1/14-8/31/17

“Testing the Effects of Methylphenidate on Cognitive Fatigue in MS: a Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized Clinical Trial” Testing the Effects of Methylphenidate on Cognitive Fatigue in MS: a Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized Clinical Trial

Ekaterina Dobryakova, Ph.D.

Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$407,888
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“The Effect of Feedback Presentation on the Fronto-Striatal Network Activity and Fatigue in Individuals with MS.” Researchers at the Kessler Foundation are investigating whether a rehabilitation technique known as “feedback presentation” can relieve fatigue experienced by people with MS.

Helen Genova, Ph.D.

Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$479,784
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Remediation of Emotional Processing Deficits in MS: A Randomized Clinical Trial” Researchers at the Kessler Foundation are testing a strategy aimed at improving emotional processing abilities in individuals with MS.

Lauren Strober, Ph.D.

Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$513,495
Term: 10/1/14-3/31/18

“Standardization and Normative Data of the Symbol Digit Modalities Test-Oral Version” Improving a test that measures cognitive function.

Lauren Strober, Ph.D.

Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“The SEMS Project: Staying Employed with Multiple Sclerosis” Testing a comprehensive intervention that may help people with MS to stay employed.

NEW MEXICO

Oscar Bizzozero, Ph.D.

University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$374,695
Term: 10/1/13-3/31/17

“Impaired activity of the proteasome activator PA28 in multiple sclerosis” Is impaired removal of damaged proteins a possible contributor to the development of MS?

NEW YORK

Pierfilippo De Sanctis, Ph.D.

Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Bronx, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,015
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Biomarkers of impaired dual-task walking abilities in multiple sclerosis: A Mobile Brain-Body Imaging (MOBI) Study” Biomarkers of impaired dual-task walking abilities in multiple sclerosis: A Mobile Brain-Body Imaging (MOBI) Study

Bridget Shafit-Zagardo, Ph.D.

Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Bronx, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$683,959
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Functional Consequences of Altered AKT3 Signaling” Researchers at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine are examining the role of a molecule called AKT3, which may be capable of protecting against MS immune attacks.

Ralph Benedict, Ph.D.

State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$1,053,919
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/20

“The Role of Cognitive Dysfunction in Defining MS Relapses and Freedom from Disease Activity” Researchers at the State University of New York at Buffalo are investigating the importance of cognitive problems in MS relapses to more precisely define disease activity during relapses and the absence of disease activity during periods of remission.

M. Laura Feltri, M.D.

State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$596,537
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Characterization of a novel inhibitor of myelination: MAPK12/P38MAPKgamma.” Does a natural inhibitor of nerve-insulating myelin have potential as a target for myelin repair in MS?

Janet Shucard, Ph.D.

State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 6/1/14-TBD

“Does working memory training improve brain function and cognition in MS?” Testing a training program for improving cognitive function in MS.

Fraser Sim, Ph.D.

State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$554,974
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/17

“Muscarinic receptor regulation of oligodendrocyte differentiation” Can an FDA-approved therapy promote the repair of nerve-insulating myelin?

Bianca Weinstock-Guttman, M.D.

State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$99,468
Term: 10/1/15-TBD

“Investigation of factors related to stable disease in an aging MS sample as indicators of reduced burden of disease.” Researchers at the University of Buffalo are investigating what factors contribute to disability progression in people with MS who are age 60 or over.

Oluwasheyi Ayeni, M.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/18

“Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowship” A promising doctor at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Laura Balcer, M.D.

New York University School of Medicine
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$374,381
Term: 10/1/12-9/30/17

“Mechanisms of retinal neurodegeneration and visual pathway axonal loss in MS” Scanning the eye for clues to understanding nervous system damage and to track repair in MS.

Patrizia Casaccia, M.D., Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$548,483
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Understanding the role of gene/environment interaction in oligodendrocytes” Mount Sinai School of Medicine researchers are exploring how environmental factors can be harmful or protective to the cells that maintain myelin and are damaged in the course of MS.

Leigh Charvet, Ph.D.

New York University Langone Medical Center
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$210,208
Term: 4/1/13-3/31/17

“Plasticity-based, adaptive, computerized cognitive remediation treatment (PACR) for adults with Multiple Sclerosis (MS)” Evaluating a web-based program to help improve memory and learning in people with MS.

Leigh Charvet, Ph.D.

New York University School of Medicine
New York, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,486
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“A pilot study of remotely-supervised transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) in adults with multiple sclerosis (MS)” Testing an at-home method of delivering mild electrical stimulation to improve MS symptoms.

Valentina Fossati, Ph.D.

The New York Stem Cell Foundation
New York, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,607
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“In vitro human myelination platform based on stem cell-derived oligodendrocyte progenitor cells” Using novel technology to generate human myelin-making cells in the laboratory, for clues to stimulating repair in MS.

Matilde Inglese, M.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$664,214
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Multimodal longitudinal imaging in progressive MS” Using advanced imaging to track and understand nervous system changes that lead to progression in people with primary-progressive MS.

Gareth John, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$103,125
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Kruppel-like factor-6 signaling in myelin formation and repair.” Exploring the importance of a protein called Klf6 in the repair of nerve-insulating myelin in MS.

Gareth John, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$103,125
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Reactive astrocytes control leukocyte and humoral trafficking into the CNS” Mount Sinai researchers are investigating cells and proteins that control entry of harmful immune cells and molecules into the brain for clues to stopping this influx in MS.

Christoph Juchem, Ph.D.

Columbia University
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$390,031
Term: 9/1/16-3/31/18

“In Vivo Metabolomics of Oxidative Stress with 7 Tesla Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy”

Researchers at Columbia are using two imaging techniques to determine the distribution and importance of the antioxidant glutathione in the brains of people with MS.

Herbert Karpatkin, D.Sc., P.T.

Hunter College
New York, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,991
Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“Effect of acupuncture on mobility, sensorimotor impairments, and quality of life in persons with Multiple Sclerosis” A clinical trial to determine whether acupuncture can improve symptoms in 30 people with MS.

Ilana Katz Sand, M.D., Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 10/1/15-TBD

“Effect of Amiloride on Brain Sodium and Neurodegeneration in MS” Exploring whether detecting salt levels in the brain can serve as an outcome measure of disease activity and recovery in clinical trials involving people with MS.

Ilana Katz Sand, M.D., Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$161,975
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/18

“Pilot Study of a Dietary Intervention for Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York are exploring the potential of a dietary approach to improving health and wellness in people with MS.

Lauren Krupp, M.D.

New York University Langone Medical Center
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$1,046,676
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/20

“The neurodevelopmental influence of pediatric versus adult onset MS on cognition” Researchers at New York University are studying how MS affects cognitive abilities in children and adolescents, to help guide interventions.

Juan Lafaille, Ph.D.

New York University Langone Medical Center
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$676,900
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“The role of the innate immune system in Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis” Do specific immune cells hold the key to stopping MS?

Victoria Leavitt, Ph.D.

Columbia University
New York, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,771
Term: 10/1/15-3/31/17

“Brain Temperature in Multiple Sclerosis: Advancing Our Understanding and Treatment of Fatigue” Administering aspirin to people with relapsing MS, to see if treatment can lower brain temperature, and reduce fatigue.

Victoria Leavitt, Ph.D.

Columbia University
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$558,130
Term: 8/1/14-3/31/19

“Resting State Functional Connectivity as a Predictor of Memory Decline in Multiple Sclerosis” Looking for a way to predict who will experience memory decline due to MS so that treatments to slow or prevent it can be started early.

Sarah Moyon, Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$175,431
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Investigating the role of DNA methylation and hydroxymethylation in adult oligodendrocyte progenitor cells during remyelination” Researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York are investigating age-related changes to genes that may affect the maturation of cells needed to repair myelin, which is damaged in MS.

New York University School of Medicine

New York, New York
Award: Fast Forward Commercial/Drug Development

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$598,950
Term: 9/23/15-TBD

“Enhancing Remyelination by Targeting Gli1” Developing a potential therapy that promotes myelin repair by stimulating the body's repair mechanisms.

Thanh Nguyen, Ph.D.

Weill Cornell Medical College
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$897,375
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/20

“Quantitative MRI of lesion iron and myelin repair” Weill Cornell Medical College researchers are testing and validating a novel imaging technique for use in determining how iron in MS lesions in the brain may affect myelin repair.

Julia Patzig, Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$182,327
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“The impact of nuclear structure on oligodendrocyte development and pathology.” Researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York are asking whether a molecule called LmnA, which is present in the nucleus of many cells including those that make myelin, is involved in normal myelin synthesis and in the loss of myelin.

James Salzer, M.D., Ph.D.

New York University School of Medicine
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$610,536
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“Role of Adult Neural Stem Cells in Remyelination” Researchers at New York University are exploring how to stimulate the brain’s own stem cells to promote the repair of nerve-insulating myelin.

James Sumowski, Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,999
Term: 11/1/16-10/31/17

“Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial of Atomoxetine to Treat Memory Impairment in MS Patients” Testing a therapy for its ability to address memory problems in people with MS.

Wendy Vargas, M.D.

Columbia University
New York, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Educational Outcomes of Cognitive Dysfunction in Pediatric Multiple Sclerosis” Studying academic performance in children with MS for clues to early intervention to address cognitive problems.

Timothy Vartanian, M.D., Ph.D.

Weill Cornell Medical College
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$495,000
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Modeling Nascent Lesion Formation in Multiple Sclerosis” Does a toxin derived from bacteria play a role in early MS damage?

Prevalence Workgroup,

Multiple Institutions
 New York, New York
 Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
 Contracts

Category: Epidemiology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$1,483,804
 Term: 7/1/13-12/31/17

“Prevalence Workgroup” Special initiative to ascertain the prevalence of multiple sclerosis in the United States

Lin Wu, Ph.D.

New York University School of Medicine
 New York, New York
 Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$169,946
 Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“Characterization of protein dynamics and function in Th17 cell differentiation” Investigating how immune cells control disease for clues to developing new therapies for MS.

Andrew Smith, M.D.

University of Rochester
 Rochester, New York
 Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$195,000
 Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Experimental Therapeutics Fellowship in Multiple Sclerosis” A promising doctor at the University of Rochester will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Adan Aguirre, Ph.D.

State University of New York at Stony Brook
 Stony Brook, New York
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Funding: \$446,025
 Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“Role of TGF-beta in oligodendrogenesis and myelin repair” Researchers at the State University of New York, Stony Brook, are exploring the role of a molecule in stimulating myelin-making cells to repair nerve-insulating myelin in MS.

Styliani-Anna (Stella) Tsirka, Ph.D.

State University of New York at Stony Brook
 Stony Brook, New York
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Funding: \$44,000
 Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“Enhancing myelination in EAE/MS” Investigating a strategy for both battling inflammation and improving repair in MS.

NORTH CAROLINA**Jenny Ting, Ph.D.**

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 Chapel Hill, North Carolina
 Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Funding: \$825,000
 Term: 4/1/14-3/31/19

“Preclinical Therapeutic Development for Multiple Sclerosis” Testing therapies to stop the immune attack and protect the nervous system.

Maria Ciofani, Ph.D.

Duke University Medical Center
Charlotte, North Carolina
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$629,860
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Network approach to dissecting genetic mediators of Multiple Sclerosis” Duke University Medical Center researchers are using new technologies to identify genes that are expressed in certain types of cells and that may contribute to causing MS.

Nancie MacIver, M.D., Ph.D.

Duke University Medical Center
Charlotte, North Carolina
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$473,018
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Identifying molecular mechanisms by which leptin and nutrition target T cell immunity in multiple sclerosis” Duke University Medical Center researchers are exploring whether a nutrition-regulated hormone called leptin may contribute to immune-system activity in MS.

Funded in part by a gift from a generous donor

Mari Shinohara, Ph.D.

Duke University Medical Center
Charlotte, North Carolina
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$660,554
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Study on innate immune inflammation that enhances EAE” Understanding differences in response to MS treatment by looking at MS models.

Mari Shinohara, Ph.D.

Duke University Medical Center
Charlotte, North Carolina
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Unexpected role of a C-type lectin receptor to protect animals from EAE” Exploring an immune system molecule that protects mice from developing MS-like disease, for clues to stopping the attack in MS.

Michael Halpern, M.D., Ph.D.

RTI International
Raleigh, North Carolina
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$86,492
Term: 7/1/13-6/30/17

“Secondary Analysis of Existing Data Sets: Level of Care and Cost Differences between MS Patients Receiving Care at MS Centers versus at Neurology Outpatient Practices” Understanding the care received by people with MS at MS centers vs. private practice to ensure quality care for all people with MS

Heather Kane, Ph.D.

RTI International
Raleigh, North Carolina
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$214,840
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“To what extent are nurse practitioners and physician assistants utilized in MS and what impact do they have on costs, clinical outcomes, and patient satisfaction?” Researchers at RTI International and University of Arizona are exploring how nurse practitioners and physician assistants may assist neurologists in providing access to care for individuals with MS.

OHIO

Qing Lu, Ph.D.

Children's Hospital Medical Center - Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$750,051
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Histone deacetylase control of CNS myelination and remyelination” Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center researchers are focusing on how an enzyme controls myelin growth and repair, with a future possibility of stimulating this enzyme to repair myelin in people with MS.

Qing Lu, Ph.D.

Children's Hospital Medical Center - Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$698,640
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Long non-coding RNA control of CNS myelination and remyelination” Researchers at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center are investigating the possible role of a type of molecule called long noncoding RNA that may regulate repair of myelin, which is destroyed in MS.

Ranjan Dutta, Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$464,151
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Pathogenesis of cortical demyelination underlying progressive disability in multiple sclerosis” Researchers at the Cleveland Clinic are examining the brains of people with MS to understand differences between the damage caused by primary-progressive and secondary-progressive MS in search of ways to stop progression.

Robert Fox, M.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$416,686
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“A Study of Benefit and Risk in People with MS” Researchers at the Cleveland Clinic are probing the perspectives of people with MS in terms of perceived benefits and risks of MS therapies to better inform the development and approval of future therapies.

Robert Fox, M.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management
of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$592,151
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/18

“Ibudilast Clinical Trial” Clinical trial to test whether ibudilast, a re-purposed therapy, can protect the nervous system and slow or stop progressive MS

Funded by a gift from the National MS Society Greater Delaware Valley Chapter

Xiaoxia Li, Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$636,194
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Cellular and molecular mechanisms of the inflammasome in CNS inflammation” Identifying potential targets for turning off immune attacks in MS.

Mark Lowe, Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$658,575
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/17

“MRI-DTI and Functional Connectivity as Measures of Disease Progression in MS” Using powerful brain MRI to develop a better way to track MS disease progression.

Kedar Mahajan, M.D., Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: NMSS-AAN Clinician Scientist Development
Awards

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$194,394
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Magnetic resonance fingerprinting and pathology correlations in multiple sclerosis” Cleveland Clinic investigators are using novel imaging and tissue studies to understand how MS impacts an area deep in the brain, called the thalamus, and how its injury contributes to disability.

Marisa McGinley, D.O.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Training in multiple sclerosis diagnosis, management, and clinical trials” A promising doctor at Cleveland Clinic will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Deborah Miller, Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$444,120
Term: 10/1/12-9/30/17

“INFORMS:Improving Neuro-QOLs Functionality for Outcomes Research in Multiple Sclerosis” Developing a way to assess MS symptoms with a standardized patient-reported questionnaire.

Deborah Miller, Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$545,144
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“Assessing Access, Change, Concerns, and Consequences of People with MS Regarding Four Types of Personal Insurances” Researchers at Cleveland Clinic are evaluating the availability and concerns around available insurance coverage for individuals with MS and their families.

Booki Min, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$610,718
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“IL-27-conditioned Foxp3+ regulatory T cells, a novel Treg therapy to treat autoimmune inflammation in the CNS” Researchers at the Cleveland Clinic are exploring a novel way of reducing the immune attack on the brain and spinal cord that occurs in MS.

Daniel Ontaneda, M.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$43,999
Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“Vitamin D levels in Progressive Multiple Sclerosis” Exploring extensive data to determine the feasibility of a trial testing vitamin D in people with progressive MS.

Matthew Plow, Ph.D.

Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$287,941
Term: 2/1/14-TBD

“Evaluating the effects of physical activity and fatigue management strategies” Developing methods for teleconferencing based support to help people with MS manage fatigue and improve physical activity.
Funded by a gift from the National MS Society South Central Region

Andrew Smith, M.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Training in multiple sclerosis diagnosis, management, and clinical trials” A promising doctor at the Cleveland Clinic will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Anette van Boxel-Dezaire, M.Sc., Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$440,000
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“The gut-brain axis and blood-brain barrier damage in patients with multiple sclerosis” Exploring how the brain and gut barriers are disrupted in MS.

Yanming Wang, Ph.D.

Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$641,605
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Myelin Imaging in Multiple Sclerosis” Developing a technique to measure the success of treatments to restore myelin.

Amy Lovett-Racke, Ph.D.

Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$273,122
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“Neuroprotective Role of Vitamin D During Childhood” Researchers at The Ohio State University are seeking to determine if low vitamin D in early life increases the risk of developing MS.

Amy Lovett-Racke, Ph.D.

Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$584,726
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Role of miRNA in defective Tregs in Multiple Sclerosis” Exploring ways to alter the immune responses to stop MS in its tracks.

Ruchika Prakash, Ph.D.

Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$631,261
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“A physical activity-based tracking intervention to enhance cognitive and neural plasticity”

Researchers from The Ohio State University are testing whether increasing physical activity through the use of simple accelerometers can improve cognitive functioning in MS.

OKLAHOMA

Robert Axtell, Ph.D.

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$422,400
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/18

“Role of B-cells in TH17 induced Neuro-inflammation” Researchers from Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation are investigating an immune modulating treatment for possible clues to stopping MS progression.

Michael Basso, Ph.D.

University of Tulsa
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$39,873
Term: 2/1/12-9/30/17

“A manualized cognitive rehabilitation program for Multiple Sclerosis” Testing the ability of a rehabilitation program to improve cognitive function in people with MS.

OREGON

Dennis Bourdette, M.D.

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$825,000
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/20

“Developing patient-centered and evidence-based wellness programs for people with MS”

Researchers at Oregon Health & Science University are collaborating to develop patient-centered and evidenced-based wellness programs to improve the daily life of people with MS.

Dennis Bourdette, M.D.

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$440,000
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Promoting remyelination in animal models of multiple sclerosis with a selective thyromimetic drug” Researchers at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland are testing a drug called sobetirome that may promote myelin repair in animal models of myelin loss.

Geetanjali Dutta, P.T., Ph.D.

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$163,103
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/17

“Effect of balance training on postural responses in people with multiple sclerosis” What type of balance training can improve stability in people with MS?

Ben Emery, Ph.D.

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$502,237
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“A transcriptional approach to myelin repair” Testing a strategy for increasing myelin repair in MS by manipulating a major gene in myelin formation.

Meredith Frederick, M.D.

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Multiple Sclerosis Clinical Research Fellowship” A promising neurologist at the Oregon Health & Science University in Portland will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Meredith Hartley, Ph.D.

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$178,391
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“A thyroid hormone-based strategy for promoting remyelination” Researchers at Oregon Health & Science University are testing thyroid hormone-like drugs to see if they will improve myelin repair and to determine their potential for development as a treatment for MS.

Funded in part by the Dave Tomlinson Research Fund

Daniel Hartung, M.P.H., Pharm.D.

Oregon State University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$411,151
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/18

“Costs, Access, and Value of Multiple Sclerosis Disease-Modifying Therapies” Researchers at Oregon State University are investigating reasons for the escalating costs of MS treatments.

Fay Horak, Ph.D., P.T

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$432,457
Term: 7/1/14-6/30/19

“Rehabilitation Research Training in Postural Control of Multiple Sclerosis” Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship in MS Rehabilitation Research to enhance research into ways to use rehabilitation to improve balance and gait in people with MS.

Ashlee Moses, Ph.D.

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Infectious Agents
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$43,999
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“The Use of HIV-1 Integrase Inhibitors for the Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis” Testing a novel strategy for stopping infection from triggering an immune attack in a model of MS.

Lynne Shinto, N.D., M.P.H.

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 4/1/14-TBD

“Lipoic Acid and Omega-3 Fatty Acids for Cognitive Impairment in Multiple Sclerosis” Determining whether oral dietary supplements can help address cognitive problems.

PENNSYLVANIA

Justine Brink, D.O.

Thomas Jefferson University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowship Grant Proposal” A promising doctor at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Youhai Chen, M.D.

University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$664,366
Term: 9/30/16-9/30/18

“Multiple Sclerosis and the Transcription Factor c-Rel” Researchers from the University of Pennsylvania are testing whether compounds that block a key molecule in the MS immune attack are effective in blocking disease activity in cells obtained from people with MS.

Bogoljub Ciric, M.Sc., Ph.D.

Thomas Jefferson University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 10/1/15-12/30/16

“The Pro-inflammatory Role of IL-3 in EAE” Exploring an immune protein's role in driving the immune attack in MS-like disease in mice.

Judith Grinspan, Ph.D.

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$583,760
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“A key role for sterol regulatory element binding proteins in myelination” Researchers at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia are investigating the role of a specific protein in myelin regeneration for clues to restoring function in people with MS.

Michael Halpern, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.

Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$99,402
Term: 7/15/16-9/15/17

“Secondary Analysis of Existing Data Sets: Patient-Reported Reasons for Changes in DMT Use and Subsequent Treatments and Clinical Outcomes” Researchers at the University of Arizona are exploring the factors that help determine treatment choices and treatment switching to develop a framework for guiding decisions and improving outcomes.

Yang Hu, M.D., Ph.D.

Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$165,000
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Targeting Neuronal ER Stress for Neuroprotection in EAE” Researchers at Temple University in Philadelphia are investigating a way to protect nerve cells from stress in an animal model of visual problems sometimes seen in MS.

Funded by a gift from a generous donor

A.M. Rostami, M.D., Ph.D.

Thomas Jefferson University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$619,270
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“IL-9 in the pathogenesis of CNS autoimmune inflammation” Will targeting a specific immune molecule be a promising path for stopping MS immune attacks?

Maria Schultheis, Ph.D.

Drexel University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$572,652
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Multitasking and MS: A cognitively-based approach to vocational rehabilitation” Drexel University researchers are studying multitasking in people with MS to find solutions for cognitive problems that affect employment.

Quasar Padiath, M.B.B.S., Ph.D.

University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$362,380
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“The role of the nuclear lamina in myelin regulation and demyelination” Exploring the possible role of a protein that may control genes involved in the repair of nerve-insulating myelin.

RHODE ISLAND

Stephen Buka, Sc.D.

Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$753,335
Term: 4/9/16-12/31/17

“Multiple sclerosis:prevalence & social functioning by disease duration & subtype” A comprehensive study of the impact of MS on employment, interpersonal relations and daily living.

Theresa Shireman, Ph.D.

Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$560,862
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Effectiveness of Medicaid's Home- and Community-Based Services for Persons with Multiple Sclerosis” Optimizing home- and community-based services to maintain the independence of people with MS.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Surachat Ngorsuraches, M.Sc., Ph.D.

South Dakota State University

Brookings, South Dakota

Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research

Contracts

“Examining the cost-escalation and patient valuation of disease-modifying therapies for multiple sclerosis” Researchers at South Dakota State University are investigating patient valuation of MS treatments.

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$117,878

Term: 10/1/16-9/30/17

TENNESSEE

Seth Smith, Ph.D.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Nashville, Tennessee

Award: Research Grants

“Quantitative and Longitudinal MRI Characterization of Spinal Cord Damage in Patients with MS”

Imaging specialists at Vanderbilt University are developing and implementing new, high-resolution MRI methods to better visualize and track MS disease activity and damage in the spinal cord.

Category: Diagnostic Methods

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$397,117

Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

Luc Van Kaer, Ph.D.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Nashville, Tennessee

Award: Research Grants

“Promoting regulatory interactions between iNKT cells, MDSCs and Tregs as a therapeutic approach for MS” Researchers at Vanderbilt University in Nashville are seeking ways to regulate the immune system to retain its helpful functions and turn off its harmful functions to develop a novel way of treating MS with fewer side effects.

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$665,000

Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

TEXAS

Jianrong Li, Ph.D.

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

College Station, Texas

Award: Research Grants

“Stat3 in myeloid cells: a regulator of autoimmune demyelination” Texas A&M University researchers are targeting a molecule whose signals may be crucial to stopping the immune attack on the brain and spinal cord in MS.

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$554,289

Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

Scott Davis, Ph.D.

Southern Methodist University

Dallas, Texas

Award: Research Grants

“Clinical outcomes and autonomic mechanisms associated with cardiovascular regulation in MS”

Studying how MS affects the regulation of blood pressure in response to exercise for clues to potential strategies to improve function.

Category: Physiology

Strategic Area: Restore

Funding: \$235,973

Term: 4/1/13-3/31/17

Lana Harder, Ph.D.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$39,444
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Examining the Feasibility, Validity, & Patient Satisfaction of Pediatric Teleneuropsychological Assessment vs. Traditional Face-to-Face Assessment in Pediatric Multiple Sclerosis” Using an online system to ensure neuropsychological care of children and teens with MS.

Steven Patrie, Ph.D.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“Multiple Sclerosis Biomarker Discovery by Proteoform Network Analysis” Using advanced technology to monitor proteins over time to determine their role in MS progression.

Bart Rypma, Ph.D.

University of Texas at Dallas
Dallas, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$492,792
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/19

“The Effect of Neural-Vascular Coupling Changes on Cognitive Performance in Multiple Sclerosis”

University of Texas, Dallas researchers are seeking to understand biological mechanisms that underlie MS “brain fog” as a path toward finding solutions to cognitive problems in MS.

Olaf Stuve, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area:
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/17

“Determining the role of PDCB in CNS autoimmunity” Investigating the role of a possible environmental trigger in worsening MS.

Shuo-Hsiu Chang, P.T., Ph.D.

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, Texas
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/17

“Wearable lower extremity exoskeleton to promote walking in persons with multiple sclerosis”

Studying the effectiveness of a wearable exoskeleton to improve walking in people with MS.

Benjamin Deneen, Ph.D.

Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$610,418
Term: 9/30/15-9/30/18

“The role of NFIA in reactive astrocytes after white matter injury” Researchers at Baylor College of Medicine are investigating a protein that may play a role in myelin repair and replacement of lost nerve cells, two events that may improve progressive MS.

Funded in part by the The David and Eula Wintermann Foundation

Leorah Freeman, M.D.

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$114,124
Term: 2/1/16-6/30/17

“Cerebral white matter hypoperfusion and its relationship to lesion formation and repair in MS: a longitudinal multimodal MRI study.” Imaging blood flow in MS lesions in the brain to understand damage to nerve fibers.

Hyun Kyoung Lee, Ph.D.

Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$476,812
Term: 3/1/16-2/28/19

“The Role of Daam2 in Oligodendrocyte Development and Multiple Sclerosis” Focusing on molecules that control the maturation process of cells that can repair lost myelin in MS.

John Hart, M.D.

University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$692,330
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“Identifying and Characterizing Auditory Processing Disruptions in Multiple Sclerosis” Developing a better way to track the problem of understanding spoken language in people with MS.

Thomas Forsthuber, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Texas at San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$591,566
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/17

“M2 proteomics of the EAE model of multiple sclerosis” Working on a blood test that may ultimately be used to monitor disease progression in people with MS.

Thomas Forsthuber, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Texas at San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$660,270
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“NETs and lipid peroxidation as drivers of progressive EAE” University of Texas at San Antonio researchers are exploring how to stop nervous system damage, for clues to developing treatments that stop MS progression.

UTAH

Theron Casper, Ph.D.

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$3,000,000
Term: 7/1/16-6/30/19

“Multiple Sclerosis Pediatric Network Renewal” The Society is supporting a one-of-a-kind network for research to advance knowledge and understanding of the triggers and impacts of MS in both children and adults.

Laura Dickey, Ph.D.

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$166,724
Term: 7/1/15-6/30/18

“Human neural precursor cell-mediated remyelination in a viral model of MS” Researchers at the University of Utah are testing the idea that molecules secreted by stem cells improve potential for repairing nerve-insulating myelin.

The McCarthy Family Postdoctoral Fellow

K. Bo Foreman, P.T., Ph.D.

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,910
Term: 9/1/16-8/31/17

“Compensatory Step Training in Persons with MS: Characterizing Postural Motor Learning”

Studying the effectiveness of balance training to improve the ability of people with MS to prevent themselves from falling.

Eun-Kee (E.K.) Jeong, Ph.D.

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$455,492
Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Quantitation of axonal damage by diffusion and Bound-Pool-Fraction MRI” Exploring a new type of imaging to visualize nervous system damage in people with MS.

John Kriesel, M.D.

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Research Grants

Category: Infectious Agents
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$633,361
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/17

“Deep Sequencing for the Detection of Microbes in the Brains of Patients with Acute Demyelinating Disease” Searching for hints of a possible virus in the brain that may trigger MS.

VERMONT

Dimitry Kremontsov, Ph.D.

University of Vermont
Burlington, Vermont
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$552,845
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“Mechanisms of Sex-Specific p38 MAPK-Mediated Pathogenesis in CNS Autoimmunity” University of Vermont researchers are exploring immune system activity that may explain why MS affects women more than men, and may yield a strategy for stopping the immune attack.

Cory Teuscher, Ph.D.

University of Vermont
Burlington, Vermont
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: End
Funding: \$413,347
Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“Identification of gene-by-environment interactions contributing to CNS autoimmune disease”

University of Vermont researchers are using mice with MS-like disease to look at interactions between genes and the environmental factors Vitamin D and exposure to UV/sunlight for clues to preventing or treating MS.

VIRGINIA

Myla Goldman, M.D., M.Sc.

University of Virginia School of Medicine
Charlottesville, Virginia
Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$624,604
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/20

“Assessment of the clinical importance of insulin resistance & steroid-associated hyperglycemia in relapsing MS” A team from the University of Virginia School of Medicine is exploring whether controlling blood sugar can decrease the severity and/or improve recovery from an acute MS relapse.

Jonathan Kipnis, Ph.D.

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$660,000
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“The role of meningeal lymphatics in EAE/MS” University of Virginia researchers are exploring the role of a previously unknown path of immune cells for clues to stopping MS.

Funded in part by a gift from a generous donor

Babette Fuss, Ph.D.

Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Virginia
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$196,705
Term: 10/1/16-9/30/19

“ATX: a regulator of CNS myelination” Researchers from Virginia Commonwealth University are studying a signaling pathway to determine its potential for stimulating immature myelin-making cells to mature and form new myelin to restore function in MS.

Carmen Sato-Bigbee, Ph.D.

Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Virginia
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$587,785
Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“The μ -opioid/nociceptin-orphanin FQ receptor system in oligodendrocyte development and remyelination” Researchers at Virginia Commonwealth University are investigating newly discovered docking sites that may be key to stimulating natural repair of nerve-insulating myelin.

WASHINGTON

Kevin Alschuler, Ph.D.

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$794,769
Term: 4/1/14-3/31/18

“Life after MS diagnosis: a biopsychosocial assessment of symptom trajectory” How does quality of life change for individuals over the first year after diagnosis with MS?

Charles Bombardier, Ph.D.

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$1,466,730
Term: 10/1/13-9/30/18

“The effect of aerobic exercise on cognition in multiple sclerosis” Can aerobic exercise improve cognitive impairment in people with MS?

Jodie Haselkorn, M.D.,M.P.H.

Seattle Institute for Biomedical and Clinical Research
Seattle, Washington
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Funding: \$44,000
Term: 12/1/16-11/30/17

“Multiple Sclerosis-Specific Health Services Utilization Model” Evaluating psychological risk factors, other risk factors and healthcare use among people with MS.

Mark Jensen, Ph.D.

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$180,866
Term: 10/1/14-TBD

“Enhancing the Benefits of Pain and Fatigue Treatment in MS” Researchers at the University of Washington are investigating ways to reduce pain and fatigue in people with MS using mindfulness meditation and biofeedback to improve self-hypnosis.

Ivan Molton, Ph.D.

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$43,998
Term: 4/1/16-3/31/17

“Psychological intervention to improve coping with uncertainty in persons recently diagnosed with MS” Exploring whether a specific type of counseling can help people newly diagnosed with MS to cope with the unpredictable nature of the disease.

Aaron Turner, Ph.D.

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Funding: \$382,459
Term: 7/1/13-6/30/18

“The Seattle collaborative post-doctoral fellowship in MS rehabilitation research” A training program to provide fellows research skills that will enable them to conduct studies aimed at improving quality of life for people with MS.

WEST VIRGINIA

Gordon Meares, Ph.D.

West Virginia University

Morgantown, West Virginia

Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$380,636

Term: 1/1/15-12/31/17

“LKB1 and AMPK Signaling in Neuroinflammation” Studying how cells in the brain and spinal cord may influence the immune system in MS, for clues to stopping immune attacks.

WISCONSIN

Shing-yan Chiu, Ph.D.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Madison, Wisconsin

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$612,977

Term: 4/1/15-3/31/18

“A Novel Specific Treatment for Progressive MS: Elimination of Mitochondrial Anchoring”

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin in Madison are studying mouse models with features similar to progressive MS to investigate possible new approaches to stopping MS progression.

Shing-yan Chiu, Ph.D.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Madison, Wisconsin

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$44,000

Term: 7/1/16-6/30/17

“Stop Progressive Multiple Sclerosis by Blocking Mitochondria Anchoring” Exploring a strategy for stopping a toxic process that damages nerves and contributes to MS progression.

Ian Duncan, D.V.M., Ph.D.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Madison, Wisconsin

Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair

Strategic Area: Restore

Funding: \$763,055

Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Remyelination following global demyelination and its promotion in a novel animal model”

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are exploring factors controlling the repair of nerve-insulating myelin and ways to non-invasively detect repair and enhance the process.

Bonnie Dittel, Ph.D.

BloodCenter of Wisconsin

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$681,791

Term: 10/1/15-9/30/18

“Characterization of a novel regulatory B cell subset that attenuates EAE” Researchers at the BloodCenter of Wisconsin are investigating how a subset of immune “B cells” reduces inflammation, for clues to harnessing this power to stop MS.

2016 Stephen C. Reingold Research Award for most outstanding research proposal

Hao Zhang, Ph.D.

Medical College of Wisconsin

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Award: Research Grants

Category: Biochem./Biophysics

Strategic Area: Stop

Funding: \$646,763

Term: 10/1/14-9/30/17

“Therapeutic implications of KYC, a novel myeloperoxidase inhibitor, in multiple sclerosis” Can blocking free radicals in an MS model provide clues to stopping disease progression in people with MS?