



National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society

List of Current Research Projects Funded by the National MS Society

Sorted by State/Country

April 2018

**Advocacy, Services and Research Department
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
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www.nationalmssociety.org

Introduction

The National MS Society invests in promising research to drive breakthroughs that will 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](#). These priorities are critical to advancing solutions for people living with MS today, and ultimately to a prevention and cure.

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 2018.

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

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. These include:

- **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 and academic partnerships aimed at specific strategies to drive the discovery of new therapies for people with MS
- **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 Brain Foundation Clinician Scientist Development Award** -- to train physicians in MS clinical research
- **Pilot Research Grants** – aimed at exploring new, untested ideas and attracting new researchers to investigate MS
- **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

About 'Categories'

This list includes the category, or research discipline, within which a specific project belongs.

- **Biochem./Biophysics** - Understanding basic cell processes to enhance knowledge of factors underlying MS
- **Biology of Glia/Myelin** - Investigating how myelin is formed and the role played by oligodendrocytes and other nervous system support cells in MS
- **CNS Repair** - Searching for ways to stop and reverse tissue damage in MS
- **Diagnostic Methods** - Investigating ways to improve the detection and diagnosis of MS
- **Epidemiology** - Investigating who gets MS in search of the cause and risk/ protective factors
- **Health Care Delivery/ Policy** - Studying how people with MS utilize health-care services and how health-care delivery can be improved
- **Human Genetics** - Searching for genes that make people susceptible to MS or otherwise influence the disease, for clues to its cause, prevention and better treatment
- **Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS** - Investigations into treatments for all forms of MS, and training physicians in MS clinical research and trials
- **Immunology** - Exploring the role of the immune system in the development and progression of MS to find ways to stop the immune attack on nervous tissues
- **Infectious Triggers** - Examining the possibility that viruses or bacteria could act as disease triggers in MS
- **Measuring MS Disease Activity** - Using sophisticated tools to track MS activity over time
- **Neuropathology** - Exploring how nerve fibers and cells are damaged during the course of MS
- **Neuropharmacology** - Studying how potential therapies impact the nervous system
- **Neurophysiology** - Exploring how nerve fibers and cells work normally and in the disease state
- **Physiology** - Understanding how MS may impact functions of the body
- **Preclinical Drug Development** - Laboratory research to collect data needed before an experimental therapy can be tested in people
- **Psychosocial Aspects of MS** - Understanding how MS effects cognitive functioning and other aspects of quality of life and wellness
- **Rehabilitation** - Seeking ways to maximize physical and mental abilities and reduce symptoms and increase wellbeing
- **Tissue/DNA Banks** - Shared resource of tissues and DNA banks that accumulate and store specimens for use by MS investigators

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PROJECTS OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.A.

AUSTRALIA

Trevor Kilpatrick, MBBS, PhD

Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Melbourne, Australia

Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Genetics

Strategic Area: End

Approx. Funding: \$384,098

Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

Trevor Kilpatrick, MBBS, PhD

Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Melbourne, Australia

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Preclinical Drug Development

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$37,208

Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“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.

Alexandr Klistorner, PhD

Macquarie University
North Ryde, NSW, Australia

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$1,124,000

Term: 7/1/2014-10/1/2018

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

CANADA

Audrey Hicks, PhD

McMaster University
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$96,500-PENDING

Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2019

“Exercise and Brain Health in MS” Researchers at McMaster University are investigating the impact of exercise on brain health in people with MS.

Marcia Finlayson, PhD

Queen's University
Kinston ON, Canada

Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$382,724

Term: 7/1/2014-6/30/2019

“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.

Nader Ghasemlou, PhD

Queen's University
Kinston, ON, Canada
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Physiology
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$38,625
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Circadian control of pain in multiple sclerosis” Researchers at Queen's University, London, are identifying new therapeutic targets that can be used to block or reduce pain in those living with MS.

Douglas Arnold, MD

McGill University
Montreal, QC, Canada
Award: International Progressive MS Alliance -
Collaborative Network Center

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management
of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$4,560,000
Term: 1/1/2017-12/31/2020

“An MRI biomarker for disability progression for use in clinical trials” Identifying a biomarker of disability progression for use in clinical trials.

Joint commitment with other Progressive MS Alliance members

Brent Richards, MD

Jewish General Hospital
Montreal, QC, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$64,000
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2018

“The effect of obesity and EBV on the risk 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.

Mary Stevenson, PhD

McGill University
Montreal, QC, Canada
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Therapeutic effects of intestinal nematode-derived proteins in EAE” Researchers are investigating the effectiveness of helminth-derived proteins as therapy for mice with MS-like disease.

Lara Pilutti, PhD

University of Ottawa
Ottawa, ON, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$351,620
Term: 10/1/2016-11/30/2018

“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.

Fang Liu, MD, PhD

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
Toronto, ON, Canada
Award: Fast Forward

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$838,300
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2019

“Preclinical characterization and modification of small molecule drugs for the treatment for multiple sclerosis” Researchers at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto are refining a novel approach to stopping MS damage to the nervous system and progression.

Funded in collaboration with the MS Society of Canada

E. Yeh, MD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$352,950
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2020

“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, MD

The Hospital for Sick Children
Toronto, ON, Canada
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,807
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Sleep, Physical Activity and MS Symptoms in Paediatric MS” Researchers at The Hospital for Sick Children are seeking to understand how sleep habits, physical activity, and disease symptoms are related to one another in youth with MS.

Marc Horwitz, PhD

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC, Canada
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“A pre-clinical model for studying the role of EBV in MS” Investigators from the University of British Columbia are testing whether Epstein Barr Virus specifically acts as an important factor in MS.

Alexander Rauscher, PhD

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC, Canada
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$309,320
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Carles Vilarino-Guell, PhD

University of British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$40,000-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“Molecular and behavioral analysis of the NR1H3 (LXRA) model of progressive multiple sclerosis”
Developing and testing a new model of MS-like disease.

FRANCE**Carlos Parras, PhD**

INSERM - Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche
Médicale
Paris, France
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$586,502
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, PhD**

Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin
Berlin, Germany
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$1,397,712
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2020

“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.

Stefan Gold, PhD

Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin
Berlin, Germany
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$414,685-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2023

“Neurobiological Mechanisms of Rehabilitation in MS” Researchers at the Charité University Medical Center Berlin, Germany are training promising professionals to advance MS rehabilitation research by applying molecular biology techniques.

Christoph Heesen, MD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$396,392
Term: 7/1/2013-6/30/2018

“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.

Ari Waisman, PhD

University Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg-
University Mainz
Mainz, Germany
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$484,464-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“The role and mode-of-action of IL-17 in the CNS” Researchers in Mainz, Germany are identifying the destructive activities that are launched by an immune messenger called IL-17, for clues to stopping MS.

Klaus Lehmann-Horn, MD

Technical University of Munich
Munich, Germany
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,422
Term: 1/1/2016-6/30/2018

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

ISRAEL**Kadimastem LTD,**

Kadimastem LTD.
Nes-Ziona, Israel
Award: Fast Forward

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$174,400
Term: 9/25/2015-9/30/2018

“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, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$938,522
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2020

“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, PhD

Tel Aviv University
Tel Aviv, Israel
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$375,000
Term: 1/1/2017-12/30/2019

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

Batia Kaplan, PhD

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

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$39,820
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2018

“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” Developing and testing a lab test for diagnosis and monitoring disease progression and response to treatment

ITALY

Paola de Candia, PhD

Fondazione MultiMedica ONLUS

Milano, Italy

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$40,000

Term: 11/1/2016-4/30/2018

“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, MD

Fondazione Centro San Raffaele

Milano, Italy

Award: International Progressive MS Alliance - Collaborative Network Center

Category: Preclinical Drug Development

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$4,780,000

Term: -4/30/2021

“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

PORTUGAL

Carlos Duarte, PhD

University of Coimbra

Coimbra, Portugal

Award: Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$175,000

Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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.

THE NETHERLANDS

Maarten Kole, PhD

Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$449,340

Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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.

UNITED KINGDOM

Don Mahad, MD, PhD

University of Edinburgh

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$551,702

Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

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

Jeremy Chataway, PhD, FRCP

University College London
London, United Kingdom
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$897,100-PENDING
Term: 12:00:00 AM-2/28/2023

“Funding for imaging to track some participants in the MS-STAT2 phase 3 clinical trial investigating simvastatin secondary progressive MS.” This is an add-on study to use MRI to track some participants in the multicenter trial in the UK to test whether a repurposed cholesterol-lowering therapy can slow the course of secondary progressive MS.

Co-funded by the UK MS Society

Aisling McMahon,

MS Society UK
London, United Kingdom
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$1,151,147
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2026

“Co-funding for MS-STAT2 phase 3 clinical trial investigating simvastatin secondary progressive MS, led by Dr. Jeremy Chataway” Researchers from University College London are leading a multicenter trial in the UK to test whether a repurposed cholesterol-lowering therapy can slow the course of secondary progressive MS.

Richard Reynolds, PhD

Imperial College London
London, United Kingdom
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$646,187
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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.

David Selwood, PhD

University College London
London, United Kingdom
Award: Fast Forward

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$804,767
Term: 11/23/2015-12/31/2018

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

David Selwood, PhD

University College London
London, United Kingdom
Award: Fast Forward

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$551,726
Term: 9/1/2016-8/31/2020

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

Margot Woodroffe, PhD
Sheffield Hallam University
Sheffield, United Kingdom
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$134,514-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2020

“Lipidomics in progressive MS” Investigators at Sheffield Hallam University are mapping changes in the fatty composition of the brain for clues to finding ways to stop progressive MS.

PROJECTS INSIDE OF THE U.S.A.

Robert Motl, PhD
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$813,305
Term: 10/1/2014-7/31/2020

“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, PhD
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,677
Term: 8/1/2016-4/20/2018

“Sedentary Behavior in MS: Examining it's Prevalence, Distribution, and Correlates using the NARCOMS Registry” Determining factors that contribute to sedentary behavior in people with MS.

Robert Motl, PhD
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$363,811
Term: 1/1/2017-12/31/2018

“Project COMPLETE: Coordinated Multiple Sclerosis Exercise Toolkit” Researchers 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.

Robert Motl, PhD
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama
Award: Collaborative Research

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$816,557-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2023

“Healthy Aging through LifesTyle in Multiple Sclerosis: The HALT MS Research Center”
University of Alabama at Birmingham researchers have joined together to stimulate interdisciplinary research on lifestyle and wellness for healthy aging in MS.

Hongwei Qin, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$583,800
 Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Function of Protein Kinase CK2 in CD4+ T Cells and Autoimmune Disease” Researchers at the University of Alabama at Birmingham are investigating an immune molecule called CK2 that may be harmful in MS.

Brooks Wingo, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$39,628
 Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Pilot and feasibility trial of a telehealth dietary intervention for MS” Investigators at the University of Alabama at Birmingham are testing a comprehensive behavioral lifestyle intervention that includes both diet and exercise components, delivered through a web-based telecoaching platform.

ARIZONA**Lynn Hudson, PhD**

Critical Path Institute
 Tucson, Arizona
 Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$3,000,000
 Term: 10/1/2012-12:00:00 AM

“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, PhD**

University of California, Berkeley
 Berkeley, California
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$421,570
 Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Cognitive Function and Physical Disability in White, Black and Hispanic MS Patients” This team is using a novel, web-based tool to study the influence of genetic, environmental and other clinical factors in hundreds of people with MS to help further understand why some develop worse cognitive function and physical disability.

Lisa Barcellos, PhD

University of California, Berkeley
 Berkeley, California
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$44,000
 Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2018

“A Pilot Approach to Establish a Pipeline for Epigenetic Studies of T Cells in MS” Applying cutting edge technology to study immune cells in people with MS, compared with controls without the disease, for clues to MS development and treatment.

Lilyana Amezcua, MD

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

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$685,703
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2020

“Acculturation, genetic ancestry, and disability in Hispanic Americans with multiple sclerosis”

Researchers at University of Southern California are spearheading a study to understand socio-cultural factors that impact MS in Hispanics and to provide solutions to prevent disease worsening.

Daniel Kaufman, PhD

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

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$594,348
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Preclinical studies aimed at repurposing a clinically safe drug to help treat MS” Researchers at the University of California are testing a molecule for its ability to limit inflammation in MS, to stop the disease in its tracks and reduce damage.

Eve Kelland, PhD

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

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$645,623
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Assessment of the neuroprotective activity of angiotensin 1-7 and its potential role in demyelinating disease” Researchers at the University of Southern California are exploring whether a drug can be repurposed to protect myelin-making cells (oligodendrocytes) from death in MS models.

Michael Robers, MD

University of Southern California
Los Angeles, California
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2020

“MS Fellowship” A promising doctor at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, will develop the skills involved in the conduct, design, implementation, and analysis of large epidemiological and clinical trials in MS.

Fu-Dong Shi, MD, PhD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$438,900
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“Nerurepair 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.

Nancy Sicotte, MD

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Los Angeles, California
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$43,990
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Genetic, serologic, and clinical predictors of TNF- α associated demyelination” Researchers at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center are seeking to understand what factors contribute to development of MS-like disease after administration of TNF-alpha blockers.

James Waschek, PhD

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

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$496,965
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

Richard Daneman, PhD

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

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$103,125
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

Sergio Baranzini, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$800,898
Term: 4/1/2015-3/31/2020

“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

Valerie Block, DSc, PT

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$177,243-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“Incorporating Continuous Daily Assessment of Remote Step Count Monitoring with Quantitative Spinal Cord and Brain MRI to Improve Characterization of MS-related Disability” Researchers at the University of California San Francisco are determining whether a person’s average daily step count can be used to measure and track progression of MS disability.

Riley Bove, MD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$406,791
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

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

Riley Bove, MD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$578,719-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“Functional validation of SERMs as remyelinating agents” University of California, San Francisco researchers are determining the potential SERMs (selective estrogen receptor modulators) medications for stimulating repair of nerve-insulating myelin.

Kae-Jiun Chang, PhD

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

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$175,431
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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.

Myriam Chaumeil, PhD

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

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$566,618
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2021

“MR metabolic imaging of Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco are developing an imaging method to assess inflammation in the brain to develop new approaches to stopping MS.

Andres Cruz-Herranz, MD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$195,427
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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, DVM, PhD

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

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$776,123
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2022

“Oligodendroglial-vascular interactions control successful remyelination in Multiple Sclerosis”

Researchers from the University of California at San Francisco are exploring interactions between blood vessels and myelin-making cells for clues to promoting myelin repair in MS.

Carla Francisco, MD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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.

Jennifer Graves, MD, PhD

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

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$502,894
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“The role of biological aging on progression in MS” Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco, are exploring an association between the biological process of aging and the progression of MS, for clues to stopping MS.

Ariele Greenfield, MD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$198,867
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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, PhD

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

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$107,466
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“MR imaging of oxidative stress in multiple sclerosis” Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco are using a new type of imaging in mice to visualize oxidative stress, for clues to the possible role of oxidative stress-inducing immune cells in MS.

Stephen Hauser, MD

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Migration

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$1,375,000
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2021

“SUMMIT: An investigation of deeply phenotyped cohorts to understand disease outcomes and the biology of progression in 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.

Roland Henry, PhD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$738,084-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“Enabling Multicenter MRI Studies of Neurodegeneration in Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at the University of California at San Francisco are gathering and standardizing existing MRI and genetic information from people with MS across the globe to accelerate research into progressive MS.

Kristen Krysko, MD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“Application for MS Clinical Research Fellowship at UCSF” 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.

Andrew Mendiola, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$177,243-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“In vivo imaging and profiling of mechanisms of T-cell recruitment and activation during neuroinflammatory disease” Researchers at The Gladstone Institutes are investigating how a protein found in the blood called fibrinogen promotes a damaging immune response in MS.

Zahra Moinfar, MD, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$177,243-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“Pathogenic T cells that target NMO autoantigen aquaporin-4” Researchers at the University of California at San Francisco are investigating similarities and differences between MS and a related but distinct disease called NMO.

Jorge Oksenberg, PhD

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

Category: Tissue/DNA Banks
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$595,690-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2020

“Establishment of a core DNA repository for multiple sclerosis” Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco are maintaining and enhancing a blood/biospecimen bank as a shared resource to identify genetic variants and other factors that contribute to the risk and heritability of MS.

Anne-Katrin Pröbstel, MD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$201,197-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“Gut-Brain-Axis: Dissecting the crosstalk between B cells and the gut microbiota in multiple sclerosis” Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco are identifying harmful gut bacteria in people with MS and testing their role in disease triggering and progression.

Joseph Sabatino, MD, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$213,981
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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.

Lucas Schirmer, MD

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

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$201,135
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“Understanding and modulating astrocyte diversity in MS and experimental demyelination” Researchers at the University of California at San Francisco are investigating characteristics of the various types of astrocytes, a cell type that forms scars and blocks repair in lesions found in the brain in MS.

Funded in part by the Dave Tomlinson Research Fund

Ryan Schubert, MD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$269,394
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“Using comprehensive phage display coupled with next-generation sequencing to define the evolution of autoantibodies and viral antibodies in the two years after a first demyelinating event” Researchers at the University of California at San Francisco are looking for antibody “signatures” in fluid samples that can predict which of those individuals with a first neurological event will go on to develop definite MS.

Emmanuelle Waubant, MD, PhD
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$1,192,799
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Diet and relapse risk in pediatric multiple sclerosis (MS)” Investigators at University of California, San Francisco are leading the Network of Pediatric MS Centers in a study of how kids’ diets impact MS relapses and progression.

Scott Zamvil, MD, PhD
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$632,348
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Negative selection regulates development of pathogenic AQP4-specific T cells” Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco are investigating abnormal immune cell development in a disease called neuromyelitis optica that resembles MS in some ways.

Annexon Biosciences,
Annexon Biosciences
South San Francisco, California
Award: Fast Forward

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$693,113
Term: 1/1/2017-12/31/2018

“Identification of CSF Biomarkers to Establish Target Engagement and Dosing for a Novel MS Therapeutic” Validating the applicability of a new neuroprotective compound to prevent or delay neurodegeneration in progressive MS.

Nina Bozinov, MD
Stanford University
Stanford, California
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$130,000-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2020

“Training fellowship in clinical MS/Neuroimmunology and Master's Degree in Epidemiology & Clinical Research. Project in imaging and immunopathologic biomarkers of cognitive impairment in Multiple Sclerosis.” A promising doctor at Stanford University will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Meng-meng Fu, PhD
Stanford University
Stanford, California
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$166,724
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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 a gift from the Brodsky Family Foundation

MAY HAN, MD

Stanford University
 Stanford, California
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$43,999
 Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“Crucial role of astrocytes in CNS inflammation and remyelination” Understanding how brain cells known as astrocytes may both promote and inhibit myelin repair in a novel MS model.

Yang Hu, MD, PhD

Stanford University
 Stanford, California
 Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$467,623-PENDING
 Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“Combined Neuronal Soma and Axon Protection by Manipulation of Both ER Stress and NAD+ Metabolism in EAE/Optic Neuritis” Researchers at Stanford University are using a strategy of combination therapy in a mouse model of MS to protect the nervous system from a type of damage that occurs in MS.

Lu Sun, PhD

Stanford University
 Stanford, California
 Award: Career Transition Fellowship

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$589,886-PENDING
 Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2023

“Identification of a novel pathway that regulates CNS myelination and remyelination” Stanford University researchers are investigating mechanisms involved in the loss of cells that make nerve-insulating myelin, and potential ways to promote their survival and myelin repair.

William Talbot, PhD

Stanford University
 Stanford, California
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$436,224-PENDING
 Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“Role of RagA in Lysosome Function and Myelination in Oligodendrocytes” Researchers at Stanford University are investigating two genes that affect the growth of nerve-insulating myelin, for clues to finding ways to repair myelin in people with MS.

J. Bradley Zuchero, PhD

Stanford University
 Stanford, California
 Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$581,647
 Term: 7/1/2014-6/30/2019

“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

J. Bradley Zuchero, PhD

Stanford University
Stanford, California
Award: Harry Weaver Neuroscience

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$772,639-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2023

“How does the actin cytoskeleton control myelination and remyelination?” Stanford University researchers are investigating how scaffold-like structures inside cells change during the formation of myelin, for clues to stimulating myelin repair in MS.

David Pleasure, MD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$519,547
Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

“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.

Athena Soulika, PhD

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

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$652,582
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Novel lipid-mediated mechanism controls oligodendrocyte maturation” Investigators at the University of California, Davis, are exploring a new strategy for repairing nerve-insulating myelin and restoring function in MS.

COLORADO

John Corboy, MD

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Research Grants

Category: Tissue/DNA Banks
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$1,026,944
Term: 10/1/2013-9/30/2018

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

John Corboy, MD

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Strategic Initiatives - 2016

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$326,464
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2021

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

Ethan Hughes, PhD

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$586,687
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Mechanisms and Dynamics of Cortical Remyelination” Researchers at the University of Colorado are investigating methods to improve and visualize repair of nerve-insulating myelin, ultimately to restore function for people with MS.

Gregory Owens, PhD

University of Colorado Denver
Denver, Colorado
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$610,077
Term: 10/1/2017-7/1/2020

“Mechanisms of CNS injury in MS antibody-mediated demyelination” Researchers at the University of Colorado are investigating how antibodies found in the cerebrospinal fluid of people with MS cause MS-like damage in mice, and the implications for treating MS.

Brett Fling, PhD

Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“Interhemispheric communication in MS: implications for balance and mobility” Testing how changes in communication between the two sides of the brain contribute to lower limb asymmetries and the resultant declines in mobility for people with MS.

Thorsten Rudroff, PhD

Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“Can transcranial direct stimulation improve walking in multiple sclerosis” Examining the effectiveness of electrical stimulation to improve walking in people with MS.

CONNECTICUT**Joel Pachter, PhD**

University of Connecticut Health Center
Farmington, Connecticut
Award: Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$671,350
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Extracellular vesicles and MSCs as novel tools to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of secondary progressive disease” Investigators at the University of Connecticut Health Center are exploring the therapeutic potential of stem cells and a novel method of tracking the course of secondary progressive MS in mice.

Jaime Grutzendler, MD

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$330,000
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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, MD

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

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$825,000
Term: 4/1/2015-3/31/2020

“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, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$175,431
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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 switch a helpful type of immune cell called Tregs to a harmful type called Th1 Tregs and if the helpful function c

Liliana Lucca, PhD

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$178,467
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“The role of the co-inhibitory receptor TIGIT in the immune deregulation of MS patients” Investigators at Yale University are testing the idea that a molecule called TGIT, which is present on certain immune cells, turns down inflammation in healthy people but is unable to dampen inflammation in people with MS.

David Pitt, MD

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$311,752
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2019

“NF κ B-related MS risk variants drive excessive activation of astrocytes in multiple sclerosis” Researchers at Yale University are exploring a novel pathway by which newly discovered genetic variants in people with MS may promote changes that result in inflammatory damage, for clues to stopping and ending MS.

Li Wen, MD, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$44,000
 Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“The role of IgA-bound gut bacteria in MS” Investigators are identifying which gut bacteria can stimulate the immune system and possibly promote the development of MS.

Akiko Nishiyama, MD, PhD

University of Connecticut
 Storrs, Connecticut
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$610,077
 Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Neuronal activity-dependent regulation of remyelination and chromatin remodeling” Researchers from the University of Connecticut and University of Paris are using cutting-edge technology to explore a novel possibility for restoring damaged nerve-insulating myelin.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**Vittorio Gallo, PhD**

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

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$538,351
 Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“Signaling mechanisms underlying Sox17-mediated oligodendrocyte generation and repair”

Reseachers at Children’s National Medical Cente 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.

Mitchell Wallin, MD, MPH

Institute for Clinical Research, Inc.
 Washington, District of Columbia
 Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
 Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$441,744
 Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2019

“Multiple Sclerosis Telehealth Utilization Project” Researchers at the VA Multiple Sclerosis Center of Excellence-East (Baltimore & Washington, DC) along with collaborators in Boston, MA and Palo Alto, CA are investigating the use of technology to deliver specialty care remotely to people with MS, with the

GEORGIA**Hong Jiang, MD, PhD**

University of Miami
 Atlanta, Georgia
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$540,835
 Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

ILLINOIS

Alexander Aruin, DSc

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$405,990
Term: 7/1/2012-6/30/2018

“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

Alexander Aruin, DSc

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,900
Term: 4/1/2016-6/30/2018

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

Veronica Cipriani, MD

University of Chicago Medical Center
Chicago, Illinois

Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2018

“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.

William Conte, MD

University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2019

“Dysphagia in multiple sclerosis” 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, PhD

University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$651,000
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

Sherri LaVela, MBA, MPH, PhD

CARES - Chicago Association for Research and Education in Science
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,993-PENDING
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Evaluating the Use of Acute Intermittent Hypoxia to Enhance Motor Function in Persons with Multiple Sclerosis” Investigators from the Chicago Association of Research and Education in Science are evaluating motor function of the lower limbs and whether a novel therapy strengthens the ankle and muscles.

Brian Popko, PhD

University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$626,735
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“Investigating the role that ZFP191 phosphorylation state plays in regulating oligodendrocyte maturation” University of Chicago researchers are studying a molecular “switch” that may be a key to turning on the repair processes of nerve-insulating myelin to restore function to people with MS.
Paid by special funds provided by the Illinois Lottery

Haley Titus, PhD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$161,218
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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

Chung-Yi Chiu, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$548,359-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“Developing A Person-centered Internet-based Health Action Process Approach to Promoting Physical Activity in People with Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at the University of Illinois are testing a program aimed at increasing physical activity among people with MS to promote healthier lifestyles.

Naiman Khan, PhD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,051
Term: 3/1/2017-2/28/2019

“Retinal Lutein and Visual Health in Multiple Sclerosis” Testing whether dietary factors play a role in vision problems in MS.

Laura Rice, PT, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$570,217
 Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Validation of a Fall Prevention Program Among Non-Ambulatory Wheeled Mobility Device Users with Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are developing a program designed to help prevent falling for people with MS who are wheelchair users.

Jacob Sosnoff, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$627,770
 Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

“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

INDIANA**Peter Altenburger, PT, PhD**

Indiana University
 Bloomington, Indiana
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$33,000
 Term: 9/1/2016-8/31/2018

“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, PhD**

The University of Iowa
 Iowa City, Iowa
 Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$161,218
 Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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.

Terry Wahls, MD

The University of Iowa
 Iowa City, Iowa
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$1,098,981
 Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2020

“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

Hannes Devos, PT, PhD

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

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“The Eyes Have It: Use of Pupillometry to Assess Cognition in Multiple Sclerosis” Testing a novel method of assessing cognitive function through measuring the pupil in people with MS.

Steven LeVine, PhD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“High Dose Biotin Therapy and Remyelination” Researchers from the University of Kansas Medical Center are investigating how high dose biotin therapy might act to promote myelin repair processes in people with MS.

Sharon Lynch, PhD

University of Kansas Medical Center
Kansas City, Kansas
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$43,672-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“MS disability scales in the aging population” Studying older people with MS and without MS and comparing the measurement of disability.

Catherine Siengsukon, PT, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Assessing the Feasibility of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia in Individuals with MS with Symptoms of Insomnia” Researchers at the University of Kansas Medical Center are assessing the feasibility of using cognitive behavioral therapy to improve MS symptoms of reduced sleep quality and fatigue in individuals with MS with symptoms of insomnia.

KENTUCKY

Malachy Bishop, PhD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery and Policy
Research Contracts
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$206,300
Term: 12/12/2016-12/31/2018

“Impact of the NMSS Strategic Plan” Analyzing the impact on the quality of life of people affected by MS resulting from the work of the National MS Society.

MARYLAND

Meghan Beier, Ph.D.

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$44000

Term: 3/1/2017-2/28/2019

“200 to 2,000: Expanding the Scope of Multiple Sclerosis Cognitive Research by Establishing the Reliability of a Web-based Cognitive Assessment” Developing a web-based tool for assessing cognitive changes in people with MS.

Meghan Beier, PhD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland

Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$242,512

Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Advancing multiple sclerosis research through neuroscience” This training program will equip two fellows with crucial clinical and research skills necessary to conduct rehabilitation research aimed at improving wellness for people with MS.

Pavan Bhargava, MD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland

Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$457,540

Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2021

“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.

Pavan Bhargava, MD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland

Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$355,455-PENDING

Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2020

“Bile acid supplementation for Multiple Sclerosis” Johns Hopkins researchers are investigating whether a dietary supplement can be beneficial for the immune system, gut bacteria and MS disease activity.

Kathleen Burns, MD, PhD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Genetics

Strategic Area: End

Approx. Funding: \$44,000

Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“Molecular basis of MS risk at the CD58 locus” Determining the significance of a sequence of genetic material inherited by people with MS.

Kathryn Fitzgerald, DSc

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$187,527
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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.

Emily Harrington, MD, PhD

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

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$276,697-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“The role of oligodendrocyte progenitors as immune cells in MS models” Johns Hopkins researchers are observing interactions between the immune system and myelin making cells for clues to stopping myelin loss and promoting myelin repair.

Michael Kornberg, MD, PhD

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

Category: Biochem./Biophysics
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$259,590
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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.

Muhammad Taimur Malik, MD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2020

“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.

Yevgeniya Mironova, PhD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$181,754-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“Non-progenitor functions of oligodendrocyte precursor cells in the brain” Researchers at Johns Hopkins University are studying how oligodendrocyte precursor cells in the adult brain play multiple roles in repair of myelin damage.

Ellen Mowry, MD, MPH

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$1,728,703
Term: 4/1/2011-3/31/2019

“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

Ellen Mowry, MD, MPH

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$781,377
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2020

“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.

Bardia Nourbakhsh, MD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Therapy/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,914-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“Randomized control trial of ketamine for treatment of multiple sclerosis-related fatigue”

Performing a clinical trial to find out if ketamine can alleviate the severity of fatigue in people with MS.

Jiwon Oh, MD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$500,000
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“Leptomeningeal Inflammation in Multiple Sclerosis: A Prospective MRI Study” Johns Hopkin

University researchers are exploring a novel imaging finding that may yield clues to understanding and stopping the progression of MS.

Shiv Saidha, MD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$494,401
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“In-vivo investigation of trans-synaptic neurodegeneration in multiple sclerosis” Researchers at Johns Hopkins University are testing new methods of assessing nerve cell damage, involving the visual system, to determine its value for predicting more severe MS.

Thomas Shoemaker, MD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2018

“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, PhD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$654,166
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Elias Sotirchos, MD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

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

Katharine Whartenby, PhD

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Infectious Agents
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$731,878
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, MD

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$191,042
Term: 1/1/2016-12/31/2018

“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, MD, PhD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$194,394
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$161,040
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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.

Yong Chan Kim, PhD

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

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Development of AQP4 BAR-Tregs to suppress anti-AQP4 autoantibody response in Neuromyelitis Optica” Researchers are developing an innovative therapeutic strategy to treat an MS-like disease.

Dzung Pham, PhD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$576,675
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

David Scott, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$485,942
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Engineering human CNS-specific T regulatory cells” Researchers at the Uniformed Services University are investigating a way to specifically turn off components of the immune system that are harmful in people with MS.

Chuan Wu, MD, PhD

National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$375,000
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“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?

Ai-Hong Zhang, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/2016-10/31/2018

“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, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$598,715
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, PhD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$989,434
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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**Barbara Osborne, PhD**

University of Massachusetts Amherst
Amherst, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$462,000
Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

“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, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$593,988
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

John Chen, MD, PhD

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$591,389
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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, MD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$492,718
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

Tanuja Chitnis, MD

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Distribution and predictors of disease severity in pediatric MS” Investigators at Massachusetts General Hospital are evaluating what proportion of children with MS experience a severe course of the disease.

Stefanie Giera, PhD

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

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$178,391
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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

Murugaiyan Gopal, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$274,308
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Charles Guttman, MD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$651,000
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, PhD

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$111,145
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2018

“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.

Charlotte Madore, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$161,218
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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.

Amir-Hadi Maghzi, MD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$206,246-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“Investigation of the microbiome in multiple sclerosis and its relationship to immunologic and clinical features of disease” Investigators at Brigham and Women’s Hospital are researching the microbiome in MS and its relationship to immune activity and clinical features of disease.

Sarah Minden, MD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery and Policy
Research Contracts
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$622,531
Term: 11/1/2009-12/31/2018

“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, MD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery and Policy
Research Contracts
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$329,613
Term: 10/1/2011-12/31/2018

“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.

Sarah Minden, MD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$698,337
Term: 10/1/2012-12/31/2018

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

Sarah Minden, MD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$316,266
Term: 10/1/2013-12/31/2018

“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, MD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 10/1/2015-TBD

“Feasibility of using telehealth to improve access to MS care” Evaluating the benefits and feasibility of providing MS clinical care remotely.

Sarah Minden, MD

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

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$411,387-PENDING
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2019

“What is the extent to which people with MS utilize complementary and alternative medicine (CAM)?” Investigators at the Brigham & Women’s Hospital and collaborators are launching an extensive effort to understand complementary and alternative medicine use in MS.

Kevin Patel, MD

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

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$184,890
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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

Nikos Patsopoulos, MD, PhD

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

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$599,277-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“Sex specific genetics of multiple sclerosis” Researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital are analyzing large sets of genetic data to identify genes that explain why women are more susceptible to MS than men.

Funded in part by the Al Otaiba Family

Xianhua Piao, MD, PhD

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

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$660,000
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$766,186
Term: 7/1/2014-6/30/2019

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

Francisco Quintana, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$624,082
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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.

Francisco Quintana, PhD

Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: International Progressive MS Alliance -
Collaborative Network Center

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$4,780,000
Term: 1/1/2017-12/23/2020

“Development of a drug discovery pipeline for progressive MS” Identifying candidates with neuroprotective and/or myelin repair activity to speed the search for treatments for progressive MS. *Estimated joint commitment with other Progressive MS Alliance members; Funded in full by an Anonymous Donor*

Frank Schildberg, PhD

Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$178,391
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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, MD, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$191,042
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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*

Chao Wang, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$587,079
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2022

“Regulation of TH17 cell function by CD5Like” Researchers at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston are exploring how a recently discovered molecule may be used to develop a strategy for stopping the immune attack in MS in its tracks.

Howard Weiner, MD

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

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$528,624
 Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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, MD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$1,375,000
 Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2021

“SUMMIT: An investigation of deeply phenotyped cohorts to understand disease outcomes and the biology of progression in 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.

Howard Weiner, MD

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

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$551,752-PENDING
 Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“The role of fecal microRNAs in CNS autoimmune inflammatory disease” Researchers at Harvard Medical School are investigating a type of molecule called microRNA that is found in the gut and that may someday be a treatment for MS.

MICHIGAN**Tiffany Braley, MD**

University of Michigan
 Ann Arbor, Michigan
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$827,967
 Term: 4/1/2015-3/31/2019

“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.

Nora Fritz, PT, PhD

Wayne State University
 Detroit, Michigan
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$44,000
 Term: 6/1/2017-5/31/2018

“Development and Efficacy of a Telephone-Delivered Physical Activity Intervention for Multiple Sclerosis Fatigue” Testing the effectiveness of telephone-delivered exercise to improve fatigue in people with relapsing-remitting MS.

Alexander Gow, PhD

Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 6/1/2017-5/31/2018

“Characterizing the radial component of CNS myelin” Exploring a novel facet of the myelin that insulates nerve fibers, for clues to how it is targeted in the MS attack.

Min-Hui Huang, PT, PhD

Regents of the University of Michigan
Flint, Michigan
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,643
Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“Effects of Inspiratory Muscle Training in Persons with Advanced Multiple Sclerosis” Testing a method of improving breathing and reducing the complications of breathing problems in people with advanced MS.

MINNESOTA

Wensheng Lin, MD, PhD

University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$561,891
Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

“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.

Ben Clarkson, PhD

Mayo Clinic Rochester
Rochester, Minnesota
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$184,654
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“Role of ISGylation in MS Synaptopathy” Researchers at the Mayo Clinic are investigating a process called “ISGylation” that may play a role in the cognitive problems experienced by many people with MS.

mahboobeh Fereidan-Esfahani, MD

Mayo Clinic Rochester
Rochester, Minnesota
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$110,388
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2019

“New Technologies to Characterize Therapeutic Human Antibodies for Demyelinating Disease” Researchers at the Mayo Clinic are investigating characteristics of an antibody that may promote repair of some types of damage that occur in progressive MS.

Claudia Lucchinetti, MD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$825,000
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2021

“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.

Jacob Hines, PhD

Winona State University
Winona, Minnesota
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“The role of axon caliber in the selective myelination of nerve axons” Researchers at Winona State University are learning what properties of the nerve fiber enable successful formation of myelin sheaths.

MISSOURI**Claudia Cantoni, PhD**

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$172,444
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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.

Robyn Klein, MD, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$662,812
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Tsen-Hsuan (Abby) Lin, PhD

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

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$114,963
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2018

“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.

Laura Piccio, MD, PhD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$777,853-PENDING
Term: 12:00:00 AM-3/31/2020

“Randomized controlled trial of intermittent fasting in multiple sclerosis” Investigators at Washington University in St. Louis are conducting a clinical trial comparing intermittent fasting with a normal western diet in people with MS.

Afsaneh Shirani, MD

Washington University School of Medicine-M
St. Louis, Missouri
Award: NMSS-ABF Clinician Scientist Development Award

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$198,894
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“Predicting clinical progression in multiple sclerosis patients using a novel imaging biomarker targeted at differentiating and quantifying the underlying pathologies” Researchers at Washington University School of Medicine are developing a new type of brain imaging to allow detection and prediction of different types of damage that occur in people with MS.

Sheng-Kwei Song, PhD

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

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$648,976
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“How Does Optic Neuritis Impact Nerve Function and Its Assessment?” Researchers at The Hope Center at Washington University in St. Louis are developing a method to specifically image damage to the optic nerve to better understand MS disease processes.

Emily Evans, MD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2020

“Sylvia Lawry Clinical Trials Research Training Fellowship” A promising doctor at Washington University School of Medicine will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

NEVADA**Stephen Francis, MS, PhD**

University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, Nevada
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$43,628
Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“A polymorphic SVA element at the HLA-DRB1 locus as a driver of genetic risk in MS” Studying a specific genetic feature that may confer susceptibility to MS.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Sara Colpitts, PhD

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

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“The role of interleukin-15 in driving protective regulatory B cells during CNS inflammation”

Investigating how antibiotic treatment may induce a regulatory immune response in MS-like disease in mice.

Heather Wishart, PhD

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

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$366,010
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Cognitive evaluation in MS: Expanding clinical research potential through the validation of an online testing battery”

Researchers at the Geisel Medical School at Dartmouth are testing the feasibility of administering cognitive testing online, to improve the process of evaluating cognitive changes in large-scale studies in MS.

NEW JERSEY

John DeLuca, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$821,585
Term: 4/1/2014-3/31/2019

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

John DeLuca, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$404,698
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2022

“MS Fellowship in Neuropsychological Rehabilitation” Rehabilitation researchers at Kessler Foundation have received funding to train promising rehabilitation professionals to conduct MS rehabilitation research.

Ekaterina Dobryakova, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$407,888
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$479,784
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Helen Genova, PhD

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

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,986
Term: 6/1/2017-5/31/2018

“Examining Neural Changes Following an Emotional Processing Intervention in Individuals with Multiple Sclerosis” Examining the effects of an intervention aimed at improving emotional processing abilities in individuals with MS.

Lauren Strober, PhD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$513,495
Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

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

Lauren Strober, PhD

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

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/2016-8/31/2018

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

Bing Yao, PhD

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

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$558,314
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Investigating the Correlation between Cognitive Fatigue and Brain Iron Deposition in Basal Ganglia in Multiple Sclerosis” Investigators at Kessler Foundation Research Center In West Orange, NJ, are exploring whether iron in certain areas of the brain contributes to cognitive fatigue in people with MS.

NEW MEXICO**Oscar Bizzozero, PhD**

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

Category: Biochem./Biophysics
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 6/1/2017-5/31/2018

“Identification of miRNAs that downregulate Nrf2 signaling in EAE” Investigating how failure to launch an antioxidant response may contribute to MS damage, and thus may be a target for preventing damage in MS.

NEW YORK

Hiroko Nobuta, PhD

Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Bronx, New York

Award: Career Transition Fellowship

Category: Biology of Glia

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$562,908-PENDING

Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2023

“Development of a Human Compatible Platform to Study Oligodendrocyte Biology” Researchers at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, are optimizing ways of producing human myelin-making cells to speed efforts to find strategies to repair nerve-insulating myelin and restore function in MS.

Ralph Benedict, PhD

The State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York

Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$1063,919

Term: 4/1/2015-5/31/2020

“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, MD

The State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York

Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$596,537

Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

“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?

Yungki Park, PhD

The State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York

Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$44,000

Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Elucidating the pathogenetic mechanisms of multiple sclerosis” Researchers at The State University of New York at Buffalo are seeking to understand how genetic variations may contribute to MS risk, using cutting edge technology

Janet Shucard, PhD

The State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York

Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$608,859

Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“The Effects of Working Memory Training on Brain Function, Structure, and Cognition in MS”

Investigators at The State University of New York at Buffalo, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, are testing two training programs for improving cognitive function in people with MS.

Fraser Sim, PhD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$579,899
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Targeting extracellular sulfatases to accelerate oligodendrocyte progenitor-based myelin repair and regeneration” Researchers at The State University of New York at Buffalo are attempting a new strategy to improve the ability of cells to repair of nerve-insulating myelin.

Fraser Sim, PhD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000-PENDING
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Modeling human cell-based remyelination in large chronic demyelinating lesions” Investigators at The State University of New York at Buffalo are establishing a new model of demyelination to determine whether human cell therapy has the capacity to restore lost myelin.

Caila Vaughn, PhD, MPH

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,725-PENDING
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“The Usefulness of the Talkitt Speech Recognition Technology in Improving Quality of Life for Individuals with Multiple Sclerosis and Dysarthria” Researchers at the State University of New York at Buffalo are conducting a trial to determine whether an application for smart devices improves communication-related quality of life in people with MS and speech disorders.

Oluwasheyi Ayeni, MD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2018

“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.

Ilena George, MD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2019

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

Sam Horng, MD, PhD

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$241,458
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2022

“How Does the Astrocyte Barrier Protein, JAM-A, Regulate Immune Cell Entry and Activity in CNS Inflammatory Lesions?” Researchers at Icahn School of Medicine are exploring a novel strategy that pinpoints the entry of immune cells into the brain, for clues to stopping damage caused by the immune attack in MS.

Herbert Karpatkin, DSc

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,991
Term: 9/1/2016-8/31/2018

“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, MD

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

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$161,975
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2018

“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.

Sonya Kim, CRC, PhD

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

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 6/1/2017-5/31/2019

“Psychometric validation of the posttraumatic growth scale in partners of persons with multiple sclerosis” Developing an instrument that measures the partner’s responses to the impact of MS.

Joo-won Kim, PhD

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$184,654
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“Assessing Microstructural Integrity of Cervical Spinal Cord Gray and White Matter with Ultra-High Field Diffusion MRI for Progressive MS” Researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai are using advanced imaging to evaluate damage to the spinal cord in people with progressive MS to allow better ways to predict and treat progression.

Kathleen C. Moore Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship

Lauren Krupp, MD

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

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$1,046,676
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2020

“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.

Christopher Langston, MD, PhD

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

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2020

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

Victoria Leavitt, PhD

Columbia University
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$558,130
Term: 8/1/2014-3/31/2019

“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.

Victoria Leavitt, PhD

Columbia University
New York, New York
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$389,211
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2022

“Cognitive Rehabilitation in MS: From Neuroscience to Clinical Practice” An award supporting the training of promising young candidates in cognitive rehabilitation for people with multiple sclerosis.

Victoria Leavitt, PhD

Columbia University
New York, New York
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,864-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“A randomized control trial of e-Support as a social network intervention in MS” Using an online format to deliver the benefits of support groups to people with MS.

Jennifer Linden, PhD

Weill Cornell Medical College
New York, New York
Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$583,486
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2022

“Using Endothelial Microparticles to Study Real-Time Blood Brain Barrier Permeability in Multiple Sclerosis Patients” Investigators at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York are studying a molecular “signature” found in blood that may indicate the status of the blood-brain barrier, which normally protects the brain by keeping harmful cells and molecules out of the bra

Mia Minen, MD, MPH

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

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“Multiple Sclerosis and Migraine: Can smartphone based progressive muscle relaxation therapy help MS patients' headaches, sleep, mood/anxiety and stress levels?” Testing a method of reducing pain from migraine and MS.

Sarah Moyon, PhD

Research Foundation of CUNY-ASRC
New York, New York
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$125,564
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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.

Thanh Nguyen, PhD

Weill Cornell Medical College
New York, New York
Award: Research Grants

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$897,375
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2020

“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, PhD

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$182,327
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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, MD, PhD

New York University School of Medicine
New York, New York
Award: Fast Forward

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$598,950
Term: 9/23/2015-12/21/2018

“Enhancing Remyelination by Targeting Gli1” Developing a potential therapy that promotes myelin repair by stimulating the body's repair mechanisms.
Funded in collaboration with the MS Society of Canada

James Sumowski, PhD

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

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$43,999
Term: 11/1/2016-4/30/2018

“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.

TG Therapeutics,

TG Therapeutics
New York, New York
Award: Fast Forward

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$254,452
Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“Pre-clinical testing of existing drug candidates to determine if it can protect the nervous system from damage and/or can repair damage” Pre-clinical testing of existing drug candidates to determine if it can protect the nervous system from damage and/or can repair damage, especially for the treatment of progressive MS.

Junqian Xu, PhD

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

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$43,998
Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Towards validating magnetic resonance spectroscopy measured glutamate as an in vivo spinal cord neuroplasticity biomarker using dendritic morphometry” Researchers at Icahn School of Medicine are optimizing tools to prepare for the investigation of the effects of rehabilitation in MS.

David Jay Mock, MD

University of Rochester Medical Center
 Rochester, New York
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$44,000
 Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“Establishment of a new animal model that mimics latent human Herpes Virus 6 infection in the brain” Determining whether a virus plays a role in preventing myelin repair in an MS model.

Andrew Smith, MD

University of Rochester
 Rochester, New York
 Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$195,000
 Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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, PhD

State University of New York at Stony Brook
 Stony Brook, New York
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$446,025
 Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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.

Holly Colognato, PhD

State University of New York at Stony Brook
 Stony Brook, New York
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$582,278
 Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Signaling pathways that regulate myelin repair” Researchers at State University of New York at Stony Brook are exploring a strategy for stimulating signals that promote myelin repair in MS.

Pawan Kumar, PhD

State University of New York at Stony Brook
 Stony Brook, New York
 Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$42,350-PENDING
 Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“The role of intestinal antimicrobial peptides in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis” Testing a therapeutic approach using molecules that regulate gut bacteria to reduce severity of MS-like disease.

NORTH CAROLINA**Jason Franz, PhD**

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

Category: Diagnostic Methods
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$43,604
 Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“Effect of optical flow perturbations on static and dynamic balance control in people with multiple sclerosis” Studying how virtual reality might be used to accurately identify balance problems in people with MS.

Glenn Matsushima, PhD

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

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$500,009
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Function of microglia during remyelination” Researchers at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are exploring a novel strategy for promoting the natural capacity of the brain to repair the damage that occurs in MS.

Jenny Ting, PhD

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$825,000
Term: 4/1/2014-3/31/2019

“Preclinical Therapeutic Development for Multiple Sclerosis” Testing therapies to stop the immune attack and protect the nervous system.

Mari Shinohara, PhD

Duke University Medical Center
Charlotte, North Carolina
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$660,554
Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

“Study on innate immune inflammation that enhances EAE” Understanding differences in response to MS treatment by looking at MS models.

Heather Kane, PhD

RTI International
Raleigh, North Carolina
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$214,840
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, PhD**

Children's Hospital Medical Center - Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$698,640
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Laura Baldassari, MD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$130,000
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2019

“Training in multiple sclerosis diagnosis, management, and clinical trials” A promising doctor at Cleveland Clinic Foundation will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Farren Briggs, PhD

Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: End
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“Quantifying the genetic burden of multiple sclerosis age of onset.” Exploring how genetic risk factors may be related to age at onset of MS.

Jenny Feng, MD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$195,000-PENDING
Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“Training in multiple sclerosis diagnosis, management, and clinical trials” A promising doctor at Cleveland Clinic Foundation will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Robert Fox, MD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$592,151
Term: 10/1/2013-9/30/2018

“Ibutilast Clinical Trial” Clinical trial to test whether ibutilast, 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

Robert Fox, MD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$416,686
Term: 10/1/2015-12:00:00 AM

“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.

Xiaoxia Li, PhD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$732,861-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“Cellular and molecular mechanisms of the inflammasome in CNS inflammation” Researchers at the Cleveland Clinic are investigating the importance of harmful immune system molecules in an animal model of MS.

Kedar Mahajan, MD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: NMSS-ABF Clinician Scientist Development
Award

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$194,394
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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, DO

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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, PhD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$545,144
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, DVM, PhD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$458,039
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

Paul Tesar, PhD

Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Genetics
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$654,443
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“The impact of chemical and genetic dysregulation of transcriptional pausing on oligodendrocyte generation and myelination in MS” Investigators at Case Western Reserve University and the Whitehead Institute are investigating underlying factors that hinder stem cells in the brain from replacing myelin in people with MS.

Chunying WU, PhD

Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 9/1/2017-8/31/2018

“A Dual PET Imaging Technique for In Vivo Characterization of Myelination in Multiple Sclerosis”
Developing a novel imaging method for identifying changes to myelin in models of MS.

Amy Lovett-Racke, PhD

Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$273,122
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Ruchika Prakash, PhD

Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$631,261
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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.

Yuhong Yang, MD

The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“Activation of the inhibitory receptor PD-1 signaling pathway for MS therapy” Targeting a novel pathway for stopping the immune attack in MS.

OKLAHOMA**Robert Axtell, PhD**

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$422,400
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2018

“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, PhD

University of Tulsa
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$39,873
Term: 2/1/2012-9/30/2018

“A manualized cognitive rehabilitation program for Multiple Sclerosis” Developing a standardized program to improve memory, and testing its effects on memory function and ability to manage daily responsibilities in a small number of people with MS.

OREGON

Dennis Bourdette, MD

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$825,000
Term: 4/1/2015-3/31/2020

“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, MD

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$598,082
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Promoting remyelination in animal models of multiple sclerosis with a selective thymomimetic prodrug”

Researchers at Oregon Health & Science University are exploring a novel strategy for repairing myelin and restoring function in laboratory models of MS.

Meredith Hartley, PhD

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$178,391
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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, MPH, PharmD

Oregon State University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$411,151
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2018

“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, PT, PhD

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$432,457
Term: 7/1/2014-6/30/2019

“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.

Kelly Monk, PhD

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Harry Weaver Neuroscience Scholarships

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$521,023
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2021

“Molecular mechanisms that govern oligodendrocyte biology” Researchers at Washington University School of Medicine are investigating how certain genes control the formation of nerve-insulating myelin, for clues to developing myelin repair strategies.

Larry Sherman, PhD

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Research Grants

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$575,556
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“WE-thrombin for the treatment of inflammatory demyelination” Researchers at Oregon Health & Science University are developing a novel agent that fights inflammation, which may protect the nervous system from damage in MS.

Elizabeth Silbermann, MD

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Sylvia Lawry Physician Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$195,000
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“Sylvia Lawry Clinical Trials Physician Fellowship” A promising doctor at Oregon Health & Science University will develop the skills involved in the design, implementation, and analysis of clinical trials in MS.

Rebecca Spain, MD, MSPH

Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, Oregon
Award: Strategic Initiatives

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$1,180,578
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2021

“Lipoic acid for the treatment of progressive multiple sclerosis” Investigators at Oregon Health & Science University are conducting a clinical trial to determine if the oral supplement, lipoic acid, is an effective treatment for progressive forms of multiple sclerosis.

Ian Tagge, PhD

Oregon Health & Science University
 Portland, Oregon
 Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Measuring MS Disease Activity
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$113,047
 Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2019

“Phenotyping leptomeningeal pathology in MS using DCE MRI” Researchers at Oregon Health and Science University are using advanced imaging methods to visualize MS activity in the “leptomeninges,” which covers the outer surface of the brain.

PENNSYLVANIA**Youhai Chen, MD, PhD**

University of Pennsylvania
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$664,366
 Term: 9/30/2016-9/30/2018

“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.

Judith Grinspan, PhD

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$583,760
 Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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, MD, PhD, MPH

Temple University
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
 Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$99,402
 Term: 7/15/2016-9/15/2018

“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.

Michael Halpern, MD, PhD, MPH

Temple University
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
 Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$359,411
 Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2019

“What are the barriers preventing access to rehabilitation services, particularly maintenance services among people with MS and what are some of the potential solutions to these barriers?” Researchers at Temple University in Philadelphia are examining how to improve access to rehabilitation services for people with MS.

Longevity Biotech, Inc,
Longevity Biotech, Inc
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Fast Forward

Category: Preclinical Drug Development
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$316,384
Term: 9/26/2017-3/31/2019

“Evaluation of a Parkinson’s Disease Drug Candidate in Myelination Events Associated with Multiple Sclerosis” Pre-clinical testing of the ability of a drug being tested in Parkinson's to protect and repair damaged nerve cells while also restoring balance to the immune system.

A.M. Rostami, MD, PhD
Thomas Jefferson University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$650,000
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“IL-37, a novel therapeutic intervention for autoimmune neuroinflammation” Researchers at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia are exploring a novel strategy for stopping the immune attack in MS.

Russell Shinohara, PhD
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Research Grants

Category: Epidemiology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$585,061-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2021

“A traveling subject study of replicability in conventional and advanced MRI MS biomarkers” Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania are developing statistical methods to reduce differences in images obtained on different MRI scanners to improve the accuracy of MRI data from people with MS.

Rodolfo Thome, PhD
Thomas Jefferson University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$184,654
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“The role of IL-7 in pathogenesis of Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis” Researchers at Thomas Jefferson University are investigating the role of an immune molecule that may drive damaging inflammation in MS.

RHODE ISLAND

Theresa Shireman, PhD
Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island
Award: Health Care Delivery and Policy Research
Contracts

Category: Health Care Delivery/ Policy
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$560,862
Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

“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.

TENNESSEE

Hongbo Chi, PhD

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
Memphis, Tennessee
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$660,000
Term: 4/1/2017-3/31/2020

“Metabolic control of TH17 cell plasticity and pathogenicity in neuroinflammation” Researchers at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN, are studying a novel immune pathway that may help to protect mice from developing MS-like disease, for clues to stopping the attack in MS.

Seth Smith, PhD

Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Nashville, Tennessee
Award: Research Grants

Category: Diagnostic Methods
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$397,117
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

TEXAS

Jianrong Li, PhD

Texas A&M AgriLife Research
College Station, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$554,289
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Jianrong Li, PhD

Texas A&M AgriLife Research
College Station, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$521,327
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Role of Galectin-9 in CNS Inflammation, Demyelination and Myelin Repair” Researchers at Texas A&M University are investigating a target for developing biomarkers and treatment strategies for progressive MS.

Bart Rypma, PhD

The University of Texas at Dallas
Dallas, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Neurophysiology
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$492,792
Term: 4/1/2016-3/31/2019

“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.

Bart Rypma, PhD

The University of Texas at Dallas
Dallas, Texas
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“Role of astrocytes in neural-vascular coupling and its dysfunction in multiple sclerosis” Using neuroimaging methods to determine the mechanisms of cognitive dysfunction in MS.

Benjamin Deneen, PhD

Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$610,418
Term: 9/30/2015-9/30/2018

“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

Teng-Wei Huang, PhD

Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$172,507
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2020

“The role of Sox9 in remyelination after white matter injury” Researchers at Baylor College of Medicine are exploring a novel pathway to understand why myelin repair fails in people with MS, for clues to a possible repair strategy.

Hyun Kyoung Lee, PhD

Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$375,000
Term: 3/1/2016-2/28/2019

“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 Lindsey, MD

The University of Texas Health Science Center at
Houston
Houston, Texas
Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Infectious Agents
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000
Term: 6/1/2017-5/31/2018

“CD8 cells in multiple sclerosis: Pilot proposal” Exploring whether virus proteins stimulate an immune response similar to that which occurs in MS.

Thomas Forsthuber, MD, PhD

The University of Texas at San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$660,270
Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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, PhD

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
Approx. Funding: \$3,000,000
Term: 7/1/2016-6/30/2019

“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.

Lee Dibble, PT, PhD

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$436,220
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Gaze and postural stability in persons with MS at risk for falls: Characterizing deficits and response to treatment” Researchers at the University of Utah are investigating whether exercises specifically designed to improve inner ear function can improve balance and vision stability in people with MS.

Laura Dickey, PhD

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: CNS Repair
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$166,724
Term: 7/1/2015-6/30/2018

“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

Thomas Lane, PhD

University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$825,000
Term: 7/1/2017-6/30/2022

“Novel approaches towards understanding disease progression and repair using viral models of multiple sclerosis” University of Utah researchers from a variety of fields are trying different experimental approaches including adult stem cells to stop progression of MS-like disease in mice and promote repair of the nervous system.

Miguel Paz Soldan, MD, PhD

Western Institute for Biomedical Research (WIBR)
Salt Lake City, Utah
Award: Pilot Research Grant

Category: Neuropathology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$44,000-PENDING
Term: 3/1/2018-2/28/2019

“CNS vulnerability in a Progressive MS Model” To study whether differences in the cells of the central nervous system might contribute to the risk of developing progressive MS.

VERMONT

Dimitry Kremontsov, PhD

University of Vermont

Burlington, Vermont

Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$552,845

Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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.

VIRGINIA

Elizabeth Frost, PhD

University of Virginia

Charlottesville, Virginia

Award: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$181,754-PENDING

Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2021

“Spleen tyrosine kinase regulation of microglial functions in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis” Researchers at the University of Virginia are investigating whether a molecule plays helpful roles in regulating the function of a cell type called microglia in MS.

Myla Goldman, MD

University of Virginia

Charlottesville, Virginia

Award: Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$624,604

Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2020

“Assessment of the Clinical Importance of Insulin Resistance & Steroid-Associated Hyperglycemia in Relapsing Multiple Sclerosis” 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, PhD

University of Virginia

Charlottesville, Virginia

Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology

Strategic Area: Stop

Approx. Funding: \$660,000

Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

Babette Fuss, PhD

Virginia Commonwealth University

Richmond, Virginia

Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia

Strategic Area: Restore

Approx. Funding: \$678,392

Term: 10/1/2016-9/30/2019

“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, PhD

Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Virginia
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biology of Glia
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$587,785
Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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, PhD

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$794,769
Term: 4/1/2014-3/31/2019

“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?

Estelle Bettelli, PhD

Benaroya Research Institute
Seattle, Washington
Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$497,819
Term: 10/1/2017-9/30/2020

“Cell type specific modulation of STAT1 signaling to prevent the development of CNS autoimmunity” Researchers at the Benaroya Research Institute in Seattle are studying a signaling pathway with the goal of improving protecting the nervous system from MS damage.

Charles Bombardier, PhD

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Research Grants

Category: Rehabilitation
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$1,466,730
Term: 10/1/2013-9/30/2018

“The effect of aerobic exercise on cognition in multiple sclerosis” Can aerobic exercise improve cognitive impairment in people with MS?

Dawn Ehde, PhD

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Research Grants

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$879,991-PENDING
Term: 4/1/2018-3/31/2022

“Mindfulness based Cognitive Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Chronic Pain in Multiple Sclerosis” University of Washington researchers are conducting a clinical trial testing two non-pharmacological approaches to managing pain in people with MS.

Aaron Turner, PhD

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Psychosocial Aspects of MS
Strategic Area: Restore
Approx. Funding: \$382,459
Term: 7/1/2013-6/30/2018

“The Seattle collaborative post-doctoral fellowship in MS rehabilitation research” Researchers at the University of Washington are training a series of promising professionals in how to conduct MS rehabilitation research.

Aaron Turner, PhD

University of Washington
 Seattle, Washington
 Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowships

Category: Rehabilitation
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$401,426-PENDING
 Term: 7/1/2018-6/30/2023

“The Seattle Collaborative Fellowship” Researchers at the University of Washington are training a series of promising professionals in how to conduct MS rehabilitation research.

WEST VIRGINIA**Gordon Meares, PhD**

West Virginia University
 Morgantown, West Virginia
 Award: Career Transition Fellowships

Category: Biology of Glia
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$380,636
 Term: 1/1/2015-12/31/2018

“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**Ian Duncan, DVM, PhD**

University of Wisconsin-Madison
 Madison, Wisconsin
 Award: Research Grants

Category: CNS Repair
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$763,055
 Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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.

Funded in part by the Ladish Company Foundation

Bonnie Dittel, PhD

BloodCenter of Wisconsin
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 Award: Research Grants

Category: Immunology
 Strategic Area: Stop
 Approx. Funding: \$681,791
 Term: 10/1/2015-9/30/2018

“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 - Funded in part by the Ladish Company Foundation

Jeri-Anne Lyons, PhD

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 Award: Pilot Research Grants

Category: Human Therapy Trials/Management of MS
 Strategic Area: Restore
 Approx. Funding: \$44,000
 Term: 11/1/2017-10/31/2018

“Investigating the Effect of Photobiomodulation Therapy for Improved Muscle Function in Relapsing/Remitting Multiple Sclerosis” Researchers are conducting a clinical trial to determine the effectiveness of a form of light therapy to treat muscle fatigue in people with MS.

Funded in part by the Ladish Company Foundation

Hao Zhang, PhD

Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Award: Research Grants

Category: Biochem./Biophysics
Strategic Area: Stop
Approx. Funding: \$646,763
Term: 10/1/2014-9/30/2018

“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?