

February 25, 2010

## Allergy & Immunology

Marc E. Rothenberg, MD, PhD  
*Director*  
513-636-7210  
Fax 513-636-3310  
marc.rothenberg@cchmc.org

Amal H. Assa'ad, MD  
*Director of Clinical Services*  
513-636-7944  
Fax 513-636-4615

Kevin Titus, MBA  
*Business Director*

J. Pablo Abonia, MD  
Alexandra H. Filipovich, MD  
Thomas J. Fischer, MD  
Gurjit Khurana Hershey, MD, PhD  
Simon Hogan, PhD  
Harpinder Kalra, MD  
Michelle B. Lierl, MD  
Anil Mishra, PhD  
Kimberly Risma, MD, PhD  
Yui-Hsi Wang, PhD  
Nives Zimmermann, MD  
Karl von Tiehl, MD  
Li Zuo, MD

Deborah Seider, RN  
513-636-9413  
Fax 513-636-4615

Christine Steinmetz, RN  
513-636-4589  
Fax 513-636-4615

Annette Ahrens, BA  
Bridget Buckmeier, BA, CCRP  
Allison Greenberg, AB  
Tommie Grotjan  
*Clinical Research Coordinators*

Sean Jameson, BA  
*Program Coordinator CCED*

LaWanda Bryant, BA  
*Senior Administrative Assistant*

CURED Foundation  
c/o Ellyn Kodroff  
PO Box 32  
Lincolnshire, IL 60069

Dear Ellyn and Members of the CURED Board:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and update you about the progress we have made utilizing your extremely generous, critical, and motivational continuous financial support to the eosinophil research program at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. You and the dear members of your family and the CURED Board have truly helped changed the outcome of our research focused on understanding, best treatment and cure for eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders (EGID).

Over the next year, your recent donation of \$100,000 will assist us with understanding our recent breakthroughs concerning the genetic cause of EGID as we have just completed the first genome wide analysis using a well-developed genomics platform. This research has identified very attractive genetic leads that are providing true understanding of the mechanistic steps involved in eosinophilic esophagitis and EGID. We are also now embarking on a clinical trial that is designed to test an innovative and promising strategy to medically treat eosinophilic esophagitis by blocking a pathway that was directly identified by our basic research studies (anti-IL-13). Additionally, we are focusing on understanding non-responsiveness to fluticasone therapy by examining a specific genetic pathway that appears to be involved in steroid resistance in the GI tract (mediated by FKBP51). We are also extending our first controlled clinical trial by examining the impact of higher doses of this medicine in a controlled clinical trial. We are also heavily invested in the development of non-invasive tests for diagnosing and monitoring EGID and are focusing on a cytokine panel in the blood as well as genetic panel from GI tissue that may ease disease diagnosis and classification. Further, we are examining the mechanism of eosinophilic gastritis and comparing it to the steps involved with eosinophilic esophagitis, especially because Jorie and others often having waning and waxing disease that shifts between the stomach and esophagus. While we aim to provide the best care possible for each patient, we also aim to learn from each patient through medical research. Indeed, nearly all patients are being enrolled into an eosinophilic patient data bank designed to answer fundamental clinical, epidemiological, outcomes and quality of life questions concerning this debilitating disease. As we discussed, we are expanding our databank to become a national registry for EGID.

The following outlines our steady progress over the past year, all based on published studies funded in part by CURED (as acknowledged in many papers).

- Publication of ~25 articles in international medical journals.
- Identification of a novel pathway that connects stress with allergic inflammation (NPS and its receptor in the brain).

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

MLC 2000, 3333 Burnet Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039 | www.cincinnatichildrens.org  
Phone 513-636-6771 | Clinical Fax 513-636-4615 | Research Fax 513-636-3310 | Patient Appointments 513-636-2601

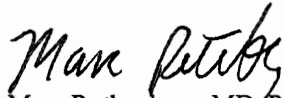
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- Demonstration that patients with EGID have a greatly impaired quality of life compared with other chronic diseases including IBD and diabetes.
- Elucidation of the reason that GI eosinophils become activated, particularly related to parasite infection and host defense.
- Determining the effect of acidic conditions on eosinophils; we have elucidated that acid increases eosinophil lifespan (viability) which means that we need to consider acid blockade even in the absence of reflux disease.
- Determining that the inflamed GI tissue is a site for IgE antibody production and that mast cells become directly activated in the tissue. As such, this explains the poor utility of skin prick tests to diagnose food allergies in EGID patients.
- The key role of a metabolic hormone (RELM-a) in eliciting gastrointestinal inflammation and metabolic syndrome during inflammatory responses in vivo.

While we are proud of our accomplishments, we know how much more needs to be done, especially in light of the suffering and limitations that Jorie experiences. Despite how close we are to further impacting eosinophilic diseases, our research is directly limited by our funds. Our primary source (the federal government via the NIH) is facing the worst funding crisis in its history. So, despite the amazing progress and the capabilities of our research to have a huge impact on eosinophilic disorders, we are now faced with a great predicament as the potentials are great but funding is the rate limiting step. As such, CURED's generous support is even timelier.

I am so grateful to you and the wonderful supporters of CURED for providing us with a great deal of funds and for the confidence that you place in us as we pursue the best treatment and cure for EGID through leading research.

With gratefulness,



Marc Rothenberg, MD, PhD  
Professor and Director  
Division of Allergy and Immunology



**Allergy & Immunology**

March 3, 2010

**Marc E. Rothenberg, MD, PhD**  
Director  
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Fax 513-636-3310  
marc.rothenberg@cchmc.org

**Amal H. Assa'ad, MD**  
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Program Coordinator CCED

**LaWanda Bryant, BA**  
Senior Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Elynn Kodroff  
CURED NFP  
2937 Bayberry Drive  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Dear Elynn, and Members of the CURED Foundation,

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratefulness for your recent donation of \$100,000 for Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disorder Research at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. This donation will provide critical funds for our multi-faceted research program designed to uncover the causes, best treatment and cure for EGID. Knowing how hard you work to raise this money provides special meaning and significance to this contribution. Your never-ending dedication and pursuit to this cause provides me with the impudence to relentlessly pursue research aimed at improving the life of Jorie, and the lives of other countless individuals suffering from this disorder.

Please let each of the members of your esteemed, dedicated and kind foundation know how touched we are by your contribution and the significance of these critical financial funds.

Sincerely yours,

Marc E. Rothenberg, M.D.  
Director, Division of Allergy and Immunology  
Director, Cincinnati Children's Eosinophilic Disorders

Cc: Mr. Michael Fisher, President and CEO, CCHMC  
Dr. Arnold W. Strauss, Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, CCHMC



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Dear Elynn and the Members of the CURED Foundation,

I want to take this opportunity to greatly thank you for your recent gift of \$100,000 to advance eosinophilic disease research at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Your continual support of our program has been absolutely vital to our efforts to solve the mysteries of this disease. I am particularly interested in the cause, best treatment and eventual cure. As you know we are making potential progress in these areas. A great deal of progress can definitely be attributed to the funds you provide, in addition, knowing the manner in which these funds were raised and the suffering that Jorie and countless other individuals with eosinophilic disorders undergo is a personal motivating factor for myself and the entire team. Your continual support of our efforts is remarkable, noble, and inspirational.

With sincerest gratitude,

Marc E. Rothenberg, M.D., Ph.D.  
Director, Division of Allergy and Immunology  
Director, Cincinnati Center for Eosinophilic Disorders

Cc: Michael Fisher, President and CEO, CCMHC  
Dr. Arnold W. Strauss, Chairman Department of Pediatrics, CCHMC