



The largest private funder, the Lupus Research Alliance, is driven by one central goal — to improve the lives of people living with the disease, today and in the long term. As of 2017, the organization has funded \$182 million in lupus research programs, leading to key discoveries that are improving diagnosis and treatment while pushing closer to prevention and a cure. We believe that scientific research is the most powerful way we can achieve this goal. Further, we believe that by both pushing the limits of scientific exploration and shepherding new discoveries as they evolve into potential treatments, we can best seize every opportunity to impact the lives of those with lupus. Our strategy is a coordinated effort — one that leverages resources and fosters collaboration to avoid duplication of effort and inefficiency. The Lupus Research Alliance advances under one roof the full spectrum of innovation across fundamental and translational research to clinical trials. The end goals — to speed new treatments, to prevent lupus and to ultimately cure it.

<b>OUR RESEARCH FUNDING MECHANISMS:</b>	
<p><b>Dr. William E. Paul Distinguished Innovator Award (DIA) in Lupus and Autoimmunity</b></p>	<p>The Dr. William E. Paul Distinguished Innovator Award in Lupus and Autoimmunity provides outstanding scientists with substantial support (\$1 million) for up to four years to conduct novel research into the fundamental causes of systemic lupus erythematosus and so provide new directions towards a cure. We welcome novel, hypothesis or discovery-driven proposals in human and/or animal model based lupus research. The research proposal must aim to uncover the fundamental causes of lupus and present a compelling vision of how the discovery would lay the groundwork for a cure, prevention, or a highly effective therapy. Applications are judged primarily on the novelty and potential of the research proposal, and the strengths and track record of the investigator. Emphasis will be on the rationale for the hypothesis rather than the amount of preliminary data. Continuations of long-term research projects will not be considered. Successful applicants will be outstanding investigators who have demonstrated creativity and productivity in their field of research. We encourage applications from investigators in diverse disciplines including, but not limited to, immunology, genetics, molecular-, cell- and systems biology.</p>
<p><b>Target Identification in Lupus Grant (TIL) Program</b></p>	<p>The Target Identification in Lupus (TIL) grant program provides \$600,000 grants for up to three years to: (1) characterize key steps in the pathogenesis of the disease that will allow for the development of new therapeutic agents; (2) promote basic and clinical research studies to identify and/or better characterize promising lead compounds for lupus treatment; and (3) support research that facilitates the clinical evaluation of innovative approaches to the prevention or treatment of lupus and its complications. This research is intended to be highly focused on lupus and, as such, should lead directly to knowledge that will facilitate drug discovery and/or testing of new treatments. These therapies may be used to treat systemic or organ-specific manifestations of lupus, although they may find applicability in the setting of other autoimmune or inflammatory illnesses. As the goal of this program is to advance the treatment of lupus, any research funded must be based on realizable goals for translation into therapeutic discovery programs. Targets can include small molecules, biologic agents, vaccines, gene therapy, as well as novel approaches in public health and risk reduction. We welcome applications proposing research that will apply knowledge gained in other disease areas (e.g. cancer, metabolic diseases) to mechanisms relevant to lupus.</p>
<p><b>Novel Research Grants (Novel)</b></p>	<p>The Novel Research Grant (NRG) program provides early stage support with three-year \$300,000 grants for high-risk, high-reward, idea-driven, novel research projects relevant to basic, translational or clinical investigation in lupus. Exceptionally creative and innovative, projects advance novel scientific hypotheses in lupus, aim to stimulate investigation of underexplored pathways, and initiate transformative discoveries that can drive the development of safer and more effective treatments. Open to the global research community, the Novel Research Grants foster investigations into the fundamental mechanisms of lupus and its complications, explorations of novel targets and pathways, and novel technologies. Applications from investigators in diverse disciplines, including those who may not have worked in lupus previously are encouraged. The Novel Research Grants mechanism also encourages projects based on novel explorations of lupus biology— including innovative studies that use human material.</p>

If you have questions about any of the Lupus Research Alliance grant mechanisms, please contact Diomaris Gonzalez, Director of Grant Programs at [dgonzalez@lupusresearch.org](mailto:dgonzalez@lupusresearch.org) or 212-218-2840.

**Distinguished Innovator Award (DIA)**

<i><u>Investigator</u></i>	<i><u>Institution</u></i>	<i><u>State / Country</u></i>	<i><u>Project Title</u></i>
<b><u>2017</u></b>			
Carroll, Michael, PhD	Children's Hospital Boston	MA	Dysregulation of interferon signaling in neurons triggers CNS lupus
Mountz, John, MD, PhD	University of Alabama at Birmingham	AL	B-cell control point dysregulation in African Americans in SLE
<b><u>2016</u></b>			
Fu, Shu Man, MD, PhD	University of Virginia	VA	Local factors contributing to pathogenesis of proliferative lupus nephritis
Reizis, Boris, PhD	New York University School of Medicine	NY	Origin, regulation and therapeutic targeting of extracellular DNA
<b><u>2015</u></b>			
Mayadas, Tanya, PhD	Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School	MA	IgG glycans, FcγRs and renal elements dictate antibody pathogenicity in SLE
Morand, Eric, MD, PhD	Lupus Clinic at Monash University	Australia	GILZ: glucocorticoid mediator, B cell regulator, and lupus target
<b><u>2014</u></b>			
Chen, Zhijian "James", PhD	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	TX	Roles of the cGAS pathway in lupus
Green, Douglas, PhD	St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	TN	Non-canonical autophagy, phagocytosis, and SLE
Noelle, Randy, PhD	Dartmouth College	NH	Targeting the VISTA pathway prevents fatal systemic lupus

<b>Novel Research Grants (Novel)</b>			
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<b>2018</b>			
Ballesteros-Tato, Andre, PhD	University of Alabama at Birmingham	AL	Immunotargeting of T follicular helper (Tfh) cells for SLE treatment
Barnes, Betsy, PhD	The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research	NY	Unexpected role(s) for IRF5 risk variants in SLE pathogenesis
Knight, Jason, MD, PhD	University of Michigan	MI	Neutrophil elastase as a therapeutic target in lupus
Lund, Frances, PhD	University of Alabama at Birmingham	AL	Characterization of chemokine producing effector B cells in SLE
Mathis, Keisa, PhD	University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth	TX	Targeting nicotinic receptors to reduce inflammation associated with SLE
Morel, Laurence, PhD	University of Florida	FL	Targeting immunometabolism and co-stimulation in combination therapies in lupus
Pernis, Alessandra, MD	The Hospital for Special Surgery	NY	Regulation of CD11c+Tbet+ B cells in lupus
Rahman, Ziaur, MD, PhD	Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine	PA	Mechanisms of the autoimmune germinal center response in SLE
Sawalha, Amr, MD	University of Michigan	MI	Targeting EZH2 in lupus
Zikherman, Julie, MD	University of California, San Francisco	CA	Exploiting Nur77 to target auto-reactive B cells in Lupus
<b>2017</b>			
Acharya, Mridu, PhD	Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason	WA	Autophagy components and B cell activation during SLE
Giltiy, Natalia, PhD	University of Washington	WA	Anti-BDCA2-targeted therapy for SLE
Jackson, Shaun, MD, PhD	Seattle Children's Hospital	WA	B cell-intrinsic cytokine reg of spontaneous germinal ctr formation in SLE
Knight, Andrea, MD	The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	PA	Multi-level biomarkers for psychiatric disorders in pediatric lupus
Kumar, Vipin, PhD	University of California, San Diego	CA	Targeting type II NKT cells for a novel therapeutic in lupus
Lood, Christian, PhD	University of Washington	WA	Impaired mitochondrial clearance in systemic lupus erythematosus
Rongvaux, Anthony, PhD	Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center	WA	Mitochondria, caspases and Type I interferons in autoimmunity
Shi, Guo-Ping, DSc	Brigham and Women's Hospital	MA	Cathepsin S inhibitor-modified Treg cells mitigate murine SLE
Zhang, John, DVM, PhD	Medical University of South Carolina	SC	A novel approach for treating lupus by inhibiting Fli1 transcription factor
Zhang, Zhiqiang, PhD	The Methodist Hospital Research Institute	TX	Oxidized mitochondrial DNA employs APEX1 in neutrophils to control lupus
<b>2016</b>			
Abrahams, Vikki, PhD	Yale University	CT	Role of infection in obstetric antiphospholipid syndrome
Camarero, Julio, PhD	USC/University of Southern California	CA	Therapeutic selective targeting of BAFF receptors
Criswell, Lindsey Ann, MD, MPH	University of California, San Francisco	CA	Pesticides and chemical exposures, DNA methylation, and SLE phenotypes
Gallucci, Stefania, MD	Temple University	PA	Bacterial amyloids from biofilms break tolerance in lupus
Garrett-Sinha, Lee Ann, MD	The Research Foundation for The SUNY on behalf of University at Buffalo	NY	Understanding the pathway regulated by the lupus susceptibility gene Ets1
Hsu, Hui-Chen, PhD	The University of Alabama at Birmingham	AL	Repopulation of tolerogenic B cells post B cell depletion therapy in lupus
Mandik-Nayak, Laura, PhD	Lankenau Institute for Medical Research	PA	IDO2, a novel therapeutic target for the treatment of lupus
Niewold, Timothy, MD	New York University School of Medicine	NY	Tolerogenic dendritic cells in human lupus
Scofield, Hal, MD	University of Oklahoma, Health Sciences Center	OK	Sex disparity in lupus is driven by putative X-linked genes
Vilen, Barbara, PhD	The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	NC	Cross sectional and longitudinal studies of immune complexes in SLE
Weirauch, Matthew, PhD	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Research Foundation	OH	A free website for discovering non-coding lupus-associated variant function
Wu, Tianfu, PhD	University of Houston	TX	PLK1, a potential novel therapeutic target for lupus

<b>Target Identification in Lupus (TIL)</b>			
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<b><u>2017</u></b>			
Caricchio, Roberto, MD	Temple University	PA	The Role of Bacterial Infections in the Pathogenesis of Lupus
Carrel, Laura, PhD	The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine	PA	Targeting the Inactive X chromosome in Lupus
Fitzgerald, Katherine, PhD	University of Massachusetts Medical School	MA	Characterization of STING SAVI Gain of function mutations in mice.
Mohan, Chandra, MD, PhD	University of Houston	TX	ALCAM in LUPUS
Nigrovic, Peter, MD	Brigham and Women's Hospital	MA	Defining new targets in lupus through identification of non-coding SNPs
Peti-Peterdi, Janos, MD, PhD	USC/University of Southern California	CA	Targeting endogenous glomerular repair in lupus nephritis
Tsao, Betty, PhD	Medical University of South Carolina	SC	Finding druggable pathways affected by the R90H-NCF1 SLE risk variants
<b><u>2016</u></b>			
Davidson , Anne, MBBS	The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research	NY	The role of TLR8 in lupus nephritis
Fan, Rong, PhD	Yale University	CT	Dissecting the effector function of pathogenic Tfh cells in human lupus
Greenberg, Roger, MD, PhD	University of Pennsylvania	PA	BRISC DUB Activity as a Novel Target for Lupus
Liu, Ming-Lin, PhD	University of Pennsylvania Health System	PA	A novel target for neutrophil NETosis in lupus skin inflammation
Mamula , Mark J., PhD	Yale University	CT	Therapeutic inhibitors of antigen presentation pathways in SLE
Morel, Laurence, PhD	University of Florida	FL	Targeting follicular helper CD4 T cells in SLE
Nundel, Kerstin, PhD	University of Massachusetts Medical School	FL	TLR9 regulates Axl dependent migration of autoreactive B cells
<b><u>2015</u></b>			
Carroll, Michael, PhD	Children's Hospital Boston	MA	Investigating the mechanisms of lupus-associated CNS dysfunction
Craft, Joseph, MD	Yale University	CT	Characterization and function of CD4 T cell subsets in lupus
Criswell, Lindsey Ann, MD, MPH	University of California, San Francisco	CA	The contribution of epigenetics to SLE phenotype and outcome
Elkon, Keith, MD	University of Washington	WA	The cyclic GAMP pathway in SLE
Fathman, Charles, MD	Stanford University	CA	Understanding the MoA of low dose IL-2 as a potential therapy for SLE
Fu, Shu Man, MD, PhD	University of Virginia	VA	IL-2 and IL-33 as therapeutic agents for lupus nephritis
Jarjour, Wael, MD	The Ohio State University	OH	Regulation of T follicular helper cells in SLE by E3 ubiquitin ligase Cbl-b
Zhang, Jian, MD	University of Iowa	IA	
Jefferies, Caroline, PhD	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	CA	Estrogen-dependent microRNAs as potential targets for the treatment of SLE
Kontaridis, Maria, PhD	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	MA	Role for SHP2 as a therapeutic target for systemic lupus erythematosus
Kosiewicz, Michele, PhD	University of Louisville Research Foundation, Inc.	KY	Sex and microbiota influence on immunoregulation and disease in BWF1 mice
Rothlin, Carla, PhD	Yale University	CT	Protein S: at the crossroads of thrombosis and inflammation in SLE
Stohl, William, MD, PhD	University of Southern California	CA	Therapeutic targeting of FcγRIIb on B cells in SLE
Tsao, Betty, PhD	Medical University of South Carolina	SC	Targeting IL-10 producing B cells in SLE
Xiao, Sheng, PhD	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc.	MA	Role of Tim-1 in kidneys during lupus
Yan, Nan, PhD	UT Southwestern Medical Center	TX	Glycans and glycosylation defects as novel targets in lupus