



**PSC PARTNERS
SEEKING A CURE**

Scientific/medical advisory committee

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University of Colorado

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Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

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Dr. Denise Harnois

Mayo Clinic, Florida

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Dr. Keith Lindor

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NoPSC, Norway

Dr. Stephen Miller

Tertiary concierge medicine practice, La Jolla, CA

Dr. Steven Deitch

Doctor to Doctor Sales Solutions

Dr. Don Safer

University of Colorado

Dr. Gideon Hirschfield

Toronto Western Hospital, Toronto, Canada

David Rhodes (chair)

Purdue University



Research Grants Awarded (2009 - 2010)

PSC Partners Seeking a Cure held its first competition for research grants in 2009. A total of 24 proposals were received and reviewed by the scientific/medical advisory committee. Eight proposals were selected for funding:

- Examining the Disease Impact of Genetic Variation in Logical Candidate Genes for PSC: a PROGRESS Study. **Konstantinos N. Lazaridis**, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, Center for Basic Research in Digestive Disease, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine 200 First Street SW, Rochester, MN 55905. \$40,000 over 2 years.
- Cholangiocarcinoma-associated serum microRNAs in primary sclerosing cholangitis: Identification and prognostic potential. **Pietro Invernizzi**, MD, Ph.D, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Rheumatology, Allergy, and Clinical Immunology, University of California, Davis GBSF suite 6515, Davis, CA 95616. \$40,000 over 2 years.
- Aberrant homing of lymphocytes to the liver in patients with primary sclerosing cholangitis; the missing link between colon and liver. **Cyriel Y. Ponsioen**, MD, PhD, Department of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Academic Medical Center, C2-112, P.O. Box 22700, 1100 DE Amsterdam, The Netherlands. \$40,000 over 2 years.



Research Grants Awarded (2009-2010) (contd.)

- alpha4Beta7-Integrin Ligand Development for the Treatment of PSC. **Christopher Bowlus**, M.D., Associate Professor, Division of Gastroenterology, UC Davis Medical Center, 4150 V Street, PSSB 3500, Sacramento, CA 95817. \$40,000 over 2 years. **This project will be entirely funded by a generous donation from Abe and Rachel Gomel.**
- Non-invasive Assessment of Disease Progression in Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis. **Gregory T. Everson**, M.D., Transplant Center and Hepatology, Clinic Mail stop B, 154 Anschutz Outpatient Pavilion, 1635 N. Ursula Street, Room 7085, Aurora, CO 80045. \$40,000 over 2 years.
- The Role of Abcb11 and Fibroblast Growth Factor 15/19 in the Pathogenesis of Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis. **Richard M. Green**, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Hepatology, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. \$40,000 over 2 years. **The first year of this project will be funded by a generous donation from Ros and David Parry.**



Research Grants Awarded (2009-2010) (contd.)

- A Pilot study of Vancomycin or Metronidazole in patients with Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis. **Keith D. Lindor**, M.D., Mayo Clinic, 200 First Street, SW, Rochester, MN 55905. \$25,706 over 2 years.

<http://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01085760>

- Quality of life in patients with primary sclerosing cholangitis. **Gideon Hirschfield**, MA MB BChir MRCP PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto, Liver Centre, Toronto Western Hospital 399 Bathurst St, 6B Fell, Rm 162, Toronto, ON, M5T 2S8, Canada. \$10,000 over 2 years. **This project will be funded in large part by a generous donation from Hoops 4 Healing:**

<http://www.hoops4healing.org/>

- \$40,000 to STOPSC (2007-2008).
- AASLD awards: 4 @ \$3,000 each. 2007: Dr. T.H. Karlsen; 2008: Dr. I. Tornai and Dr. P. G. Blanco; 2009: Dr. V.S. Teaberry.

PSC Partners Seeking a Cure has invested \$317,706 in PSC research!

New Initiative (2010):

PSC Partners Seeking a Cure announces a grant award (\$50,000) from the Google Foundation to build a PSC Researcher – Patient Network (RN) to accelerate the development of PSC therapies, treatments and standards of care. The RN software will be designed to assist researchers in identifying new PSC patients, registering them, and recruiting them for studies. In addition, patients will be able to receive the latest information on research, and participate in educational virtual seminars led by recognized PSC researchers.



Chris Bowlus and Tom Hill

New Initiative (2010):

The Sanger centre (UK, Wellcome Trust) is leading a large-scale initiative on mapping of the genetic overlap between immune-mediated diseases (>100,000 DNA samples. A particular genotyping-chip (ImmunoChip) has been produced from Illumina (~200,000 SNPs). Diseases included:

Celiac Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Type I Diabetes, IBD (Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitis), Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis, SLE, PBC, Asthma, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Psoriatic Arthritis, Sarcoidosis, PSC

