



**PSC PARTNERS  
SEEKING A CURE**

# THE DUCT

A Monthly Newsletter for the PSC Community

**September 2018**

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## **2018 Research Grant Award Summaries Are Now Available**

Visit our [research grants page](#) to read the lay summaries of research projects funded this year by PSC Partners. First year updates for 2017 grants are available as well.



To date, we've awarded over \$3 million to support promising PSC research at leading institutions around the world. We thank all of our donors who have supported our mission of raising funds to research causes, treatments and cures for primary sclerosing cholangitis. Your contributions have made these awards possible!

**[Research Update: UDCA and Biliary Injury](#)**

A preliminary study was recently published with some surprising and exciting findings about Ursodeoxycholic Acid (also known as Urso, or UDCA) and PSC. This study was partially funded by a PSC Partners research grant awarded in 2013 to Dr. Heather Francis.

The small study looks at the effects of UDCA on PSC from the perspective of histamines that produce inflammation. From their studies on mice that are modified to simulate PSC and from studying PSC patients' live samples, the results indicated that UDCA was reversing biliary injury and fibrosis both in the mice and in human PSC. [Click here](#) to read the abstract of this fascinating study.

## Mark Your Calendars: PSC Awareness Day is October 29, 2018!



PSC Awareness Day is a wonderful opportunity to come together and spread awareness of our collective fight to those who may not be familiar with PSC or our community. It also provides an excellent platform to engage our personal circles of family, friends and co-workers. Stay tuned for more details about this important event!



## Brochures Now Available in French

Our brochures provide clear information about living with PSC, pediatric PSC and our patient registry. [Visit our website](#) to see our brochures, and to order printed copies for your hepatologist's or GI's office.

**2020 Annual Conference Hosting Proposals  
Due November 15, 2018**



Plans are well underway for the 2019 annual conference in Rochester, MN, and we're beginning to turn our sights to 2020!

If you are interested in bringing the 2020 conference to your home town, we ask that you collect some information about the venue and host institution so that our Board can select the best fit for a conference host. Proposals are due **no later than November 15, 2018**. To learn more about what information is required and to submit your proposal, [click here](#).

## Living With PSC Podcast Episode 5 - Dr. Cyriel Ponsioen: Fecal Microbiota Transplantation



In the fifth episode of Living with PSC, Niall McKay interviews Dr. Cyriel Ponsioen about Fecal Microbiota Transplantation (FMT). Dr. Ponsioen is a senior staff member at the Department of Gastroenterology & Hepatology at the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam, and is a member of PSC Partners' Scientific/Medical Advisory Committee. [Click here](#) to listen to the latest episode!

Past episodes of the Living with PSC Podcast are available [on our website](#).

## 2019 Conference Hotel Reservations Now Open!



The 2019 conference will take place at the Mayo Civic Center and the Kahler Grand Hotel in Rochester, Minnesota. We are pleased to offer a discounted group rate for conference attendees staying at the Kahler. [Click here](#) to access the reservation page for conference attendees to reserve their hotel rooms at the discounted rate.

### **Community Spotlight: The Road to K83.01**

Trish Stoltzfus, medical coder and mother of a PSC patient, was featured in an article that sheds light on her perspective of the process of securing an ICD-10 code for PSC (K83.01). [Click here](#) to read the article. Congratulations, Trish!

**K83.01**

### **Consider Giving to PSC Partners Through Your Workplace Campaign**

Workplace giving allows each of us to be a philanthropist by removing the burden of one-time larger gifts by spreading donations out over each paycheck. This unique donation opportunity allows employees to donate over the course of a year in small, manageable amounts.

Designate PSC Partners Seeking a Cure as recipient of your workplace giving campaign. Make the following designations, depending on the campaign offered in your company:

[Combined Federal Campaign](#) #79370

**Note: The 2018 Combined Federal Campaign is expected to begin in mid-September, and end in mid-January 2019.**



[United Way](#) or other campaigns: Write in "PSC Partners Seeking a Cure" and our address: 6900 E. Belleview Ave. Suite 202, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

Please note that we can only acknowledge your donation if your employer shares your name with us. Thank you for your support!

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## Missed a Past Issue of The Duct? Fear Not!



All past issues of The Duct are available on our website. [Click here](#) to access the newsletter archives.

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*The mission of PSC Partners Seeking a Cure is to provide education and support to PSC patients, families and caregivers and raise funds to research causes, treatments and cures for primary sclerosing cholangitis.*

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