



Corporate Communications

9500 Euclid Ave. / JLN4-01

Cleveland, OH 44195

Phone: 216/444-0141

Fax: 216/445-3040

clevelandclinic.org/media_relations

PRESS RELEASE

Contacts:

Halle Bishop, 216-445-8592, bishoph@ccf.org

Dan Doron, 216.312.0428, dorond@ccf.org

CLEVELAND RESEARCHERS RECEIVE FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND GRANT FROM ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION, GIFT FROM SEIDMAN FAMILY

Grant to Fund Multiple Projects on Alzheimer's Disease, Biomarkers

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012, Cleveland: Researchers at Cleveland Clinic and the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine have received the first multi-centered project grant from the Alzheimer's Association, totaling \$1.2 million with an additional contribution from philanthropists Lee and Jane Seidman.

The award will enable the scientific team to identify biomarkers of inflammation and research new ideas regarding the role of the immune system in Alzheimer's disease. These studies will likely point to new therapeutic targets that will be tested as the grant moves forward.

"Our goal is to uncover the basic mechanisms underlying Alzheimer's disease – findings that could lead to the development of new treatment strategies to combat the disease," said Bruce Lamb, Ph.D., Department of Neurosciences of Cleveland Clinic's Lerner Research Institute, and lead on the project. "We are very grateful to both the Seidmans and the Alzheimer's Association for their generous support of this research."

The Alzheimer's Association awarded the grant as a way to "contribute to the research being done to identify mechanisms of inflammation in Alzheimer's disease." Researchers on the project grant include:

- Bruce Lamb, Ph.D., Department of Neurosciences, Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic; Assistant Professor of Genetics, Neurosciences and General Medical Sciences, School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University
- Sanjay Pimplikar, Ph.D., Department of Neurosciences, Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic; Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pathology at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine;
- Richard Ransohoff, M.D., Director of the Neuroinflammation Research Center, Department of Neurosciences, Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic; Professor of Molecular Medicine, Case Western Reserve University;
- Gary Landreth, Ph.D., Director of the Alzheimer Research Laboratory, Professor of Neurosciences and Neurology, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine;
- Daniel Wesson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Neurosciences, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

"The Alzheimer's Association is proud to contribute to the close collaboration between Cleveland Clinic and Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine," said Nancy Udelson, Executive Director at Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter. "We are thrilled to help climb the steps towards the fight against Alzheimer's disease."

This award strengthens ongoing Alzheimer's disease clinical and research initiatives in Cleveland, both at Case Western Reserve University and at Cleveland Clinic, as well as the clinical operation in Las Vegas at the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health under the direction of Dr. Jeffrey Cummings.

A program project grant is more complex in scope and budget than an individual research grant. While individual research grants are awarded to support the work of one principal investigator who, with supporting staff, is addressing a scientific problem, program project grants are available to a group of several investigators with differing areas of expertise who wish to collaborate in research by pooling their talents and resources. The work would not be possible without the ongoing support of the Alzheimer's Association and the Siedmans.

"There is certainly a need to increase the research addressing Alzheimer's disease," said Lee and Jane Seidman. "We are excited to support Cleveland Clinic in this fight."

Editor's Note: [Cleveland Clinic News Service](#) is available to provide broadcast-quality interviews and B-roll. Media outlets can download video at <ftp://139.137.221.100>. (login: dailyvosots; password: dailyvosotsftp)

About Cleveland Clinic

Celebrating its 90th anniversary, Cleveland Clinic is a nonprofit multispecialty academic medical center that integrates clinical and hospital care with research and education. It was founded in 1921 by four renowned physicians with a vision of providing outstanding patient care based upon the principles of cooperation, compassion and innovation. Cleveland Clinic has pioneered many medical breakthroughs, including coronary artery bypass surgery and the first face transplant in the United States. U.S. News & World Report consistently names Cleveland Clinic as one of the nation's best hospitals in its annual "America's Best Hospitals" survey. About 2,800 full-time salaried physicians and researchers and 11,000 nurses represent 120 medical specialties and subspecialties. Cleveland Clinic Health System includes a main campus near downtown Cleveland, nine community hospitals and 15 Family Health Centers in Northeast Ohio, Cleveland Clinic Florida, the Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health in Las Vegas, Cleveland Clinic Canada, and opening in 2013, Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi. In 2010, there were 4 million visits throughout the Cleveland Clinic health system and 155,000 hospital admissions. Patients came for treatment from every state and from more than 100 countries. Visit us at www.clevelandclinic.org. Follow us at www.twitter.com/ClevelandClinic.

About Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter

The Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter serves Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Lorain counties with offices in Ashtabula, Avon, Beachwood, Chardon and Mentor. The Association's mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. The disease currently affects an estimated 5.4 million American adults (about 40,000 in Northeast Ohio) and is the 6th leading cause of death in the country.

About Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Founded in 1843, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine is the largest medical research institution in Ohio and is among the nation's top medical schools for research funding from the National Institutes of Health. The School of Medicine is recognized throughout the international medical community for outstanding achievements in teaching. The School's innovative and pioneering Western Reserve2 curriculum interweaves four themes – research and scholarship, clinical mastery, leadership, and civic professionalism – to prepare students for the practice of evidence-based medicine in the rapidly changing health care environment of the 21st century. Nine Nobel Laureates have been affiliated with the school of medicine.

Annually, the School of Medicine trains more than 800 MD and MD/PhD students and ranks in the top 25 among U.S. research-oriented medical schools as designated by the *U.S. News & World Report* "Guide to Graduate Education."

The School of Medicine's primary affiliate is University Hospitals Case Medical Center and is additionally affiliated with MetroHealth Medical Center, the Louis Stokes Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and the Cleveland Clinic, with which it established the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University in 2002. <http://casemed.case.edu>.

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