PART THE CLOUD

2021 Impact Report
Fueling bold, brave research across the globe.

Part the Cloud is part of the Alzheimer’s Association’s robust global research platform, the largest nonprofit research program focused on Alzheimer’s and all other dementia. At any given moment, the Association’s research program actively brings together government, academia, industry and philanthropists to support the efforts of researchers and accelerate science to develop potential treatments.

Join Us.

CONTENTS

2 A LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER
3 2021 PART THE CLOUD GALA HIGHLIGHTS
4 TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS
4 GENOME SEQUENCING
5 METABOLIC FUNCTION
6 AMYLOID AND TAU
6 CELL SENESCENCE
6 IMMUNE RESPONSE, MISFOLDED PROTEINS AND GROWTH FACTORS
9 CELL SIGNALING AND COMMUNICATION
9 VASCULAR AND OXIDATIVE STRESS
5 SPOTLIGHT: FOLLOW-ON FUNDING
7 SPOTLIGHT: DRUG PIPELINE
8 IMPACT STORIES: DR. LANCTÔT
9 SPOTLIGHT: EXPENSES
10 CHALLENGES
10 RESCUE AND NEURODEGENERATION
11 NEUROINFLAMMATION
12 PART THE CLOUD AND BILL GATES PARTNERSHIP
14 IMPACT STORIES: DR. LJUBENKOV
A LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear Friends:

In 2012, after losing my father to Alzheimer’s, I partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association to found Part the Cloud with a singular mission: to fund research with the highest probability of slowing, stopping or ultimately curing Alzheimer’s disease. Since then, my mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s and lost her battle in November of 2019. After watching both of my parents suffer from this disease, I have made it my life’s mission to end Alzheimer’s so that the next generation is not impacted the way my siblings and I have been.

Since our inception, we have grown from a local Bay Area event into a global movement that has generated more than $65 million dollars and has funded 60 clinical trials.

Part the Cloud not only provides key funding for early-phase clinical trials, but we also serve as a catalyst for researchers to receive additional funding for their work. After initial funding from Part the Cloud, grant recipients have gone on to receive more than $1 billion dollars in follow-on funding from the federal government, venture capital firms and other sources.

In this report, you will read about two of our Part the Cloud funded researchers – Dr. Krista Lanctôt, a two-time Part the Cloud awardee, and Dr. Peter Ljubenov, who is right in our own backyard at UCSF. Their stories demonstrate the true innovation and impact of Part the Cloud: Through this bold investment, Dr. Lanctôt and Dr. Ljubenov were able to accelerate their research, secure additional funding and advance their clinical trials.

Part the Cloud is driving groundbreaking research in treatment, diagnosis and prevention forward. The projects we invest in are at the forefront of the field, reporting their findings at major scientific meetings and in top journals in dementia science. In just a decade, we have significantly moved the needle in our quest to end Alzheimer’s and all other dementia.

Every single dollar raised through Part the Cloud moves possible treatments closer to our doctors’ offices. Part the Cloud is truly making a difference in the field of Alzheimer’s research and I am grateful to our generous supporters for their commitment to our mission.

Thank you for your steadfast support, and together, we will Part the Cloud!

Warmly,

Mikey Hoag

Founder, Part the Cloud
PART THE CLOUD
GALA HIGHLIGHTS

The Part the Cloud Gala was held on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at a private residence in Woodside, CA and raised over $33 million to support Part the Cloud’s mission to accelerate research for Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias at a faster pace.

Mikey Hoag, the event co-chairs, Stephanie Harman and Heather Pietsch, and the Part the Cloud Committee were joined by nearly 275 guests comprised of philanthropists and luminaries.

Bob Fitzgerald assisted with the Fund a Need, which raised over $2 million in the room alone. In addition to the funds that were raised, we were especially grateful to have CNBC’s “TechCheck” co-anchor Deirdre Bosa as the evening’s host and for Kim Steppe and Leah Robbie joining us to share their journey. The evening ended on a high note with a performance by the incredible Andy Grammer.

The 2021 Part the Cloud Committee members included Ellen Drew, Dana Eckert, Sue Foley, Stephanie Harman, Mikey Hoag, Lauren Koenig, Laurie Kraus Lacob, Anne Lawler, Lisa Mooring, Heather Pietsch, Debbie Robbins, Paula Robichaud, Mary Stevens, and Hilary Valentine.
TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

Part the Cloud awards grants to scientists focusing on a wide range of research areas of neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration, including metabolic function, cell communication, immune response and blood flow.

Part the Cloud awards grants to scientists focusing on a wide range of research areas of neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration, including:

- **Metabolic Function**
  - how neurons process energy

- **Amyloid Plaques and Tau Tangles**
  - hallmarks of Alzheimer’s disease

- **The Immune Response, Misfolded Proteins and Growth Factors in the Brain**

- **Cell Signaling and Communication**
  - how brain cells talk to each other

- **Vascular**
  - blood vessels and blood flow to the brain

- **Oxidative Stress**
  - imbalance between oxidants and antioxidants

- **Cell Senescence**
  - how cells age, and how to address the effects of cellular aging

---

**GENOME SEQUENCING**

Michael Weiner, M.D.
University of California at San Francisco - San Francisco, CA

*Part the Cloud supported, in part, the Whole Genome Sequencing Alzheimer’s Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (WGS-ADNI), a project to sequence the whole genome of more than 800 individuals.*

---

I believe that research is the only way to end this disease.”

Mikey Hoag
Founder, Part the Cloud
**METABOLIC FUNCTION**

Stephen Cunnane, Ph.D.
University of Sherbrooke - Quebec, Canada
*Two-time grant winner*

**Proof of Mechanism of a New Ketogenic Supplement Using Dual Tracer PET**

Stephen Cunnane, Ph.D.
University of Sherbrooke - Quebec, Canada
*Two-time grant winner*

**RCT with a New Ketogenic Salt in MCI**

Mitchel Kling, M.D.
University of Pennsylvania - Philadelphia, PA
*A biomarker-based trial in MCI/AD*

**Paul Edison, M.B.B.S., F.R.C.P., Ph.D.**
Imperial College London - London, United Kingdom
*Two-time grant winner*

**Evaluating Oral Semaglutide as a Treatment for Alzheimer’s Disease**

Stefano Sensi, M.D., Ph.D.
Universita degli Studi Gabriele d’Annunzio di Chieti e Pescara - Chieti, Italy
*Extenzin-Based Therapy for MCI Subjects*

Giulio Maria Pasinetti, M.D., Ph.D.
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai - New York, NY
**BDPP Treatment for Mild Cognitive Impairment and Prediabetes**

Russell Swerdlow, M.D.
University of Kansas Medical Center - Fairway, KS
*Two-time grant winner*

**Trial of Oxaloacetate in Alzheimer’s Disease (TOAD) Study**

**FOLLOW-ON FUNDING**

Part the Cloud advances research: From more than $60 million in funding PTC has awarded, grant recipients have gone on to receive more than $1 billion in follow-on funding from the federal government, venture capital firms and other sources.

Follow-On Funding comes from a variety of sources including:
- Foundations (1.8%)
- Private (5.1%)
- Government (29.2%)
- Venture/Corporate (42.4%)
- Indirect (21.5%)

*Indirect sources are government, foundation, corporate, venture capital, and individual support that is indirectly related to the Part the Cloud Translational award.*
AMYLOID AND TAU

Adam L. Boxer, M.D., Ph.D.
University of California at San Francisco - San Francisco, CA
*Phase I Multiple Ascending Dose Trial of the MT Stabilizer TPI-287 for AD*

Dale E. Bredesen, M.D.**
Buck Institute for Research on Aging - Novato, CA
*An Exploratory Safety, PK/PD, and Preliminary Efficacy Study of F03 in MCI*

Tim West, Ph.D.
C2N Diagnostics - St. Louis, MO
*A Single Ascending Dose Double Blinded Placebo Controlled Study of C2N–8E12*

Dieter Willbold, Ph.D.
Research Center Juelich GmbH – Jülich, Germany
*Placebo Controlled Multi-Ascending Dose [Targeting Protein Aggregation] Phase 1 Study in Healthy Volunteers*

CELL SENESCENCE

James Kirkland, M.D., Ph.D.
Mayo Clinic - Rochester, MN
*ALSENLITE: An Open-Label Pilot Study of Senolytics for Alzheimer’s Disease*

Maurice Zauderer, Ph.D.
Vaccinex, Inc. - Rochester, NY
*SEMA4D Blockade Safety and Brain Metabolic Activity in Alzheimer’s Disease*

IMMUNE RESPONSE, MISFOLDED PROTEINS AND GROWTH FACTORS

Steven Arnold, M.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital - Boston, MA
*BCG Immunization Effects on Biomarkers of Inflammation/Immune Response and Alzheimer’s Disease*

Joseph Foss, M.D.
NeuroTherapia, Inc. - Cleveland, OH
*A Phase I Single Ascending Dose Safety and Pharmacokinetic Study of NTRX-07*

Manfred Windisch, Ph.D.
Neurokine Therapeutics, LLC - Philadelphia, PA
*Phase 1 Study of MW150: Novel Stress Kinase Inhibitor Candidate*

Franz Hefiti, Ph.D.
Proclara Biosciences - Cambridge, MA
*Phase 1 Study with NPT088, A Fusion Protein to Treat Alzheimer’s Disease*

Linda Van Eldik, Ph.D.
University of Kentucky - Lexington, KY
*Phase 1b MAD Study of a Novel Drug (MW189) Targeting Neuroinflammation*

** These studies did not progress to the next stage.
Getting potential treatments faster: propelling high-risk, high-reward research into clinical trials that are aimed at uncovering underlying brain cell changes, timely diagnosis and new treatments for Alzheimer’s and all dementia.

QIN-100
nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors
antibody to block SEM4D
Bosutinib
XPRO1595
mGluR5 SAM
NAC
MW150
Sativex*
Senicapoc
Mesenchymal Stem Cell
GM-CSF
BDNF Gene Therapy
NPT088*
BDPP
TPI-287*
Formoterol*
FO3*
IBC-Ab002
Pulse modulation device
Non-invasive Deep Brain Stimulation
CpG ODN
transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS)
E1071
Verdiperstat
LM11A-31-BHS
IL-2
D3D
M1-PAM VU319
MW189
NTRX-07
SCCF-3012
Oxaloacetate
C2N-8E12(ABBV-8E12)
Levetiracetam
Dasatinib and Quercetin
Zinc therapy
SAME
Allopregnanolone
(Bacillus Calmette-Guerin) vaccination
Semaglutide
Ketone energy drink
NDX-1017
EGCG
Perindropil
Maraviroc
Valacyclovir
T3D-959
Gamma Entrainment Using Sensory Stimuli (GENUS)
phosphodiesterase inhibitor
Rapamycin
IW-6463
MET-FINGER-APOE (Metformin)
Letrozole
transcranial photobiomodulation (t-PBM)
ADNI

* Studies not advanced
**IMPACT STORIES: DR. LANCTÔT**

Part the Cloud enabled work exploring mild vascular cognitive impairment, and accelerated through follow-on funding from the Canadian Government.

Part the Cloud is funding 60 projects across the globe, including research in Taiwan, Israel, Australia and Canada.

Krista L. Lanctôt, Ph.D. Sunnybrook Research Institute, Toronto, CA, has received two Part the Cloud grants. She is an example of how the Part the Cloud peer-review process and input from world-renowned Alzheimer’s and dementia experts accelerated her work, and provided resources at the right time.

Dr. Lanctôt wanted to be a scientist ever since she was a child and wondered how medications like aspirin worked. Her curiosity and thirst for knowledge led her to become a researcher. Years later when Dr. Lanctôt became a pharmacologist, her first lecture was on nonsteroidal anti inflammatories and she discussed the mechanism of action of aspirin.

Her interest in Alzheimer’s research began when pursuing her doctorate. There was a long term care facility on campus and she noticed many patients there were on antipsychotics; however, there was no rationale for why the clinicians picked the specific medications they did to treat the patients. Dr. Lanctôt thought she could help determine the rationale and come up with better, more personalized solutions to remedy the patients behaviors. She also began to work with outpatients with cardiac problems. This is also where her interest in the vascular contributions to Alzheimer’s disease started.

Dr. Lanctôt began to explore the idea of preventing cognitive decline in at-risk patients with vascular disease, and her Part the Cloud funded studies explore mild vascular cognitive impairment. In her *Exercise as a primer for excitatory stimulation in VCIND (EXPRESS-V)* she looks at the effects of transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) and a personalized exercise prescription on cognition. She’s hopeful about pairing these methods as treatments since tDCS has already been shown to initiate improvement in some dementia cases so it may be even more effective during the preceding stages of the disease. Exercise also activates brain circuits and tDCS works better on active brain circuits. These treatments are also accessible as home treatments as tDCS are small, inexpensive machines which one can learn to administer oneself.

Dr. Lanctôt is a proponent for preventive and personalized care, including exercise. “We know what is good for the heart is good for the brain,” she says and she’s noted that the patients who benefit the least from exercise may have had high levels of oxidative stress before initiating their exercise prescription which could temporarily raise oxidative stress even further. It’s something she believes is worth investigating and hopes to find other opportunities for treatment personalization. Her second study is taking a look at oxidative stress which seemingly may be higher in patients with mild vascular cognitive impairment. The funding from Part the Cloud is enabling her team to see if oxidative stress is actually in the brain, not just the blood, and what specific brain areas may be affected. “This is significant because treatment with n-acetylcysteine, or NAC, which can cross the blood brain barrier, may inhibit oxidative stress. If we are able to observe the levels of GSH in patient’s brains and deliver them personalized interventions with NAC, this would be very exciting,” said Dr. Lanctôt.

Dr. Lanctôt is grateful to have worked with Part the Cloud on her research. The peer-review process gives applicants an opportunity to respond to expert feedback, and this dialogue allows for faster and more efficient ways to get trials started. Typical grant programs include reviews and resubmission cycles that could take 2-3 years. Part the Cloud also provided her with adequate funding to build a good foundation for her study from the get go, and it actually led to follow-on funding from the Canadian government.

“Part the Cloud focuses on research that is poised to make changes in care and treatment more quickly, and allows for follow-up research when necessary,” she notes.
EXPENSES

Part the Cloud keeps expenses low to ensure that over 95.8% of funds raised directly support the most groundbreaking Alzheimer’s research.

EXPENSES

Expenses $2,771,451.72

Combined Event & Challenge Revenue $65,748,956.08

CELL SIGNALING AND COMMUNICATION

Frank Longo, M.D.
Stanford University - Stanford, CA and
Anne Longo
Pharmatrophix, Inc. - Stanford, CA
Phase I Trial for P75 Receptor Ligand

Paul A. Newhouse, M.D.
Vanderbilt University - Nashville, TN
Phase 1 Testing of a Muscarinic M1 PAM for Alzheimer’s Disease
*Two-time grant winner*

Keith Vossel, M.D., M.Sc
University of California at San Francisco and Gladstone Institute for Neurological Disease - San Francisco, CA
Phase 2a Levetiracetam Trial for AD-Associated Network Hyperexcitability

Charbel Moussa, Ph.D.
Georgetown University - Washington, D.C.
Bosutinib Effects on Safety, Biomarkers and Clinical Outcomes in DLB

Ahmad Salehi, M.D., Ph.D.
Palo Alto Institute for Research and Education, Inc. - Palo Alto, CA
Improving β2 Adrenergic Signaling in Alzheimer’s Disease

Nawaf Yassi, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Melbourne - Parkville, Australia
S-Adenosyl Methionine for Alzheimer’s Disease

VASCULAR AND OXIDATIVE STRESS

Whitney Wharton, Ph.D.
Emory University - Atlanta, GA
Mechanistic Potential of Antihypertensives in Preclinical Alzheimer’s

Krista Lanctôt, Ph.D.
Sunnybrook Research Institute - Toronto, Canada
Linking GSH and Cognitive Response: A Pilot Phase 2a Study of NAC in VCIND
*Two-time grant winner*
CHALLENGES

*Challenges focus on a specific topic and are awarded biennially.*

RESCUE AND NEURODEGENERATION

The Part the Cloud to RESCUE (REverse, reStore, Cease and UndErstand) Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s disease challenge aims to accelerate the discovery and testing of innovative compounds to be used for interventions in the earliest stages of neurodegeneration-dementia-Alzheimer’s disease. Presently, there are no effective interventions to delay or prevent the progression of the neurodegenerative processes that underlie the disabling symptoms of Alzheimer’s dementia.

From 45 proposals submitted from two countries, six researchers were awarded $1 million each to develop their proposals over a two-year period.

Roberta Diaz Brinton, Ph.D.
University of Arizona - Tucson, AZ
Advancing Allopregnanolone as a Regenerative Therapeutic for Alzheimer’s

Rafael de la Torre, PharmD, Ph.D.
Institute Mar of Medical Investigations - Barcelona, Spain
Cognitive Decline in Early Stages of AD After EGCG and a Multimodal Therapy

Xue Hua, Ph.D.*
Athira Pharma, Inc. - Seattle, WA
Phase 2a Alzheimer’s Trials of a Novel Neurotrophic Activator, NDX-1017

* No longer an employee of the company; the ongoing trials are overseen by the Athira Leadership Team

Paul A. Newhouse, M.D.
Vanderbilt University - Nashville, TN
M1-PAM VU319 Effects on Network Connectivity in MCI: A POC Study
*Two-time grant winner*

Stephen M. Strittmatter, M.D., Ph.D.
Yale University - New Haven, CT
Silent Allosteric Modulation of mGluR5 for Alzheimer’s Disease

Raymond Tesi, M.D.
INmune Bio - La Jolla, CA
A biomarker directed study to reduce inflammation in Alzheimer’s disease
NEUROINFLAMMATION

A first-of-its kind competition, the Part the Cloud Neuroinflammation Challenge was created to accelerate therapeutics and deepen understanding of neurodegeneration to be used in early clinical trials. Scientists around the world were invited to submit proposals that could translate into human trials of treatments targeting neuroinflammation with the goal of improving cognition in individuals with neurodegenerative diseases.

From 60 proposals submitted from 14 countries, four researchers were awarded $1 million each to develop their proposals over a two-year period. After two years, projects were evaluated, and the most outstanding project was awarded an additional $3 million to take it and the field to the next level.

Anthony Oliva, Ph.D.
Longeveron, LLC - Miami, FL
Mesenchymal Stem Cell Therapy for Neuroinflammation in Alzheimer’s Disease
*After two years, this study was shown to have made the most progress and received an additional award of $3 million.*

Anthony Oliva, Ph.D.
Longeveron, LLC - Miami, FL
Clinical Evaluation of Allogenic Mesenchymal Stem Cells for Mild Alzheimer’s Disease
*Two-time grant winner*

Huntington Potter, Ph.D.
University of Colorado at Denver - Denver, CO
Safety & Efficacy of GM-CSF/Leukine in Mild-to-Moderate Alzheimer’s Disease

Isidro Ferrer, M.D., Ph.D.**
Center for Networked Biomedical Research on Neurodegenerative Diseases - Barcelona, Spain
Sativex in MCI Patients at High Risk of Developing Alzheimer’s Disease

John M. Olichney, M.D.
University of California at Davis - Davis, CA
Proof of Mechanism Study of Senicapoc in Mild or Prodromal Alzheimer’s Disease

** These studies did not progress to the next stage.

“This program really knocks innovation out of the ballpark by exploring truly novel mechanisms.”

Paul B. Rosenberg, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
PART THE CLOUD AND BILL GATES PARTNERSHIP

In late 2019, Part the Cloud announced an exciting partnership with Bill Gates, with the goal to double our investment in Alzheimer’s research to $60 million. The Alzheimer’s Association, through Part the Cloud, raised over $20 million, and once we reached that mark, Bill Gates provided a $10 million match, allowing us to double our clinical research investment to over $60 million in just one year.

This funding allows us to propel high-risk, high-reward research aimed at uncovering underlying brain cell changes, timely diagnosis and new treatments for Alzheimer’s and all dementia. These research grants focus on the following three topic areas:

**Mitochondria**
how brain cells use energy and fuel (mitochondria, bioenergetics and metabolism)

**Autophagy / Clearance**
how brain cells remove waste and debris to avoid protein clumping

**Vascular Contributions**
how blood supply in the brain is maintained

From 128 ideas submitted from 18 countries, over $30 million was awarded among 19 researchers to further develop their proposals over 3 years.

**David Celermajer, M.D., Ph.D.**
The Brain Protection Company - Paddington, Australia
*Phase 1 Study of a Novel Device Reducing Vascular Contributions to Dementia*

**Sudha Seshadri, M.D.**
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio - San Antonio, TX
*Phase 2 Trial of Rapamycin for Alzheimer’s Disease*

**Krista Lanctôt, Ph.D.**
Sunnybrook Research Institute - Toronto, Canada
*Exercise as a primer for excitatory stimulation in VCIND (EXPRESS-V)*
*Two-time grant winner*

**Eti Yoles, Ph.D. and Michal Schwartz, Ph.D.**
ImmunoBrain Checkpoint, Inc. - New York, NY
*IBC-Ab002 - Immune Checkpoint Blockade to Combat Alzheimer’s Disease*

**Anat Biegon, Ph.D.**
The Research Foundation of SUNY - SUNY at Stony Brook - Stony Brook, NY
*Aromatase inhibition in Alzheimer’s disease: Phase 2*

**Thomas Wisniewski, M.D.**
New York University School of Medicine - New York, NY
*Phase 1 Clinical Trial of Innate Immunity Stimulation via TLR9 in Early AD*
Christopher Winrow, Ph.D.
Cyclerion Therapeutics, Inc. - Cambridge, MA
*Phase 2 study of CNS sGC stimulation in AD with vascular features*

Paul Edison, M.B.B.S, F.R.C.P., Ph.D.
Imperial College London - London, United Kingdom
*Mitochondrial function and BBB leakage as a novel treatment for Alzheimer’s* *Two-time grant winner*

Alireza Faridar, M.D.
The Methodist Hospital Research Institute - Houston, TX
*Regulatory T cells as a novel therapeutic target in Alzheimer’s Disease*

John Didsbury, Ph.D.
T3D Therapeutics, Inc. - Research Triangle Park, NC
*The PIONEER Study: A Phase 2 Trial of T3D-959 in Alzheimer’s Subjects*

Nir Grossman, Ph.D.
Imperial College London - London, United Kingdom
*Non-Invasive Deep Brain Stimulation for Alzheimer’s Disease*

Hung-Kai Chen, M.D., Ph.D.
Elixiron Immunotherapeutics Inc. - Taipei, Taiwan
*CSF1R inhibitor EI071 for modulating microglia-associated neuroinflammation*

Einar Ben Assayag, Ph.D. and Hen Hallevi, M.D
Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center - Tel-Aviv, Israel
*Safety and Efficacy of Maraviroc in Vascular Cognitive Impairment*

Dan Iosifescu, M.D.
New York University School of Medicine - New York, NY
*Photobiomodulation for Early Stage Alzheimer Disease (PhESAD)*

Miia Kivipelto, M.D., Ph.D.
Imperial College London - London, United Kingdom
*MET- FINGER- APOE: Multimodal Lifestyle Intervention + Metformin to Prevent Cognitive Decline*

Li-Huei Tsai, Ph.D.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology - Cambridge, MA
*Prevention of Alzheimer’s disease using gamma entrainment*

Lyndon Lien, Ph.D., M.B.A.
Qinotto, Inc. - Hillsborough, CA
*Small molecule lysosome activator for the treatment of neurodegeneration*

Peter Ljubenkov, M.D.
University of California, San Francisco - San Francisco, CA
*Veri-T: A phase I Placebo-Controlled Trial of Verdiperstat in FTLD-TDP*
Part the Cloud enabled work into rarer forms of dementia, and accelerated by follow-on NIA funding.

Part the Cloud fuels bold, innovative research around the world and also supports best-in-class research locally at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF).

Peter Ljubenkov, M.D., University of California, San Francisco, received a Part the Cloud grant with funding from the Alzheimer’s Association for his Veri-T: A Phase I Placebo-Controlled Trial of Verdiperstat in FTLD-TDP clinical trial.

Dr. Ljubenkov has been fascinated with the brain ever since he began studying neuroscience as an undergraduate student. “It’s just fascinating to think that key aspects of your human experience and what you remember, what you love and ways you interact with other people — that they have a root in a physical organ, your brain, really on that molecular level,” said Dr. Ljubenkov.

His interest in the brain and dementia only grew stronger when his grandfather was diagnosed when Peter was in college. He became a certified nursing assistant (CNA) between undergrad and graduate school and was briefly his grandfather’s caregiver before training his other family members and beginning his residency at UC San Diego. His grandfather passed away soon after he started his residency.

During his residency he became involved in clinical trials and eventually led him to his fellowship training at UCSF. Through the program at UCSF and working with his mentor, Adam Boxer, Ph.D., also a Part the Cloud awardee, Peter received greater exposure to clinical trials, gained deeper knowledge into biomarkers and invaluable insight into the diseases he works with.

When Peter began to pursue the idea for the Veri-T: A Phase I Placebo-Controlled Trial of Verdiperstat in FTLD-TDP, Part the Cloud helped to grow a smaller idea into a larger one. It was especially useful to have this support because this small unrecognized cohort study isn’t one that would normally be picked up as a bigger industry trial.

The initial support and funding through Part the Cloud was followed by millions of dollars in additional funding through an RO1 grant from the National Institute on Aging. Working with Part the Cloud also allowed Peter and other researchers to pursue this study with a multisite trial design. In this instance, all the sites are frontotemporal dementia centers of expertise, such as Mayo Clinic, University of Pennsylvania, Houston Methodist, Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, and Northwestern University, in addition to UCSF. These sites are affiliated with the NIH-funded ALLFTD multicenter cooperative study, and have collaborative experience collecting data in a standardized way, which is important to advance knowledge and research.

Part the Cloud offers career researchers an invaluable opportunity to create trials that are not strictly industry driven. That will help to get therapies to people living with the disease sooner.”
$65 million since 2012
$1 billion follow-on funding
60 projects worldwide

JOIN US. TOGETHER, WE WILL
PART THE CLOUD

Please consider making a donation to support Part the Cloud and our mission to find a treatment or cure for Alzheimer’s disease in our lifetime.

Learn more and make a donation at alz.org/partthecloud