HOPE in FOCUS

Research & Genetic Testing Contributions
2014–2021: $490,200

Hope in Focus supports innovative early-stage proof of concept research programs and IRD genetic testing through fundraising events and individual donations. We partner with the Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB) to designate our research contributions, and to ensure free genetic testing and counseling continues to be available to individuals through FFB's My Retina Tracker® program.

The My Retina Tracker® program is an open access, no-cost genetic testing program for individuals living in the USA with a clinical diagnosis of an inherited retinal disease (IRD). For the most current information on research advances, please visit our partner's website at www.fightingblindness.org.

YEAR	CONTRIBUTION DETAIL AS OF DECEMBER 2021	
2021 ($35,000)	$35,000	This funding is restricted for LCA research and/or genetic testing support. Research project designations are under review.
2020 ($80,200)	$20,000	W. Clay Smith (University of Florida) — *Enhancing Metabolism in Photoreceptors with a Modified Arrestin to Treat Retinal Degeneration*
	$20,000	Rob Collin, PhD (Radboud University, The Netherlands) — *Development and optimization of AON-based therapies for selected splice defects*
	$20,000	Sandro Banfi, MD (Fondazione Telethon, Italy) — *AAV-Sponge-mediated modulation of microRNA-181a/b: a potential therapeutic approach for Inherited Retinal Disease*
	$20,200	My Retina Tracker® program
2019 ($100,000)	$15,000	My Retina Tracker® program
	$15,000	Sandro Banfi, MD (Fondazione Telethon, Italy) — *AAV-Sponge-Mediated Modulation MicroRNA-181a/b: A Potential Therapeutic Approach for Inherited Retinal Disease*
	$20,000	Clay Smith, PhD (University of Florida) — *Enhancing Metabolism in Photoreceptors with a Modified Arrestin to Treat Retinal Degeneration*
	$25,000	Krishanu Saha, PhD (University of Wisconsin-Madison) — *Gene Editing Nanomedicines to Correct Pathogenic Mutations in the Retina*
	$25,000	Rob Collin, PhD (Radboud University, The Netherlands) — *Development and Optimization of AON-based Therapies for Selected Splice Defects*

YEAR	CONTRIBUTION DETAIL AS OF DECEMBER 2020	
2018 ($100,000)	$25,000	**My Retina Tracker® program**
	$20,000	**Rob Collin, PhD (Radboud University, The Netherlands) —** *Development and Optimization of AON-based Therapies for Selected Splice Defects*
	$15,000	**Eric Pierce, MD, PhD (Massachusetts Eye and Ear Institute) —** *Efficacy, Safety, and Toxicity of AAV-Mediated Human RPGRIP1*
	$40,000	**Krishanu Saha, PhD (University of Wisconsin) —** *Gene Editing Nanomedicines to Correct Pathogenic Mutations in the Retina*
2017 ($65,000)	$65,000	**My Retina Tracker® program —** *support in its pilot year*
2016 ($65,000)	$25,000	**Anand Swaroop, PhD (National Eye Institute) and Wolfgang Baehr, PhD (John A. Moran Eye Center, University of Utah) —** *seeking therapies for LCA caused by mutations in NPHP5 (IQCB1), CEP290 (LCA10), and additional genes, and seeking to understand the underlying causes of LCA by observing similarities and differences between gene defects. (First funded in 2015.)*
	$25,000	**Rob Collin, Assistant Professor, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Center (The Netherlands) —** *for antisense oligonucleotide therapy for a type of gene splicing for the CEP290 (NPHP6) gene variation. The study has led to the development of Sepofarsen by ProQR. (First funded in 2015.)*
	$15,000	**My Retina Tracker® program**
2015 ($45,000)	$15,000	**Anand Swaroop, PhD (National Eye Institute) and Wolfgang Baehr, PhD (John A. Moran Eye Center, University of Utah) —** *seeking therapies for LCA caused by mutations in NPHP5 (IQCB1), CEP290 (LCA10), and additional genes, and seeking to understand the underlying causes of LCA by observing similarities and differences between gene defects.*
	$30,000	**Rob Collin, Assistant Professor, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Center (The Netherlands) —** *for antisense oligonucleotide therapy for a type of gene splicing for the CEP290 (LCA10) gene variation. The study has led to the development of Sepofarsen by ProQR.*