RARING TO GO FOR CHI
Congenital Hyperinsulinism International

MILLION DOLLAR BIKE RIDE GRANT WINNERS 2015

RESEARCH TOPIC:

Towards Precision Medicine in the Treatment of Congenital Hyperinsulinism in Infancy

Current therapies for HI are largely ineffective, poorly tolerated and associated with several adverse reactions. Existing drugs target beta-cells, found in the islets of Langerhans of the pancreas, and work by suppressing insulin release to alleviate hypoglycemia.

This project will extend our research into several different cell types found within the islets, not only beta cells. These other cell types are all associated with the control of normoglycemia and carry HI-causing gene defects.

The impact of this work will be: (a) a greater understanding of disease-associated mutations, (b) who will benefit from surgery and who from drug therapy, and (c) the identification of alternative approaches to managing HI with existing drugs, drug combinations, and new therapies. From this pilot study, we expect to develop new therapeutic strategies towards precision medicine in HI patients.

"Our Team focuses upon translational research - applying our expertise in the laboratory to advocate better treatment options for the HI patient. This special Award has also allowed us to pilot 'reverse-translation' because we have use the cells of patients to drive our research into new areas. It is a very exciting time for HI research."

RIDING FOR RESEARCH!

AWARD RECIPIENT:
Mark Dunne
BSc, PhD

HOME INSTITUTION:
University of Manchester

AWARD AMOUNT:
$71,000

MILLION DOLLAR BIKE RIDE
RAISING MONEY FOR RARE DISEASE RESEARCH

Penn Medicine
Orphan Disease Center