

## What can your gift do?

ATS Foundation

### Launching the Careers of Outstanding Young Investigators

Since 2004, the ATS Foundation Research Program has awarded \$15 million to 189 researchers.

Our awardees have gone on to secure over \$188 million in major funding grants... published their findings in the world's leading journals... established laboratories where they mentor a new generation of researchers and clinicians... and achieved major leadership positions at their institutions.



Erica Herzog, MD, PhD, is an associate professor at the Yale School of Medicine and director of the Yale Interstitial Lung Disease Center of Excellence. Her award came at a critical time in her study of semaphorins in the development of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

*"At the time, it was kind of a risky project, but the ATS really thought it had some potential. The project went on to receive NIH funding, and we went on to make some critical insights that have the potential to help patients."*

– Erica Herzog, MD, PhD, 2010 ATS Foundation Research Program grant recipient



Darrell N. Kotton, MD, a 2006 Research Program awardee, founded a 34-scientist Center for Regenerative Medicine at Boston University that is committed to "open-source biology." It was among the first to derive induced pluripotent stem cells from patients with lung disease.



Charles A. Powell, MD, a 2005 Research Program awardee, is now chief of the division of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital and CEO of the Mount Sinai-National Jewish Health Respiratory Institute. Dr. Powell is advancing understanding of the factors that increase genetic susceptibility to lung cancer.



Andrew M. Tager, MD, associate professor at Massachusetts General Hospital and principal investigator for its Center for Immunology and Inflammatory Diseases, discovered an antagonist that may block pulmonary fibrosis, which is being tested in a Phase II trial.

*"I feel passionately that deserving young investigators should be afforded the same opportunity that this grant afforded me."*

– Andrew M. Tager, MD, 2008 ATS Foundation Research Program grant recipient

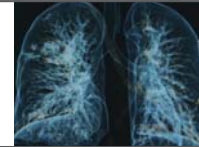
\$50 = keeps a patient's cultured cells alive for one month



\$150 = provides one hour of clinical coordinator support during a clinical trial



\$250 = funds one procedure to obtain a patient's lung cell sample



\$500 = funds one chest CT during a clinical trial



\$1,000 = gets one researcher to an ATS conference to present their latest findings



\$5,000 = takes us one giant step toward curing lung diseases



## Build a Future Where Our Patients Can Breathe Better



You can build a future where our patients can breathe better.

[foundation.thoracic.org/donate](http://foundation.thoracic.org/donate)  
Please make a gift today!

**ATS Foundation**  
Improving the lives of patients with respiratory diseases through research, education, & training

25 Broadway, 18th Floor  
New York, NY 10004  
212-315-8600  
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## Transforming the Lives of Lung Patients Through Research

The ATS Foundation Research Program, established in 2004, bolsters new investigators as they strive to launch independent research careers dedicated to innovation in patient care.

Research has led to breathtaking advances in medicine. But there is much more to be learned, especially in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine. According to the World Health Organization, more than a billion people globally suffer from chronic respiratory conditions. In the U.S., lung disease is the third-leading cause of death.

The talented basic, translational, and clinical investigators funded through ATS Foundation Research Program awards are taking new approaches to unlock the mysteries of respiratory diseases.

Their topics of scientific exploration are diverse, and include lung cancer, asthma, acute respiratory distress syndrome, pulmonary fibrosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), sleep apnea, and more.

By providing research grants to promising young investigators, the ATS Foundation Research Program launches careers dedicated to advancing scientific discovery—and better patient care.

## Pursuing Promising Treatments and Cures

Research offers patients and their families hope. This is particularly true for patients with lung disease. There are very few cures, not nearly enough therapies that extend lives or ease symptoms for patients with lung disease, and too few effective therapies that come without significant side effects.

The development of drugs to treat pulmonary hypertension illustrates the challenge. Twenty years ago, there was only one FDA-approved drug for patients with pulmonary hypertension, and it was a lifesaver.

Today, there are 14. But not everyone with pulmonary hypertension responds to these medications, and those who do, often suffer debilitating side effects.



*"Pulmonary hypertension patients are passionate about research—that's where our hope lies. It's important to attract young investigators to solving this disease—to being part of our cause."*

**– Joanne Sperando-Schmidt, pulmonary hypertension activist**

## Giving Hope to Patients and Their Families



*"My asthma will most likely get better as science gets more advanced, there'll be better medicines and I'll have it better."*

**– Alexandra, asthma patient and ninth grader**



*"I am grateful to the many researchers and clinicians whose scientific and clinical innovations made my recovery possible."*

**– Len Geiger, alpha-1 and COPD activist and double-lung transplant recipient**



*"If it weren't for the research of doctors I don't think I would still be here today."*

**– Maki Inada, lung cancer activist**

## Building a Future Where Our Patients Can Breathe Better

After a decade of decreased federal funding, your support is imperative to advance biomedical research.

Researchers in the respiratory community are finding it ever harder, and sometimes impossible, to secure funding. Investigators at the beginning of their careers are especially vulnerable to having a lifetime of discoveries terminated.

This is much more than a professional loss: it is a humanitarian one.

**Who will discover the new treatments and cures for our patients?**

That's why the Research Program is at the heart of the ATS Foundation's mission. Our other core programs include the Methods in Epidemiologic, Clinical, and Operations Research (MECOR) Program for global health; Medical Education Research, a new program supporting novel curricular approaches; and the Ziskind Clinical Research Scholar Award, the Mellins Award, and ATS Assembly Awards and Scholarships.

Thank you to our members, partners, and friends for making this work possible...and thank you for your commitment to building a future where our patients can breathe better.

Visit [foundation.thoracic.org](http://foundation.thoracic.org) to learn more and find out how you can help..

Research matters. Support research.  
Visit [foundation.thoracic.org](http://foundation.thoracic.org)

100% of your donation will support programs

For Joanne, Alexandra, Len, and Maki research is hope—hope for better treatments and hope for a cure.

100% of your donation will support programs

The ATS Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the American Thoracic Society.

Because the ATS supports the Foundation's administrative expenses, 100% of your donation will support programs.