The Rare Kidney Disease Registry and Biobank
Facilitating Translational Research

Spring 2018 Newsletter

Recruitment to Date

- 668 Vasculitis Patients (288 acute, 381 relapsing)
- 315 Age-Matched Controls
- 698 PKD

Key Research Supported in 2017/2018

⇒ Autoimmunity Relapse Prediction using Multiple Parallel Data Sources (AVERT) - RKD Registry aligned ANCA Vasculitis patients as a model archetypal relapsing autoimmune disease to identify and validate the environmental / clinical factor interactions influencing flare of the disease (TCD / Vasculitis Ireland Awareness / patientMpower (pMp))

⇒ Familial Kidney Disease Genomics - an ongoing collaboration with Prof Peter Conlon and Dr Dervla Connaughton (Beaumont Hospital) and Dr Friedhelm Hildebrandt (Harvard Medical School, Boston Children’s Hospital)

⇒ ANCA Vasculitis Cyclophosphamide Pharmacogenomics - collaboration with Dr A Vaglio (University Hospital of Parma, Italy)

⇒ Mechanisms of Immunothrombosis in ANCA Vasculitis with Dr Roger Preston (RCSI)

⇒ Urinary Metabolomic Biomarkers in Vasculitis - a collaboration with Agilent Technologies and Dr Ken Mok (TCD) using high throughput mass spectroscopy techniques

Latest Research Publications

- Alterations in circulating lymphoid cell populations in systemic small vessel vasculitis are non-specific manifestations of renal injury
- Anti-myoeloperoxidase antibodies attenuate the monocyte response to LPS and shape macrophage development
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Facilitating Clinical and Translational Research

Thanks
To all patients and control individuals who have so kindly taken part. To all consultants for generously allowing access to their patients. To registrars Paul O’Hara, Claire Kennedy, Sarah Moran, Dervla Connaughton, Adrian Whelan, Heather Gunning, Tammy Waniqasekera, Limy Wong, Dearbhla Kelly, Yvelyne Kelly, Radzi Rodzlan, Conor Judge, Amy Hudson, Susie Murray, Louise Ryan, Brona Maloney, Elshaeima Mohamed, Aine de Bhallas, Adeel Rafi Ahmed, Ted Fitzgerald, Tze Liang Goh, Julio Chevarria, Laura Slattery, Vicki Sandy, Jennifer Scott, Hannah O’Keefe, Sarah Cormican, Samar Medani, Donal Sexton and Mark Canney, who have helped us recruit extremely valuable acute patients. To John McCourt for database support and to Joe McPartlin and the TCD Biobank for facilitating freezer storage. Finally, to all our interns, who make a substantial contribution to the efficient day-to-day-to-day operational running of the RKD Biobank—a massive thank you!

Contact Us
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Welcomes and Farewells
The past year saw the arrival of many new laboratory personnel who will make significant contributions to the ongoing work of the Biobank, including Dr Gareth Brady, Dr Yanmei Huang, Ms Emma Leacy, Ms Aisling Ui Mhaonaigh, and Ms Aisling Morrin.

It also saw the departure of Dr Barbara Fazekas to NUIG. Barbara ably co-ordinated sample delivery and processing when required and we thank her for her valuable contribution and wish her well in her new post. Our lead Research Nurse, Ruth Ar- gue, also moved to a new post within the CRF at St James’ and has been replaced by Ms Jane Richardson. We are grateful to Ruth for her considerable work during her tenure, and welcome Jane aboard.

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