

Castleman: One \$64,205 pilot grant is available to perform investigation into unicentric Castleman disease (UCD) and/or HHV-8-negative/"idiopathic" multicentric Castleman disease (iMCD). The Castleman Disease Collaborative Network's (CDCN) Scientific Advisory Board has identified the following priority research questions (though applications to study additional areas will also be considered): What is the role of JAK/STAT signaling in iMCD? What is the role of MAPK/ERK signaling in iMCD? What mouse model (xenograft, mutant, etc.) can be developed to be an effective model of human UCD or iMCD? What causal inferences or associations can be identified from whole exome sequencing and SNParrays of constitutional DNA from a cohort of 200-300 iMCD patients (grants intending to address this question would propose performing analyses of these datasets being generated)? What is the role of specific auto-antibodies identified through auto-antibody screens in iMCD? What proteomic patterns may be present in the serum of the 100 iMCD patients who have had auto-antibody profiling performed? What is the role of CXCL13 in iMCD? What insights can be gained from multi-omic profiling of lymph node tissue from iMCD and/or UCD patients (grants intending to address this question would propose performing multi-omic analyses)? Proposals should seek to explore one of the above priority research questions. We expect the investigator's application to provide information on the preliminary data that exist, hypotheses being tested, relevant experiences performing similar work, and the experimental plan. Proposing studies with a clear therapeutic impact is a plus. All grant applications will be considered confidential. The CDCN will support the project through sample procurement, as needed, and can provide its expertise and guidance throughout the grant. For a complete listing of CDCN studies, visit: <https://www.cdcn.org/research-pipeline>