The Impact of Ben's Run

AT CHILDREN'S NATIONAL HOSPITAL

PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT REPORT | 2020

Ben's Run honors the life and spirit of Ben Goldfogle by investing in the most promising advances in pediatric cancer research. Your visionary support of Children's National Hospital's groundbreaking cell therapy research moves us closer to improving the outcomes of patients who have some of the toughest cancers to treat. We are pleased to share how your continued generosity improved care and outcomes for children diagnosed with cancer.

BEN'S RUN
To BEN-a-fit Children's National Health System

Children's National

Patrick Hanley, PhD, in our Cell Therapy Lab

Strengthen With RESOLVE

A patient's relapse after a bone marrow transplant (BMT) left clinicians with few options—a difficult reality that has held true for decades. Catherine Bollard, MD, MBChB, Director of the Center for Cancer and Immunology and the Program for Cell Enhancement and Technologies for Immunotherapy, is determined to change this through a novel clinical protocol RESOLVE. Thanks to Ben's Run, she and her laboratory team have the seed funding essential to continue this important work.

Dr. Bollard and her laboratory team developed a novel cell therapy for patients with leukemia using T cells (called TAA-T) trained to recognize and attack leukemia. Dr. Bollard with David Jacobsohn, M.D., Sc.M., Division Chief of Blood and Marrow Transplantation, and the rest of the cell therapy team infuse these power hitters into patients to wipe out residual or relapsing disease, even at low levels.

The protocol RESOLVE is still in the early stages of investigation; as of June 2019, 26 patients have been treated. However, RESOLVE has already has prevented relapse in the majority of those patients who were at high risk for relapse after BMT. But the trial offers more than just a post-BMT treatment option. It offers many young patients and families something previously lost: hope. Ben's Run made this possible.

Terrific T Cells for Every Child

Early support from Ben's Run helped Dr. Bollard and her team to carefully evaluate the persistence of these novel T cells in the blood of the patients after they have received TAA-T. In addition, they are developing a new, readily available TAA-T cell therapy protocol so that all patients with leukemia, even patients who can't have a bone marrow transplant, can get TAA-T since it will be waiting for patients who need it.

Moving Beyond Leukemia to Solid Tumors

Your generosity is changing lives for the patients and families at Children's National. But the impact doesn't end there. Support from Ben's Run enabled Dr. Bollard and her team to expand the TAA-T cell treatment for pediatric patients with solid tumors outside our hospital walls. They published their impressive findings in *The Journal of Clinical Oncology* showing how TAA-T cell therapy had delayed disease progression in high-risk solid tumor patients. The work supported by Ben's Run has also been presented at numerous international and national meetings.

Support from Ben's Run provides essential early investments to Dr. Bollard and her team so they can gather proof-of-concept data that is critical to securing additional grants. It is nearly impossible to understate the importance and value of initial seed funding, but the proof can be seen in the impact of these initial investigations and the corresponding jump in federal and other grants following Ben's Run investment. Under Dr. Bollard's leadership, the Cell Therapy Program team increased their NIH funding support by 98%!

Looking Ahead

Building on the success made possible by Ben's Run's previous investments, our team will focus their efforts on acute myeloid leukemia (AML)—one of the most devastating hematologic malignancies, with less than a 25% overall five-year survival– and post-BMT use of virus-specific T cells to target cancer.

Ben's Run has set an inspiring and ambitious goal to advance this potentially transformative research: to raise a total of $1 million in 10 years. If successful, this funding will:

- expand access to RESOLVE to *10 new patients* at high risk of relapse
- start the readily available protocol for *12 patients* for whom BMT isn't an option

These ambitious research aims and our goals to expand access can only be accomplished through philanthropy.

"We are enormously grateful to Ben's Run. The unprecedented funding success we've had this past year could not have been achieved without Ben's Run."

— Catherine Bollard, M.D., M.B.Ch.B.

WHO WE ARE

Children's National Hospital, based in Washington, D.C., has served the nation's children since 1870. Children's National is the nation's No. 6 pediatric hospital and, for the third straight year, is ranked No. 1 in newborn care, as well as ranked in all specialties evaluated by *U.S. News & World Report*. It has been designated two times as a Magnet® hospital, a designation given to hospitals that demonstrate the highest standards of nursing and patient care delivery. This pediatric academic health system offers expert care through a convenient, community-based primary care network and specialty outpatient centers in the D.C. Metropolitan area, including the Maryland suburbs and Northern Virginia. Home to the Children's Research Institute and the Sheikh Zayed Institute for Pediatric Surgical Innovation, Children's National is the seventh-highest NIH-funded children's hospital in the nation.

Our Sincere Gratitude

The vision and support of Ben's Run make a difference every day at Children's National. You recognize the need to improve the standard of care for kids who experience relapses or are diagnosed with the toughest of cancers. We are pleased to report that, because of you, through past and current studies, we helped more than 40 kids.

Your support of Dr. Bollard's innovative cell therapy program continuously moves the dial and pushes hope into reality. Together, we strive to give every child a brighter tomorrow. For all that you do, thank you.

> "Our cutting-edge research and clinical trials could not happen without your incredible support. The money is being used to develop novel cell therapies which are directly improving outcomes for children with leukemia as well as other high risk cancers."
>
> — Catherine Bollard, M.D., M.B.Ch.B.

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Children's National

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