

TMA's Research Grants Program: Investing in Research Since 2002

At The Myositis Association, our vision is a world without myositis. We know the only way to achieve this lofty goal is through scientific research. That's why investing in innovative research is at the heart of our mission.

Overview

Every year since 2002, TMA's research grants have provided financial support to qualified investigators and clinicians for basic, translational, and clinical research. Our goal is to advance our understanding of the underlying causes and pathophysiology, means of prevention, early detection, accurate diagnosis, effective treatments, ways to improve quality of life, and methods for curing myositis and related diseases and complications.

Over the last twenty-plus years, **TMA has invested nearly \$10 million in 68 projects** that span the spectrum of myositis diseases and specialties.

32% of TMA grants have supported early career training

43% of TMA grants have supported non-US investigators

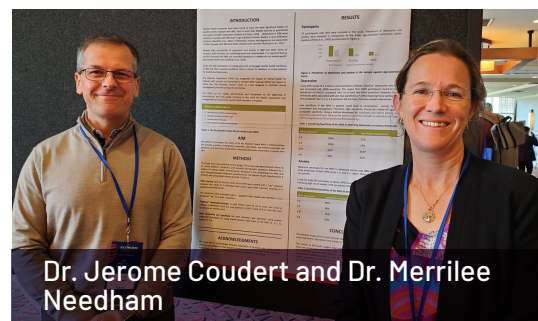
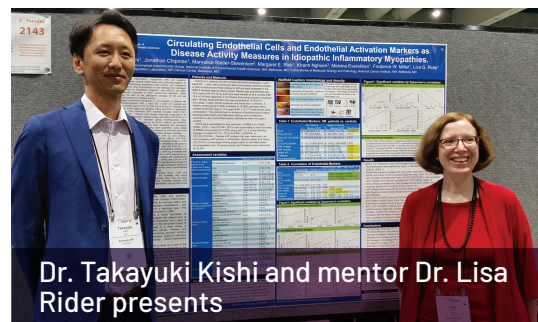
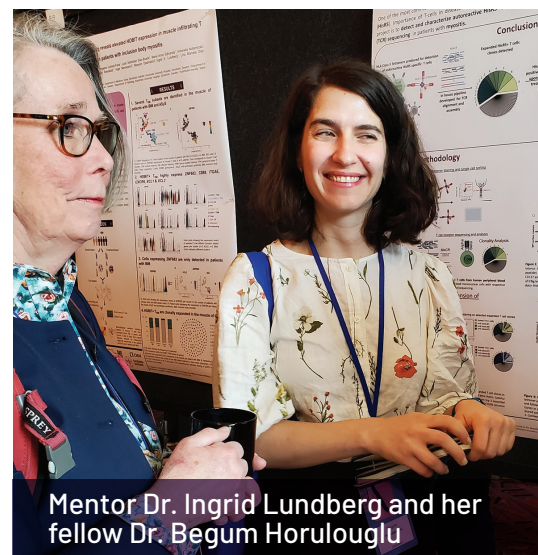
\$120k average dollar amount of a TMA grant award

22 number of Fellowship Grants TMA has provided over the years

Career Achievements by TMA Grantees

Recipients of TMA's fellowships and grants are now distinguished myositis experts serving as:

- TMA Medical Advisory Board members
- Founder and head of the International Myositis Society (iMyoS)
- University professors
- Medical center department heads
- Research scientists at research institutes
- Members of myositis consortia and study groups



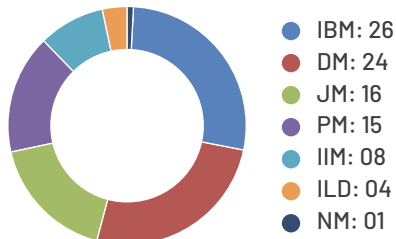
"TMA's award allowed me to continue to focus on research in myositis-ILD. Had it not been for this award, I would no longer be conducting research in patients with myositis. I am proud of what I built here at Penn, and I am excited to continue to work with patients with myositis with the goal of better understanding this disease to improve and save lives."

– Cheilonda Johnson, MD, MHS, pulmonologist and TMA pilot grant recipient



2002 – 2025

Number of Projects by Disease Type*



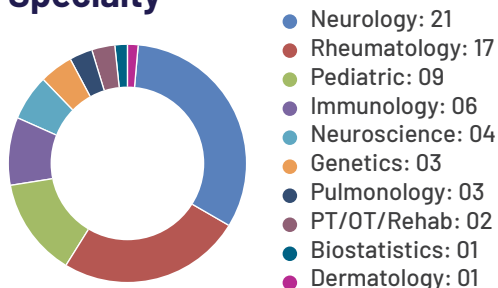
Projects by disease type

Dr. Thomas Lloyd's project "Human skeletal muscle xenografts to model inclusion body myositis (IBM)" successfully developed a mouse model to test therapeutic pathways in IBM. This project has had a significant impact on understanding disease mechanisms and identifying potential therapeutic targets for this complex disease.

* Some projects included more than one form of myositis.

2002 – 2025

Number of Projects by Investigator Specialty

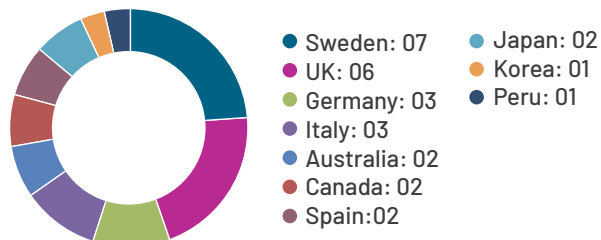


Investigator specialty

As a pediatrician, Dr. Takayuki Kishi's fellowship project "Responses to treatment in the juvenile idiopathic inflammatory myopathies" revealed significant correlations between endothelial markers and clinical assessments of disease activity in juvenile myositis (JM), including muscle and cutaneous involvement. These findings provide valuable insights into the pathogenesis of JM, improving management and treatment.

2002 – 2025

Non-US Investigators



Non-US investigators

In the UK, Dr. Sarah Tansley's project "Inter-center variation in myositis specific autoantibody (MSA) testing" aims to improve reliability of MSA testing. This will close an important gap in the myositis diagnostic journey, reducing or eliminating erroneous results due to poor testing procedures.