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News Release

The Myelin Repair Foundation Announces Expansion of its Patent Portfolio

U.S. Patent is Issued to Myelin Repair Foundation's Research Consortium to Advance Myelin Repair Therapeutics Development for Multiple Sclerosis

SARATOGA, Calif. – April 22, 2013 – The [Myelin Repair Foundation](#) (MRF) today announced the expansion of its patent portfolio to provide novel research tools to address unmet needs for demyelinating diseases. The United States Patent and Trademark Office has issued United States Patent 8,415,106 (US 8415106) to inventors from the [MRF research consortium](#), [Dr. Brian Popko, PhD](#), from the [University of Chicago](#) and [Dr. Wensheng Lin](#), MD, PhD, currently at the University of Minnesota.

This patent joins other related patents in the MRF portfolio (US patent numbers 7423194, 7754941, 7884260, 8053627 and 8309790) to cover cell-based drug screens useful to assess and examine compounds that demonstrate myelin repair. Based on MRF Principal Investigator Dr. Brian Popko's laboratory research that focuses on the unfolded protein response (UPR) pathway in multiple sclerosis and other demyelinating diseases, this family of MRF patents from Dr. Popko's research provides a complete package for examining the UPR pathway for demyelinating diseases, including multiple sclerosis.

The Myelin Repair Foundation established its [Accelerated Research Collaboration™ \(ARC™\)](#) model, a collaborative research model designed to speed new treatments to patients. With extensive industry expertise bringing new compounds into clinical trials, the Myelin Repair Foundation's internal research team works closely with top academic myelin researchers in the MRF research consortium to move promising scientific research forward. In order to motivate the biopharma industry to advance myelin repair research, this patent recognizes novel drug screens that support drug development for multiple sclerosis and other demyelinating diseases.

"We are proud to invest and support innovative research that results in new tools to assess and test compounds for myelin repair," said Dr. Jay Tung, PhD, chief research officer at the Myelin Repair Foundation. "By bringing our drug discovery perspective from the MRF internal research team with deep expertise in bringing treatments to the clinic, we collaborate closely with top academic researchers such as Dr. Brian Popko's team to patent important myelin repair research and novel tools."

The Myelin Repair Foundation holds exclusive licensing rights to the patents within its portfolio.

About the Unfolded Protein Response (UPR) Pathway

The unfolded protein response (UPR) pathway is a cytoprotective pathway that occurs in response to perturbations to the cell's endoplasmic reticulum (ER), helping the cell adapt and respond to environmental stress. Research funded by the Myelin Repair Foundation has demonstrated that the UPR

pathway is activated in myelin-producing oligodendrocytes (OL) and modulating this pathway provides protection from MS-like damage in animal models.

About the Myelin Repair Foundation

The Myelin Repair Foundation (MRF) (<http://www.myelinrepair.org>) is a Silicon Valley-based, non-profit research organization focused on accelerating the discovery and development of myelin repair therapeutics for multiple sclerosis. Its [Accelerated Research Collaboration](#)[™] (ARC[™]) model is designed to optimize the entire therapeutics development process for all diseases.

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