

18809 Cox Avenue, Suite 190
Saratoga, CA 95070
T 408.871.2410
F 408.871.2409
www.myelinrepair.org

Principal Investigators

Each individual investigator has defined skills in a particular area. The MRF consortium model allows us to work with other scientists to build a common direction that can significantly accelerate results.

— Robert Miller, Ph. D.
Professor of Neurosciences,
Case Western Reserve University
and MRF Principal Investigator

Finding a cure for MS is still likely decades away. But if we can improve the quality of life for MS patients with palliative treatments while others continue to search for a cure, we will have accomplished a great thing. We are all looking forward to this extraordinary opportunity to collaborate.

— Stephen Miller, Ph. D.
Professor of Microbiology-Immunology,
Northwestern University
and MRF Principal Investigator

We are bringing together academic scientists that operate in an environment where traditionally data can not be shared until after experiments are complete and published. Within the consortium model, every time the team gets together, sparks fly. There's no question that better teamwork in science can significantly accelerate results.

— Ben Barres, Ph. D.
Professor of Neurology,
Stanford University
and MRF Principal Investigator

Myelin repair is the best short-term chance to improve the lives of people with MS. By bridging multiple scientific interests, the consortium is supporting a team effort that can gain better insight into MS, faster.

— Brian Popko, Ph. D.
Professor of Neurology
University of Chicago
and MRF Principal Investigator

Scientific Advisory Board

Myelin repair is an approach that has been largely ignored by traditional research. But the groundwork has been solidly laid. Research with manipulated mouse models has produced the basic understanding of how myelin-producing cells commit to differentiation and myelin production, allowing researchers to predict what these cells will do.

— John Griffin, M.D.
Neurologist-in-Chief, Johns Hopkins,
University School of Medicine and Member,
MRF Scientific Advisory Board

Both principal investigators and young scientists who are part of the Myelin Repair Foundation effort will be better prepared to lead the type of translational medical research now being discussed at the top levels of government and academia.

— Gary Westbrook, M.D.
Professor of Neurology, Oregon Health
Sciences University and
Member, MRF Scientific Advisory Board

The lack of effective treatments for MS is discouraging. There is no doubt that progress in discovering new treatments would be greatly accelerated if scientists in the field collaborated rather than competed. By providing incentives for collaboration, the MRF model is pointing the way to a new team-based research model that brings breakthroughs from the bench to the patient much faster. Scott Cook's gift to MRF could be launching a sea change in medical research.

— Martin Raff, M.D.
Professor of Biology,
University College London and
Member, MRF Scientific Advisory Board

MRF Supporters

The Myelin Repair Foundation is pioneering a new way to organize medical research that speeds breakthrough drug discovery. It uses a unique approach of shared incentives to produce intense collaboration and rapid idea-sharing among the leading neuroscience centers. As I listened to these scientists, their enthusiasm and commitment for this new method of medical research is both clear and contagious. I am proud to be a part of it.

— Scott Cook
Founder and Chairman of Intuit, Inc.

One of the greatest hurdles to effective scientific collaboration is the fear that by collaborating, scientists will lose control of their work. Collaboration requires a high level of trust and professional respect between the participants, as well as with any organization trying to direct and facilitate their research. The Myelin Repair Foundation has done a remarkable job of selecting an interdisciplinary team with the temperament and desire to develop the required level of trust and professional respect, and of creating an environment of supportive processes and relationships that are critical to successful collaboration.

— Doug Kalish, Ph.D.
Lecturer, Haas School of Business
University of California at Berkeley

I have heard many non-profits say they were going to run like a start-up business, the Myelin Repair Foundation is the first one that I believe will do it.

— Grant Heidrich
Partner Emeritus
Mayfield Venture Capital

The Myelin Repair Foundation gives those of us living an unpredictable life with multiple sclerosis a sense of hope, security and stability. This work will improve the quality of life for those of us living with a chronic illness until one day a cure is found.

— Amelia Davis
Photographer and Author

Myelin repair may be our best hope for a short term answer to the endless questions about effective therapies for MS.

— Richard Cohen
Author and former senior producer
for CBS News and CNN

MRF Executive Team

Shortening the timeline from drug discovery to clinic is the most significant challenge facing biotech and pharmaceutical companies today. Our objective is to not only accelerate drug discovery but also to smooth the handoff from academia to commercial entities who must subsequently conduct clinical trials. We are optimistic that coordinating efforts in this way will not only speed time to market for treatments for the symptoms of MS, but also provide a viable alternate research model for all medical research.

— Rusty Bromley
Chief Operating Officer
Myelin Repair Foundation

Medical research experts, like top scientists in all areas of high technology, must focus very narrowly. But this kind of siloing is a distinct disadvantage when it comes to complex diseases like MS. To solve multifaceted problems requires coordination among the most accomplished specialists in multiple disciplines. That collaboration between disciplines is what MRF is about. We are honored and grateful to these prestigious scientists for their enthusiasm and commitment to this important project.

— Scott Johnson
President and Founder
Myelin Repair Foundation