



Annual Report 2018





About AASLD Foundation

As the largest private supporter of hepatology research and career development in the United States, the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) Foundation fills the void between bright, talented researchers and clinicians and the financial resources needed to:

- Encourage ongoing discovery
- Keep pace with the need for more physicians and health care professionals trained to provide care for patients with liver disease
- Share cutting-edge hepatology knowledge with physicians worldwide

Our Mission

To invest in innovative hepatology research and in the people who study and treat liver disease.

Our Vision

Prevent and cure liver disease.

Our Fiscal Year

The Foundation's Fiscal Year 2018 ran from July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018.

The audited financials provided below reflect this timeframe. Application cycles for the Foundation's programs run on a calendar year (January 1, 2018-December 31, 2018). The program information provided in this report reflects this timeframe.

Research and Career Development Awards

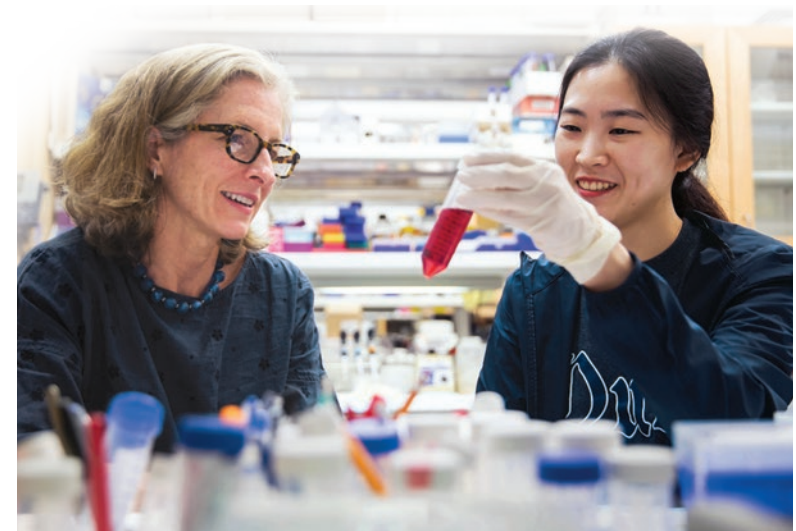
In response to the continued growth in highly meritorious applications, the introduction of new Pilot and Bridge Awards and additional resources from the *Tomorrow's Cures* campaign fundraising efforts, the Foundation committed to the highest awards investment in the history of the Research and Career Development Awards program—\$4.06 million.

In total, the Foundation has invested more than \$47 million in awards since 2000.

“The AASLD Foundation continues to support cutting-edge research at a time when the funding climate for physician investigators is extremely challenging. For me, the **AASLD Foundation Bridge Award** could not have come at a more pivotal time.”

Cynthia A. Moylan, MD, MHS
 Duke University
 2018 Bridge Awardee

Calendar Year 2018 AASLD Foundation Awards		
AWARD TYPE	# OF AWARDEES	AMOUNT OF FUNDING
Research Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Clinical, Translational and Outcomes Research Award ■ Pinnacle Research Award in Liver Disease ■ Afdhal/McHutchison LIFER Award ■ Autoimmune Liver Disease Pilot Research Award ■ Pilot Research Award ■ Bridge Award 	21	\$3,270,000
Career Development Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Award ■ NP/PA Clinical Hepatology Fellowship 	15	\$793,000
Total	36	\$4,063,000



Awardee Profiles

Maria Serena Longhi, MD, PhD



AWARD: Autoimmune Hepatitis Pilot Research Award

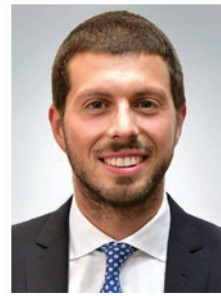
RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE:
Regulation of aryl hydrocarbon receptor signaling in autoimmune hepatitis

INSTITUTION: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

MENTOR: Simon Robson, MD, PhD, FRCP, FAASLD

“The **Autoimmune Hepatitis Pilot Research Award** is very important for the work that I’m planning to do now. I’m looking at my work from a slightly different angle, looking at new molecules and how their interactions could somehow be impacting the balance of the liver. It’s very challenging, but exciting. The award is so important at this stage, when you want to start a new project. It enables you to try something new, to continue my studies, but with a new perspective.”

Alberto Zanetto, Jr., MD



AWARD: Clinical and Translational Research Fellowship in Liver Disease

RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE:
Role of endogenous heparinoids on the hemostatic balance in cirrhotic patients with acute kidney injury

INSTITUTION: Yale University

MENTOR: Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao, MD, FAASLD

“When I received the notification that I had been selected to receive the **AASLD Foundation Clinical and Translational Research Fellowship**, I could not believe it. As a young physician interested in clinical and translational research, the possibility to spend a period in the United States at Yale University is of high importance. I think that this period will advance my career. It will also be one of the most important moments of my life.”

Abstract Travel Awards

Abstract Travel Awards enable promising early-career investigators to attend and present their work at either The Liver Meeting® or Digestive Disease Week® (DDW).

Calendar Year 2018 Abstract Travel Awards		
AWARD TYPE	# OF AWARDEES	AMOUNT OF FUNDING
Abstract Travel Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ DDW 2018 ■ The Liver Meeting 2018 	71	\$86,500

Emerging Liver Scholars Program

The Emerging Liver Scholars Program promotes the study of hepatology among residents who have the potential for a career in academic medicine and who have not yet determined their long-term career goals. The program is targeted toward medical, surgical and pediatric residents and their mentors to attend The Liver Meeting® and participate in other AASLD activities throughout their training.

Calendar Year 2018 Emerging Liver Scholars		
AWARD TYPE	# OF AWARDEES	AMOUNT OF FUNDING
Emerging Liver Scholars	43	\$100,000*

*As of March 2019

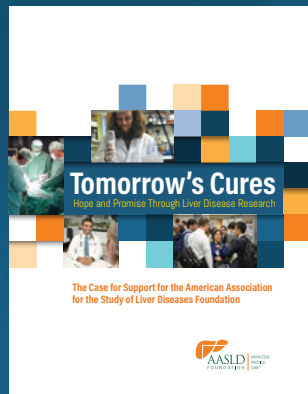
Fundamentals of Liver Disease

There is currently a shortage of trained providers capable of diagnosing and treating different liver diseases. Fundamentals of Liver Disease, our free online resource, helps primary care physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and other health care providers to improve their knowledge and clinical skills in hepatology. Courses cover Cirrhosis, Hepatitis B, Abnormal Liver Tests, NASH/NAFLD and Hepatitis C.

Fundamentals of Liver Disease September 19, 2018* - December 31, 2018	
USER TYPE	TOTAL # OF USERS ACROSS ALL COURSES
Members	394
Non-Members	193
Active Users <small>Users who participated in one or more course</small>	338

*Fundamentals of Liver Disease was relaunched in September 2018 on a new online platform.

Tomorrow's Cures Campaign



In August 2017, the Foundation embarked upon a bold fundraising initiative to support new cures for liver diseases. In our lifetime, advancements in liver disease research and care have become extraordinary promises of hope for those suffering from liver disease. From liver transplantation to HCV cures, the lives of countless patients have been transformed through outstanding patient care and innovative cures.

However, liver disease continues to be a major health problem. To get closer to a world without liver disease, a consistent, stable source of funding is required. That's why the Foundation launched the *Tomorrow's Cures* campaign.

\$7 million

has been raised from our members, industry partners, foundations and grateful patients and their families as of December 31, 2018.



In 2018, AASLD Foundation received the largest gift from an industry donor to-date.

Inspiring Donors

In 2018, the Foundation received generous support from a number of individuals and events, including:

- **Anna S. Lok, MD, FAASLD**

The Anna S. Lok Fund for Excellence in Research and Training

Established an endowment to support an Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Award, which encourages the careers of exceptional hepatology trainees.

- **Indiana University Division of Hepatology**

Inspired by Drs. Naga Chalasani and Raj Vuppalanchi, Indiana University Division of Hepatology hosted a *Tomorrow's Cures* campaign special event to introduce their colleagues and community to the Foundation's work.

Collectively, in just one night, they raised close to \$100,000.

AASLD Foundation Donors

In gratitude to our donors

AASLD Foundation is grateful to the hundreds of donors who have contributed to our mission through their generous charitable donations. Donors contributing to the Foundation's *Tomorrow's Cures* campaign, can be found [here](#).

Corporate and Foundation Supporters

AASLD Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following companies and foundations that have made donations and grants to support the Foundation's initiatives and its new *Tomorrow's Cures* campaign.

FOUNDERS SOCIETY (\$2,000,000+)



VISIONARY (\$500,000 TO \$999,999)



PARTNER (UP TO \$499,999)



Listing includes pledges, grants, and donations committed during the campaign period of August 1, 2017 through October 4, 2018.

AASLD Foundation

FY2018 Audited Financials

View a copy of AASLD Foundation's FY2018 audited financials [here](#).



www.aasldfoundation.org

