



# JBC Monthly Newsletter

May 2021

## JBC Updates

- **JBC Microgrant funds will expire on 7/31/2021 (really!).** It is the micrograntee's responsibility to ensure that funds for the project are drawn down by the established deadline. Please contact JBC coordinator Anu Singh at [asingh2@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:asingh2@bwh.harvard.edu) for questions.
- **Next JBC Synergy Meeting** will be on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Eastern Time via Zoom.  
**Talk 1:** Dr. Tiffany Hsu (BWH), "Regulating MDA5 to restrain aberrant innate immune activation"  
**Talk 2:** Dr. Ivan Zanoni (BCH), "Type III interferons: friends or foes at mucosal barriers?"
- **Next JBC Aims Review Committee** will be on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 12-1 p.m. Eastern Time via Zoom. If you are not on the ARC email list and wish to be, please email [peter.nigrovic@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:peter.nigrovic@childrens.harvard.edu).

## JBC Member News

**Jeffrey Sparks** (BWH) won the Best Clinical abstract at EULAR Annual Congress: "Associations of Baseline Use of Biologic or Targeted Synthetic DMARDs with COVID-19 Severity in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Results from the COVID-19 Global Rheumatology Alliance"

**Julia Charles** (BWH) was awarded an R21 from NIAMS "Talking Back: leveraging dysfunctional osteoclasts to identify novel pathways of osteoclast-osteoblast communication"

**Elena Crestani** (BCH) received a BCH Faculty Career Development award for her proposal "Novel predictive biomarkers of food allergy in children".

**Maria Gutierrez-Arcelus** (BCH) received a BCH Faculty Career Development award for her proposal "B cell activation via the B-cell receptor and Toll-like receptor pathways to reveal genetic heterogeneity in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus".

**Lauren Henderson** (BCH) received a Year 2 award from the Arthritis National Research Foundation for her proposal "Function and autoreactivity of Th1-polarized and clonally expanded Tregs in Oligo JIA".

### The JBC Team:

**Peter Nigrovic, M.D.**  
 Director (BCH & BWH)

### Human Biosamples Core:

- **Elizabeth Karlson, M.D.**  
 Director
- **Jeffrey Sparks, M.D., M.M.Sc.**  
 Associate Director BWH
- **Lauren Henderson, M.D., M.M.Sc.**  
 Associate Director BCH

### Cellular Systems Core:

- **Jim Lederer, Ph.D.**  
 Director
- **Peter Nigrovic, M.D.**  
 Associate Director
- **Kevin Wei, M.D., Ph.D.**  
 Associate Director

**Pui Lee** (BCH) received a Year 1 grant from the Arthritis National Research Foundation for his proposal “mTORC1 in the pathogenesis of systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis”.

**Maria Gutierrez-Arcelus** (BCH) received a Year 1 grant from the Arthritis National Research Foundation for her proposal “Function and autoreactivity of Th1-polarized and clonally expanded Tregs in Oligo JIA”.

**Roxanne Darbousset** (Nigrovic lab) received a Year 1 grant from the Arthritis National Research Foundation for her proposal “Splicing Disruption in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus”.

**Ivan Zanoni** (BCH) received a 5-year Lloyd J. Old STAR grant from the Cancer Research Institute for his proposal “Innate immune control of colorectal cancer”.

**Peter Nigrovic** (BCH/BWH) received a CARRA Executive Committee Biosample Collection Stimulus Grant entitled ‘Fingerprinting childhood lupus’.

### JBC MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

Prisco LC, Moll M, Wang J, Hobbs BD, Huang W, Martin LW, Kronzer VL, Huang S, Silverman EK, Doyle TJ, Cho MH, **Sparks JA**. Relationship between rheumatoid arthritis and pulmonary function measures on spirometry in the UK Biobank. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2021 (In Press).

Sirotych E, Kennedy K, Simard JF, Surangiwalla S, Larche MJ, Levine M, Thabane L, Foster G, Moni T, Semalulu T, Harrison C, Robinson PC, Yazdany J, Liew JW, **Sparks JA**, Sattui SE, Hausmann JS. Immediate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on patient health, healthcare utilization and behaviours: Results from an international survey of people with rheumatic diseases. *Lancet Rheumatol*. 2021 (In Press).

**Jee H, Huang Z, Baxter S, Huang Y, Taylor ML, Henderson LA, Rosenzweig S, Sharma A, Chambers EP, Hershfield MS, Zhou Q, Dedeoglu F, Aksentijevich I, Nigrovic PA, O'Donnell-Luria A, Lee PY**. Comprehensive analysis of ADA2 genetic variants and estimation of carrier frequency driven by a function-based approach. *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*. (in press)

### OPEN POSITIONS

The **Nigrovic lab** (Brigham and Women's Hospital/Boston Children's Hospital) has postdoctoral position open in the areas of neutrophil biology and human genetics.

The **Shelef lab** (University of Wisconsin - Madison) has a postdoctoral position open in the area of autoantibodies.

The **Wei lab** (Brigham and Women's Hospital) has a postdoctoral position open for project- Spatial transcriptomics and stromal cell biology.