IN 2020, DAMON RUNYON SCIENTISTS OVERCAME UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES TO MAKE DISCOVERIES THAT WILL CHANGE THE WAY WE DIAGNOSE AND TREAT CANCER.

• Discovered a mechanism that pancreatic cancer cells hijack in order to evade immunotherapies.

• Identified multiple pathways leading to the spread of tumor cells to distant organs (metastasis) and therapeutic targets to guide drug development against this deadly process.

• Conducted the first clinical trial of a drug that directly targets KRAS, an oncogene responsible for many common cancers, which demonstrated positive effects in patients.

• Developed a new blood test that can detect more than 50 types of cancer, often before symptoms develop.

THIS YEAR ALONE, DAMON RUNYON SCIENTISTS:

• Damon Runyon alumni elected to the National Academy of Sciences (the science “Hall of Fame”): Howard Y. Chang, MD; Scott N. Keeney, PhD; Judy Lieberman, MD, PhD; Michael K. Rosen, PhD; Lorraine S. Symington, PhD; Peter Tontonoz, MD, PhD; Robert Tycko, PhD.

• Alumni elected to the prestigious National Academy of Medicine are Daniel A. Colón-Ramos, PhD; Ralph J. DeBerardinis, MD, PhD; Alex L. Kolodkin, PhD; Judy Lieberman, MD, PhD; Pardis C. Sabeti, MD, DPhil, MSc.

• Former Damon Runyon Fellow and Board Member Elaine V. Fuchs, PhD, received the 2020 Canada Gairdner Award for her pioneering work on tissue stem cells and their role in wound healing, inflammation, and cancer growth.

• Former Damon Runyon Scholar Ardem Patapoutian, PhD, shared the 2020 Kavli Prize in Neuroscience for his breakthrough discovery of sensory receptors that respond to pressure.

• Former Clinical Investigator Andrew T. Chan, MD, MPH, received the National Cancer Institute Outstanding Investigator Award.

• Former Clinical Investigator Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD, received the 2020 AACR-Joseph Burchenal Award for Outstanding Achievement in Clinical Cancer Research for his leadership in the development of checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapies.
OUR MISSION
At the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation, we fund high-risk, high-reward cancer research. We identify and enable young scientists who are brilliant, brave and bold enough to go where others haven’t.

RESEARCH PROGRAMS
• We are currently funding 212 researchers at 55 institutions across the nation.
• In fiscal year 2020, we awarded nearly $20 million in new grants to 71 exceptional scientists.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

TOTAL REVENUE: $24 MILLION
- Investment Return 28.6%
- Contributions 63.2%
- Misc. Income 2.8%
- Bequests & Trusts 4.6%
- Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets 0.8%

TOTAL EXPENSES: $24 MILLION
- Award Programs 87.6%
- Fundraising 9.1%
- General Administration 3.3%

100% OF YOUR DONATION FUNDS BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS.
We pay our low overhead with revenue from Damon Runyon Broadway Tickets and our endowment.

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