

The CLL Foundation has awarded a grant to Dr. Jennifer Brown, M.D., Ph.D., at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute to search for and identify genetic variants that account for the heritability of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. Although having a first degree relative with CLL is a significant risk factor for the disease, researchers have been unable to identify the genetic basis for this risk factor. Dr. Brown proposes to study missense variants in the ATM gene and two other target genes. She will employ in her work some of the most sophisticated medical technology available including Next Generation Sequencing, CRISPR gene editing, and a neural network program for identifying gene variants.