

THE WORK OF CRYPTIC MASONS

Freemasonry seeks to improve the community by improving the individual. Therefore, Councils of Cryptic Masons are found working with Lodges, Chapters, and Commanderies, giving more opportunities to improve one's skills in leadership, public speaking, interpersonal relationships, and administration. This empowers Masons to become better leaders in their career, church, and community. Councils also work with these and other Masonic groups in community service projects to demonstrate Masonic teachings as a way of life.

The General Grand Council established the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation to give Cryptic Masons an opportunity to turn Masonic philosophy into a living practice. Issues like diabetes, stroke, poor circulation, heart failure, wound healing, and many other diseases share the common denominator of blood vessels, so vascular research is a vital part of treating many different kinds of illnesses.

YOU CAN HELP

Be a working partner in CMMRF!

Ask an ambassador to speak at your meeting. Our mission is to reach the entire community and educate everyone about the research and successes at the Indiana University Vascular Research Program.

Our work today, will help generations to come to live better and healthier lives. Let us work together to support the IU School of Medicine and to find cures!



Your gift will be received by:

CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH
FOUNDATION
PO Box 210
Brownsburg, IN 46112-0210

WWW.CMMRF.ORG

Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation

and the

Indiana University School of Medicine



Partners in Discovery

Current Research Projects

The Indiana University Vascular Research Program is dedicated to researching the mechanisms of vascular wellness and disease, with an emphasis on developing leading-edge medical therapies to improve the care of patients with vascular issues.

The IU Vascular Research Program includes more than 30 investigators from a range of basic and clinical disciplines, and approaches vascular research and development from a highly cross-disciplinary perspective. The faculty, as well as the staff and students, work together as a team to complete the primary mission of rapid development and clinical application of new interdisciplinary research in vascular biology. This collaborative approach has led to many academic awards as institutions all over the country recognize the great vascular research happening at the IU School of Medicine.

The CMMRF has been working with Indiana University since 1986!

Programs with CMMRF funding can get discoveries from the lab to a patient's bedside in only 12 months, compared to similar programs that may not reach patients for up to 5 years.

PREVENTING AORTIC ANEURYSM RUPTURE WITH STEM CELLS

Our team is near the completion of a Phase I clinical trial in which we are treating abdominal aortic aneurysm patients with infusions of mesenchymal stem cells from a healthy young donor. Preliminary results show that these stem cells decreased inflammation in the aorta and prevent the aorta from enlarging.

HELPING FAILING HEARTS WITH STEM CELLS

The SENECA study was a first-in-human Phase I trial, involving 60 patients with heart failure following chemotherapy treatment. Besides killing cancer, chemotherapy also kills heart muscle. Patients who survive cancer may end up with heart failure. SENECA assessed the effects of mesenchymal stem cells injected into the heart muscle of these patients. The study found that stem cells improved all seven measures of heart function. It showed improvement in walking and other quality of life measures. These results lay an important foundation for designing future, larger phase 2 and 3 trials.

PREVENTING LIMB LOSS

Critical Limb Threatening Ischemia is the most severe form of peripheral arterial disease. It is often associated with excruciating pain and leads to the skin ulcers or gangrene. Dr. Murphy conducted the first trial in the U.S. using a patient's own bone marrow cells to prevent amputations. His pioneering work culminated in the MOBILE trial—a randomized, placebo-controlled trial that assessed the ability of intra-muscular injection of a patient's bone marrow cells to prevent amputation. "My moonshot is to develop an effective strategy that incorporates a multi-modal approach to limb preservation in the diabetic patient with vascular disease," says Dr. Murphy.

All About **Dr. Murphy**

Dr. Michael Murphy: Born and raised in New York, Dr. Murphy earned both his B.S. in Biochemistry and his M.D. from Columbia University. He underwent surgery training at Harvard Medical School, going on to complete a research fellowship and earn a faculty position there. By 2003, Dr. Murphy was on faculty at Duke University when he felt the call to serve his country and respond to the critical shortage of surgeons in Iraq. At age 42, he joined the Army Reserves. In October 2004, he was deployed emergently to Iraq, where he took part in the Second Battle of Fallujah. Considered some of the heaviest urban combat U.S. forces have faced since the Battle of Hue City in Vietnam, Dr. Murphy oversaw "Damage Control Surgery" at the 31st Combat Support Hospital. Dr. Murphy helped to reduce the deaths from combat injuries dramatically and was awarded an Army Commendation Medal, a Meritorious Service Medal, and a Bronze Star. Once he returned to the U.S., Dr. Murphy took a faculty position at Indiana University.



Dr. Mike Murphy

"Despite the disruption caused by COVID-19, we have been able, through your relentless, creative and dedicated support, to further the major progress we have made in recent years toward advancing vascular research and we are emerging from the pandemic in a position of strength."

- Dr. Mike Murphy