T. Denny Sanford invests $100 million in UC San Diego

Through this generous gift, University of California, San Diego launches the Sanford Stem Cell Clinical Center—a bold enterprise in which cutting-edge research will be combined with clinical trials to bring new cures and therapies to people who need them most.

Leukemia and blood diseases
Dr. Catriona H. M. Jamieson, Director of the Stem Cell Program at UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center, and her colleagues are using stem-cell derived treatments of leukemia and other blood diseases that have shown encouraging results in animal models and human clinical trials.

Spinal cord injuries
Dr. Mark H. Tuszynski, Director of the UC San Diego Translational Neuroscience Institute, and his colleagues are studying the sudden catastrophic consequences of spinal cord injuries and are working in the laboratory to introduce neural stem cells to regenerate axon growth at the site of these severe injuries.

Alzheimer's disease
Dr. Lawrence Goldstein, Director of the new Sanford Stem Cell Clinical Center and Scientific Director of the Sanford Consortium for Regenerative Medicine, has created, for the first time, stem cell-derived in vitro models of sporadic and hereditary Alzheimer’s disease using induced pluripotent stem cells from patients with AD. These functional Alzheimer’s neurons in a dish promise to be an unprecedented tool for developing and testing drugs to treat patients.

“Thank you, Denny. This gift and the creation of the Sanford Stem Cell Clinical Center will further UC San Diego’s leadership in stem-cell science and therapeutics, and advance our region’s reputation as an international, collaborative hub for stem cell research.”

UC San Diego Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla

“’I believe we’re on the cusp of turning years of hard-earned knowledge into actual treatments for real people in need. I want this gift to push that reality faster and farther.’”

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