

JDRF nPOD Newsletter



JDRF nPOD Newsletter for Recovery Partners.

November 2013. Issue 19.

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REMINDER:nPOD can provide training for staff, or other tools to explain our diabetes research program to partners. Contact **Emily Montgomery or Jayne Moraski** for more information.

nPOD Hero Award



Larry Suplee from Gift of Life Donor Program in Philadelphia was awarded the 2nd annual nPOD Hero Award, which is given to the OPO representative that has gone above and beyond their job to facilitate nPOD research. Larry has spent hours on the phone, including days he was not scheduled for on-call, to shepherd in several important cases for nPOD research. He's volunteered his time to come to the OPO workshop in the past as a facilitator of the research roundtable we're doing later this afternoon. Through his extensive knowledge, calm demeanor, and overall leadership, Larry has guided the Transplant Information Center Department at the Gift of Life Donor Program to successfully placing 352 organs to different researchers worldwide in 2012. He remains committed to the support of cutting edge scientific advancement. Larry has presented numerous abstracts at many national and international conferences, and was a key contributor in the development of the universal medical history questionnaire.

Please help us congratulate Larry Suplee, this year's recipient of the nPOD Hero Award.

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Case Update and Case Retiring

In the fall of 2012, tragedy struck the family of a small child who had recently been diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. Once doctors realized they were unable to save the child, an astute attending physician that works with an nPOD investigator made a phone call. Eventually the OPO helped nPOD recover this case of a child with disease duration of less than one year, but the time between that first referral and the recovery was very stressful for all involved. Once the local medical examiner understood the nature of the non-profit research project, she understood how important her help was in this autopsy recovery.

We need your help in raising awareness in the medical facilities you work in, to be aware of such rare cases and facilitate recoveries for nPOD research. We hope that such tragedies never occur, but when they do, donations to research can help future generations that are affected by diabetes. nPOD now has 19 cases with insulinitis in our biorepository. The table below highlights type 1 diabetes cases with the highest frequency of insulinitis identified.

Donor Summaries Sorted Highest to Lowest Insulinitis

CaseID	Type	Cause of Death	Age Onset (yr)	Diabetes Duration	AutoAb	High RiskD R	Insulinitis Frequency (N)
8052*	T1D	DKA	11	1	IA-2A+ mIAA+		9% (446)
6209	T1D	DKA	5	0.25	IA-2A+ ZnT8A+ mIAA+	3/4	7.6% (364)
8070	T1D	DKA	16	7	IA-2A+ mIAA+		4.5% (358)
8113	T1D	Trauma	12	1	mIAA+	3	3.8% (792)
8195	T1D	Trauma	14	5	GADA+ IA2A+ ZnT8+ mIAA+	4	3.6% (941)
8046	T1D	Anoxia	11	8	IA-2A+ ZnT8A+	4	2.6% (232)
8039	T1D	Trauma	17	12	GADA+ IA-2A+ ZnT8A+ mIAA+	3/4	1% (288)
8083	T1D	Anoxia	1	3	mIAA+	3/4	1% (198)
8078	T1D	DKA	11	15	GADA+ mIAA+	3/4	0.9% (117)
8082*	T1D	DKA	5	6	No serum available		0.7% (288)
8088	T1D	Trauma	26	5	GADA+ IA-2A+ ZnT8A+ mIAA+	3	0.5% (208)

* = African American

What is striking about this information is that insulinitis is not occurring uniformly throughout the pancreas. This information is useful in understanding the nature of the disease as it progresses.

As we have grown, we have learned much about case recovery and consequently refined our recovery instructions with our organ procurement organization partners. From time to time we receive cases that are missing important tissues or data points. nPOD will begin retiring cases where

- no medical records are available,
- no blood or serum was available due to extenuating circumstances
- elements of our core set of tissue were not recovered or are sub-optimal.

These case retirements represent *less than five percent of the total nPOD collection*. Thank you to our recovery partners for reviewing our protocols each time and ensuring complete cases to advance research.

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nPOD Donor Groups

nPOD is able to accept donors in any of the following categories:

1. Type 1 diabetes (T1D), ANY age, ANY disease duration.
2. Autoantibody positive with no clinical diagnosis of T1D for at least 1 or more autoantibodies (GADAb, IA-2Ab, or ZnT8), ≤ 30 years old (for those OPOs that screen with nPOD).
3. Type 2 diabetes (T2D):
 - a. T2D on Incretin medications for ≥ 12 months or
 - b. T2D donors 20 years old or younger.
4. Pancreas or pancreas/kidney transplant recipients with a history of type 1 diabetes.
5. Diagnosis of cystic fibrosis or Prader-Willi.
6. Pregnancy at time of demise.
7. Donors with a history of bariatric (weight-loss surgery), such as gastric bypass, gastric

banding, sleeve gastrectomy, etc.

8. Young donors (age 20 and under) with a BMI of ≥ 33 .

Our detailed inclusion criteria and [recovery protocols](#) are available on our website.

Username: opo Password: diabetes

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Publications

Congratulations to the following nPOD investigators that have published since our June newsletter:

Nelson EK, Piehler B, Rauch A, Ramsay S, Holman D, Asare S, Asare A, Igra M. (2013). Ancillary study management systems: a review of needs *BMC Med Inform Decis Mak.*, 13(5). doi: 10.1186/1472-6947-13-5.

[\[PubMed Abstract\]](#)

Salvatoni A, Baj A, Bianchi G, Federico G, Colombo M, Toniolo A. (2013). Intrafamilial spread of enterovirus infections at the clinical onset of type 1 diabetes. *Pediatr Diabetes*, Epub ahead of print.

[\[PubMed Abstract\]](#)

Herold KC, Vignali DA, Cooke A, Bluestone JA. (2013). Type 1 diabetes: translating mechanistic observations into effective clinical outcomes. *Nat Rev Immunol.*, 13(4):243-56.

[\[PubMed Abstract\]](#)

Coppieters KT, von Herrath M. (2013). Antibody cross-reactivity and the viral aetiology of type 1 diabetes. *J Pathol.*, 230(1):1-3.

[\[PubMed Abstract\]](#)

Taylor-Fishwick DA, Weaver JR, Grzesik W, Chakrabarti S, Green-Mitchell S, Imai Y, Kuhn N, Nadler JL. (2013). Production and function of IL-12 in islets and beta cells. *Diabetologia.*, 56(1):126-35.

[\[PubMed Abstract\]](#)

Craig ME, Nair S, Stein H, Rawlinson WD. (2013). Viruses and type 1 diabetes: a new look at an old story. *Pediatr Diabetes.*, 14(3):149-58.

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nPOD Welcomes New Staff



nPOD would like to welcome Marcela Gomez to the Organ Pathology and Processing Core. Marcela graduated from the University of Florida's Biological Engineering program and was active member of ASABE. She is currently a Post-Bac in the Biomedical Engineering program, and is working towards a minor in Physics. She has worked in the research field for two years working with leptin resistance and age-related obesity as well as light and gravity effects on plant growth and development. Marcela Gomez can be reached at marcelagomez@ufl.edu or by phone at (352) 273-7737.

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[Quarterly Newsletter]*

nPOD is a collaborative type 1 diabetes research project funded by JDRF. We support scientific investigators by providing, without cost, rare and difficult to obtain tissues beneficial to their research. nPOD currently supports over 90 type 1 diabetes-related scientific studies at institutions around the world. Our hope is that nPOD will prove a useful resource to the community of researchers dedicated to finding a cure for type 1 diabetes. For more information, please go to www.jdrfnpod.org