

For 65 years, the generosity of donors has driven discoveries that have transformed cystic fibrosis (CF) from a fatal childhood illness into a disease where many live into adulthood. This anniversary is more than a milestone, it's a reminder of what's possible when a community unites around hope, determination and research.

Today, through the Momentum research strategy, donors are continuing this legacy. In 2025:

S3M
COMMITTED

15 research initiatives

into lung infections, CF-related diabetes, and rare mutations: areas where urgent unmet needs remain.

Seeding the Next Breakthroughs:

\$250,000 invested into 5 seed research grants

Seed grants support innovative, high-risk ideas that have the potential to reduce complications and expand treatment options for people living with CF. In 2025, five projects were selected for their potential to address pressing health concerns and create meaningful impact.

- Exploring how fat metabolism patterns can help identify people at risk of CF-related diabetes, enabling earlier interventions to protect lung function and overall health.
 Dr. Adèle Coriati, Université de Montréal Co-funded with Diabetes Canada
- Investigating the relationship between saliva and lung bacteria to better understand CF severity in underrepresented populations, aiming to improve care for all Canadians living with CF.

 Dr. Anjali Bhagirath, Dalhousie University
- Testing an Al-driven tool to track diet and its impact on the gut microbiome and growth, supporting healthier development and providing families with actionable insights.

Dr. Geneviève Mailhot, Université de Montréal

- Studying a molecule that can enhance CFTR protein function with fewer side effects, potentially leading to safer, more effective treatments for people with CF. Dr. Giuseppe Melacini, McMaster University
- Exploring new molecular strategies to stop Pseudomonas aeruginosa from surviving in the lungs, aiming to reduce hospitalizations and improve lung health. Dr. Justin Di Trani, University of Alberta



Tackling Critical Challenges

\$300,000 invested over three years in basic science research grants

From chronic infections to digestive complications, we've invested in projects to uncover practical solutions that improve health, reduce the daily burden of treatment, and give people with CF greater quality of life.

- Testing a new antibody, gremubamab, to improve clearance of Pseudomonas aeruginosa, potentially preventing recurring lung infections. Dr. Dao Nguyen, McGill University
- Testing a gene therapy approach to neutralize Pseudomonas aeruginosa before infection takes hold, potentially providing a long-term alternative to antibiotics, and reduce hospitalizations. Dr. Sarah Wootton, University of Guelph
- Examining inflammation in people on Trikafta, including those with rare CFTR mutations, to guide therapy decisions and monitor long-term health benefits.

Dr. Brad Quon, University of British Columbia Recipient of the Erik and Birthe Andersen Senior Scientist Research Award

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"Genetic therapy research is accelerating.
mRNA therapies are entering clinical trials.
DNA correction by prime editing is coming
close behind. We're doing the work to make
it safe and effective – and the CF community
will benefit from progress being made across
medicine. I've been involved in CF care for
my entire career, and its personal. I know the
families who don't benefit from modulators.
My work is for them."

- Dr. Larry Lands, CF Researcher, McGill University

Fueling the Future

\$650,000 committed in Early Career **Investigator Awards and Fellowships**

Momentum supports rising CF researchers, providing the resources they need to explore bold ideas and lay the foundation for future breakthroughs.

- Reducing lung infections by uncovering the role of
 - Dr. Christina Thornton, University of Calgary
- Finding new ways to make antibiotics more effective again Pseudomonas aeruginosa in CF lungs Dr. Fabrice Jean-Pierre, Université de Sherbrooke
- Identifying new approaches to stop chronic lung infections and inflammation. Dr. Justine Mathe, McGill University
- Exploring co-infections to guide better treatment strategies.
 - Dr. Amanda Morris, Hospital for Sick Children

Collaborating for Greater Impact

\$1,400,000 invested with co-funding from partners

By partnering up across the country, we're directing more resources toward high-priority health challenges that matter most to people living with CF.

- Funding studies specifically in Quebec, focused on personalized therapies for rare CFTR mutations to expand treatment options for people currently unresponsive to existing modulators. Tackle Rare, Orphan CFTR Mutations Competition co-funded with Genome Quebec
- Targeting gut nerve dysfunction to ease digestion, pain and overall wellbeing. Dr. Veronica Campanucci, University of Saskatchewan, co-funded with the Saskatchewan **Health Research Foundation**
- Improving care strategies as CF evolves from childhood to adulthood. Cystic fibrosis across the lifespan Competition, co-funded with the Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health

Pillars of the Momentum Research Strategy

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Listening to and **Working with Those Whose Lives Are Most Affected**

Being a community reviewer has allowed me to be a part of work that will help my family and others. I saw my feedback being heard, and changes being made because of it.

James F., Community Reviewer and CF Parent, Montreal, QC

Attracting the Scientific Minds that Will Fuel **Innovation**

We are finally seeing the lung as a target organ for gene therapy. That opens the door for this kind of work to become a reality. But if this works, it could change the way we protect people with CF from infections.

Dr. Sarah Wootton, Researcher at the University of Guelph

Investing in Areas of Unmet Need

If a breakthrough like Trikafta can happen for the majority, then I believe something can happen for people like me too. And now that so many are stabilized, it means more time and funding can go toward finding ways to treat rare CF mutations.

Teresa Weger, living with CF, Weyburn, SK

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Creating Impact Sooner Rather Than Later

It's no longer about throwing every treatment at every patient. We're now in a place where we can use biomarkers to personalize care. This research has real, direct relevance to people living with CF today.

Dr. Brad Quon, Researcher at the University of British Columbia

Thank You for Driving Momentum

For 65 years, donors have powered discoveries that have transformed cystic fibrosis (CF) from a fatal childhood illness into a disease that is still fatal, but has a lot more hope with new treatments for some.

Today, our research strategy continues this progress, funding research that targets the health challenges most important to people living with CF and advancing care, treatment, and quality of life. Your support ensures that Canadian CF research focuses on the areas of greatest need from lung infections and CF-related diabetes to rare mutations - helping turn innovative ideas into tangible results to create a healthier future for all Canadians living with cystic fibrosis.



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If you're interested in exploring long-term investment in *Momentum*, please contact Kate White, Director, Philanthropy and Corporate Partnerships.















