



SAN DIEGO'S NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE – DESIGNATED CANCER CENTERS



## **C3 / Pedal the Cause 2016**

“Targeting Stem Cell Signals in Cancer Development & Progression”

### **Principal Investigators:**

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### **Abstract:**

To identify new therapeutic targets for cancer, researchers have focused on stem cell programs that are reactivated in cancer. It has been demonstrated that the stem cell signal Musashi (Msi) is highly upregulated during leukemia development and that its blockage can prevent tumor growth and progression. Data suggests that targeting Msi may provide a new strategy for therapy. To move this work forward to the clinic, PEDAL15 grant funding will be used to develop inhibitors of Msi and test their effectiveness against cancer growth. Outcomes from this study have the potential to identify a new class of therapeutics for cancers that are largely unresponsive to current therapies.