

# 2020 Accomplishments



Donations to our **ALL IN campaign** enabled significant and tangible progress this year in each of our five current focus areas.



## Brachyury drug discovery

*Developing drugs that strike at the Achilles' heel of chordoma*

1. Made significant chemistry advances toward compounds that bind to brachyury with drug-like strength and precision
2. Four drug companies now actively exploring the application of their technologies to brachyury
3. Created open access research tools to accelerate all brachyury drug discovery projects



## Immunotherapy

*Applying powerful new technologies to harness the immune system to fight chordoma*

1. New markers found on the surface of chordoma cells which could serve as targets for immunotherapy
2. Initiated and funded research to (1) identify new ways to break down chordoma's defenses against immune attack and (2) apply an emerging form of immunotherapy, which works by boosting a patient's own cancer-killing white blood cells



## Drug repurposing

*Systematically identifying existing drugs that can help chordoma patients in the near term*

1. Responses (tumor shrinkage or stabilization) seen in some patients on 4 ongoing clinical trials – afatinib, nivolumab, palbociclib, and pemetrexed
2. Tested 18 drugs and combinations in mouse models through our Drug Screening Program, several of which significantly inhibited tumor growth
3. Drug supply and partial funding secured for a planned trial of cetuximab



## Improving the patient experience

*Helping patients and their families navigate life with chordoma and get the best care possible*

1. Launched the Chordoma Survivorship Initiative to holistically address the needs of those living with, through, and beyond chordoma
2. Created a Survivorship Specialist Directory to help those affected by chordoma find care to manage quality of life challenges
3. Revamped and expanded our Peer Connect Program so that more patients, survivors, and caregivers can connect one-on-one with others who have walked in their shoes



## Learning from each patient

*Understanding how different treatments impact patient outcomes to continually improve patient care*

1. Partnered with the National Cancer Institute on a natural history study to better understand the course of the disease and improve treatment options
2. Created a blueprint for a definitive study on the benefits and best use of radiation for treating chordoma with leading treatment centers (start pending funding)