

Dystonia Coalition Forms

A \$6 million commitment over the next five years by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has led to the establishment of a new Dystonia Coalition, a collaboration of scientists, institutions, patient advocacy organizations and the National Institutes of Health – all united to advance clinical research for dystonia.

The NIH commitment will support a Dystonia Coalition of 34 centers in the United States, Canada and Europe. This is the largest sum ever provided for a single project devoted to clinical and translational research in the dystonias. The Coalition was established as part of a \$117 million expansion of the NIH's Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network, which will coordinate research on more than 95 rare diseases.

H.A. Jinnah, MD, PhD, professor of neurology and human genetics at Emory University School of Medicine, will direct

the Dystonia Coalition; Joel Perlmutter, MD, professor of neurology and radiology at Washington University School of Medicine, is co-director.

"I am very pleased that the NIH has recognized our program for clinical and translational research in dystonia with this big award. Lots of folks worked really hard to make it happen," said Dr. Jinnah. "We hope to be able to catalyze the development and testing of new treatments. It's an exciting time for clinical research, and I'm happy to be a part of it."

Our Foundation, which has previously provided funding to Dr. Jinnah's work, is a member of the Coalition.



H.A. Jinnah, MD, PhD