

Conquer Chiari Funds Research Project to Test New Theory of Chiari

April 4th, 2022

Conquer Chiari is excited to announce a two-year, \$162,000 research grant to the Conquer Chiari Research Center (CCRC) at Northeastern University titled, “Testing a Novel Hypothesis for the Pathophysiology of Adult CMI”. The project will test different aspects of the CCRC developed, and recently published, theory of symptomatic Chiari. Led by Dr. Francis Loth at Northeastern, the project also includes research partners at Emory University, Brown University, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and the CCRC-Akron.

According to Dr. Loth, “This project has the potential to address several longstanding questions about Chiari. The primary focus of the research is to look at the *cervical compliance* of Chiari patients versus healthy controls. Our hypothesis is that Chiari patients, in addition to the blockage caused by herniation of the cerebellar tonsils, experience reduced compliance in the same region which leads to spinal fluid pressure spikes during the cardiac cycle.”

Rick Labuda, Executive Director of Conquer Chiari adds, “This project is the next step in our long battle against Chiari and represents the culmination of years of hard work by our research team. We are eager to see the results and grateful to the researchers who work tirelessly to help the Chiari community. This project has the potential to lead to significant progress in the understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of Chiari.”