

Research Focus

We are dedicated to helping develop better treatments to improve the quality of life of individuals with Rett syndrome and ultimately find a “cure.” Treatment is defined as anything that improves the outcome of conditions caused by Rett Syndrome. In addition to therapeutics this may include assistive technologies, communication, physical therapy and education. We support and facilitate global research into the causes, treatments and an eventual cure for Rett syndrome by:

- Promoting interdisciplinary cooperation
- Funding cutting edge basic, translational and clinical research
- Organizing research symposia and meetings

Our research funding is currently focused in several mission-critical areas:

- Understanding the role of MeCP2 during normal brain development
- Characterizing the role of MeCP2, including MeCP2 target genes, in normal structure and function of the developing and adult nervous system
- Determination of the relationship between patterns of expression of MeCP2 and related proteins in the nervous system and the neurologic and behavioral phenotypes of patients with RTT and/or related animal models
- The investigation of neuronal abnormalities that result from MeCP2 dysfunction
- The development of novel assays and the testing of innovative therapeutic approaches to treat or reverse RTT
- Development of assistive technologies to improve the quality of life of individuals affected by RTT
- Support for advances in physical therapy, communication and education

[Click here](#) to view abstracts of current IRSF grants and previously funded programs.

For a brief description of our research grants and fellowship award programs [click here](#).

Ultimately, we hope that our funded research portfolio will result in additional research support from government or other funding agencies. For a list of funding resources available from other sources [click here](#).