

Making Cancer History\*

Boris Sepesi, M.D. Assistant Professor

Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery

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Dear Rexanna's Foundation,

I would like to thank you for the generous award of \$ 20,000, which we plan to utilize in the research projects focusing on the biomarkers for personalizing immunotherapy in early stage lung cancer patients. These projects will focus on studying the enteric microbiome, to learn how microbiome influences the response rates to novel checkpoint immunotherapy drugs. There are some new exciting results from the melanoma research on this subject, and we plan to adapt similar study paradigm in lung cancer research. Additionally, we will continue to study biomarkers circulating in the blood to be able to select out patients who are likely to benefit from the new immunotherapy.

Thank you very much again for your generosity.

Sincerely, Boris Sepesi, MD