SYNODOS is a highly integrated, multidisciplinary consortium of scientists, clinicians, and other experts working together to develop treatments for NF2. They come from varying backgrounds – from basic science to translational science, from clinicians to technicians – but all have joined forces to share information and design strategies that will speed up and strengthen the drug discovery process for NF.

These are the brightest minds in the NF field – please meet the SYNODOS DREAM TEAM LEADERS:

Jaishri Blakeley, MD
Associate Professor of Neurology, Oncology and Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University

James F. Gusella, PhD
Bullard Professor of Neurogenetics, Harvard Medical School
Director, Center for Human Genetic Research, Massachusetts General Hospital

Wade Clapp, MD
Chair of Pediatrics, Indiana University School of Medicine

Scott Plotkin, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital

“SYNODOS IS A SET OF PEOPLE WHO ARE TACKLING A DISEASE IN A WAY THAT IS DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE PAST, AND ALLOWS US TO HAVE INSIGHTS INTO NF THAT WE COULDN’T POSSIBLY HAVE OTHERWISE.”

— STEPHEN FRIEND, MD, PHD President, Co-Founder and Director of Sage Bionetworks
CENTERs OF EXCELLENCE

Synodos is a collaboration of researchers from twelve world-class labs at academic and medical centers of excellence, who are for the first time in NF research history sharing datasets in order to develop effective treatments for NF.

Jaishri Blakeley, MD
Associate Professor of Neurology, Oncology and Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University and Director of the Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Neurofibromatosis Center (JHCNC).

Long-Sheng Chang, PhD
Investigator in the Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases, the Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital and Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, The Ohio State University College of Medicine.

Wade Clapp, MD
Endowed Professor and Chair of Pediatrics at Indiana University School of Medicine

Cristina Fernandez-Valle, PhD
Professor, Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Central Florida

James Gusella, PhD
Bullard Professor of Neurogenetics, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Stephen Haggarty, PhD
Associate Professor of Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Gary Johnson, PhD
Professor and Chair of Pharmacology at the University of North Carolina

Helen Morrison, PhD
Molecular biologist and neuroscientist at Fritz-Lipmann-Institute in Jena, Germany

Scott Plotkin, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

Vijaya Ramesh, PhD
Associate Professor of Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

Anat Stemmer-Rachamimov, MD
Associate Professor in Pathology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

D. Bradley Welling, MD, PhD
Chief of Otolaryngology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Chairman of Otolaryngology, Harvard Medical School

EXTERNAL ADVISORS

Stephen Friend, MD, PhD
President, Co-Founder and Director of Sage Bionetworks
Dr. Friend is on this committee because of his track record in community building.

Bruce R. Korf, MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Genetics and Director, Heflin Center for Genomic Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham
Dr. Korf is on this committee because of his established recognition in NF.

Gordon B. Mills, MD, PhD
Chair of Gynecology and Chair of Systems Biology in the Division of Cancer Medicine, and co-head of the Kleberg Center for Molecular Markers at the University of Texas
Dr. Mills is on this committee because of his track record as a dream team leader for Stand Up To Cancer.

Terry Van Dyke, PhD
Head of the Mouse Cancer Genetics Program at the National Cancer Institute
Dr. Van Dyke is on this committee because of her track record in Tg animal models and preclinical testing.

Tracy Tulloh Galloway
Synodos Founding Supporter, Children’s Tumor Foundation Board Member, NF2 Patient Representative

“The unique value of this consortium is in its collaborative and multidisciplinary activity, bringing researchers together in a way so as to understand NF2 in all its characteristics and manifestations.”

— ANNETTE BAKKER, PHD
President and Chief Scientific Officer of the Children’s Tumor Foundation

FOR MORE INFORMATION: ctf.org/synodos

CHILDREN’S TUMOR FOUNDATION
ENDING NF THROUGH RESEARCH

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