



## Pilot Research Grant:

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**Project Title: A prospective observational comparison of treatment response in Sjögren's-related lung diseases to primary idiopathic lung diseases**

### **Abstract**

Patients with Sjögren's commonly experience a wide range of lung diseases which combined are among the greatest contributors to reduced health-related quality of life and lead to increased mortality. Sjögren's-related lung diseases are classified and treated in the same manner as the primary lung diseases they resemble. Whether this approach is optimal has not been evaluated thoroughly. In this study, we will screen patients with interstitial lung disease or bronchiectasis, two of the most serious manifestations, for oral dryness to identify patients whose lung disease is due to underlying Sjögren's. We will compare the clinical course of these two groups to evaluate whether patients with Sjögren's-related lung disease have unique clinical features and are uniquely responsive to immunosuppressive therapy. This study will be the first prospective and largest direct comparison of patients with Sjögren's-related lung disease to the primary lung diseases they resemble.