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Dear Trustees of the Brett Tashman Foundation,

Thank you very much for your most generous contribution to the Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumor Research that is currently ongoing in my laboratory.

We have some exciting new data that shows several proteins that could possibly be responsible for the growth and metastasis of Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumor. We obtained these results by taking tumor specimens from two different patients from the operating room and separating the cells from those two patients' tumors. This process is called single cell sequencing analysis. The cells are broken apart from the lump of tumor and each cell is identified and marked. This allows us to separate the lump of tumor into the immune cells the tumor cells and what we call the cancer stem cells. The cancer stem cells are the cells that provide the growth of all the other cancer cells in that lump of tumor. We identified unique markers on the surface of those cells that tell us that these are like the cells that drive the growth of the tumor.

The next step in our experimentation is to look at each of the four potential drivers of growth of DSRCT, and see if we can isolate those stem cells from tumors of patients that we have grown in mice. Then, we would try to target those cells with novel ways to kill them.

Again, thank you so much for your incredible support over the years for Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumor to my research.

I hope Brett is smiling on all of us.