Early-Career Project

Tim Norman, PhD candidate in the Alan Fine Lab, was awarded an F31 from NHLBI entitled "Origin, Maturation, & Regeneration of Pulmonary Lymphatic Endothelium."

His research focuses on the origin, maturation and regeneration of pulmonary lymphatic endothelium. In general, the lymphatic system is responsible for fundamental biological processes of tissue fluid homeostasis and immuno-surveillance. However, the pulmonary lymphatic system has garnered very little attention from the basic and clinical research communities.

Through this NRSA-sponsored project, the goal is to increase understanding of the formation and function of the pulmonary lymphatic system from fetal development to adulthood and during lung injury.

Thus far, his research has identified a lymphatic progenitor that contributes to pulmonary lymphatic endothelium in the postnatal lung. Inhibiting this process leads to increased immune cell infiltration and hemostasis/thrombosis within the lung.

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