



Philanthropy News

g771.000 THE HARRINGTON DISCOVERY INSTITUTE AT ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

March 29, 2021—The Rockefeller University has received supplemental grant support from the **Harrington Discovery Institute** to help fund the testing of a monoclonal antibody drug for the prevention and early treatment of COVID-19. The drug is the result of a collaborative research effort launched in the first weeks of the pandemic by immunologist **Michel Nussenzweig**.

The Harrington Discovery Institute provided Dr.

In January 2021, HDI issued a \$550,000 follow-on grant for a **Phase I clinical trial** to assess treatment safety and optimal dosing at the Rockefeller University Hospital on the Upper East Side

for development, a team headed by physician-scientist **David Baltimore** in investigation at Rockefeller, recruited and tested nearly 1,000 patients with COVID-19 during the first surge of the disease in the New York City area.

who donated blood plasma and the many researchers who have been able to identify and optimize two potent monoclonal antibodies for preventing or treating COVID-19," said Michel Nussenzweig, the **Alfred P. Sloan Professor** and head of the Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Immunology. "We are grateful to the Harrington Discovery Institute for

allowing us to study these antibodies at low concentrations, Rockefeller's monoclonal antibodies to enter human cells. Working together, the dual antibody therapy prevents the virus from mutating and developing resistance to the therapy.

Under a **licensing agreement** with the global pharmaceutical company, HDI will develop, manufacture, and commercialize Rockefeller's novel monoclonal antibody therapy for the treatment or prevention of COVID-19.



“While progress made with vaccines has been truly remarkable, it will need to be complemented by creative antiviral approaches if we are to avert this and future pandemics,” said Jonathan S. Stamler, MD, President, Harrington Discovery Institute, Robert S. and Sylvia K. Reitman Family Foundation Distinguished Professor of Cardiovascular Innovation, and Professor of Medicine and of Biochemistry at University Hospitals and Case Western Reserve University. “We are so pleased to see Dr. Nussenzweig’s novel antibody treatment enter clinical trials.”

About Harrington Discovery Institute

The Harrington Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the discovery and development of new treatments for cardiovascular disease. The Harrington Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the discovery and development of new treatments for cardiovascular disease.