

# CURES WITHIN REACH RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT: PATIENT-CENTERED CARE IN RARE IMMUNE DISORDERS

In 2022, Cures Within Reach began funding **Dr. J. Pablo Abonia** at **Cincinnati Children's Hospital** to support the pilot trial investigating the safety and efficacy of alpha-1 anti-trypsin (A1AT) protein replacement therapy, already used in genetic lung and liver disease, for eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE). EoE is a rare immune disease where deficiency in a related protein increases the risk of a severe food hypersensitivity, resulting in permanent damage to the esophagus among other debilitating symptoms.

Dr. Abonia is an allergist specializing in pediatric patients with eosinophilic and mast cell disorders and is working towards long-term disease control and symptom resolution for his patients. He has served in leadership roles related to eosinophilic research, including at the Registry for Eosinophilic Disorders and speaking at several state and national meetings. He has also been named one of Cincinnati Magazine's Top Doctors.

He was inspired to pursue a career in medicine to follow in the footsteps of his father, a pediatrician. He is proud to care for his patients, striving to **"always put them first, with the goal of identifying their problems and working to resolve them."** Dr. Abonia is dedicated to putting the patient first in in eosinophilic disorder research.



## PROFILE

- Dr. J. Pablo Abonia focuses on patient-centered care and is a physician who leads clinical research for rare eosinophilic immune disorders.
- Dr. Abonia has worked in Buffalo and Boston before joining Cincinnati Children's Hospital.
- Dr. Abonia serves on the medical advisory board of Campaign Urging Research for Eosinophilic Diseases.

## CWR FUNDING

- This \$70,000 **Phase I clinical trial** is testing the safety and efficacy profile of a protein replacement therapy in a rare immune disorder.
- Dr. Abonia and this trial represent two of Cures Within Reach's communities:
  - **Rare Diseases**
  - **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

