In 2022, Cures Within Reach funded Dr. Rajiv Mehta at SIDS Hospital and Research Centre in India to support a Phase IIA trial testing the combination of a cholesterol-lowering medication with a respiratory treatment drug (also approved for acetaminophen poisoning) to improve outcomes in patients with chronic pancreatitis. Chronic pancreatitis is a persistent challenge in India, where lifestyle changes are rapidly increasing the burden of disease. The goal for this trial is that the anti-inflammatory properties of these two added drugs will help slow disease progression and improve quality of life.

Dr. Mehta is an accomplished physician and scientist, having trained in gastroenterology with a focus on liver and pancreatic diseases. Over the past two decades, Dr. Mehta has served as PI of several national and international multi-center clinical trials in ulcerative colitis, hepatitis and other diseases. His research on chronic pancreatitis has been a long-term interest, regularly publishing manuscripts on this condition since 2003.

Outside of his clinical and research practice, Dr. Mehta is heavily involved in the gastroenterology medical community. He is the author of the peer-reviewed textbook Clinical Gastroenterology which is currently in its 4th edition. In 2019, he was recognized by the Chief Minister of Gujarat with the Gujarat Mitra Health Care Award in the field of Gastroenterology, among his other awards.

Dr. Mehta is a leader in the gastroenterology community, advancing patient outcomes through research, care, and education.

PROFILE

- Dr. Rajiv Mehta is a knowledge leader in the field of liver and pancreas diseases, working towards improved care in India for patients with chronic conditions
- Dr. Mehta works as a consultant gastroenterologist, hepatologist, and educator at the Surat Institute of Digestive Science specialty hospital

CWR FUNDING

- This $50,000 Phase IIA clinical trial is adding two approved drugs to the standard of care for patients with chronic pancreatitis to slow disease progression.
- Dr. Mehta and this trial represent two of Cures Within Reach’s communities:
  - Low/Lower-Middle Income Countries (LMICs)
  - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion