



Brigham and Women's Hospital

Founding Member, Mass General Brigham



The Impact of Your Philanthropy

David J. Kabakow Lectureship in Adult Hemophagocytic Lymphohystiocytes (HLH)

With gratitude to Robin and Mark Kabakow
September 2024



A Message from Nancy Berliner, MD

Chief, Division of Hematology

H. Franklin Bunn, MD, Distinguished Chair in Hematology

Dear Robin and Mark,

It was a great honor to deliver the inaugural David J. Kabakow Lectureship in Adult Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH). I am deeply grateful for your unwavering dedication to raising awareness of adult HLH, in memory of your son David, and I am privileged to be part of this important mission of advancing research, treatment, and understanding of HLH.

As I shared during the lecture, we have made significant strides in understanding adult HLH. Back in 2004, when I met my first HLH patient, there were no publications on this rare and life-threatening disease, yet today, we now have over 1,500 published studies. Thanks to efforts like yours, that number will continue to grow. Your advocacy is driving critical progress, and your son's memory continues to inspire this work.

As you know, the focus of the lecture was to provide physicians with three key insights: first, how to diagnose and assess the triggers for adult HLH; second, to deepen their understanding of the pathophysiology and mechanisms behind the disease; and finally, to share the latest treatments available, including the role of stem cell transplants in HLH care. With this knowledge, we aim to empower physicians to recognize and respond to HLH more swiftly and effectively.

Timely recognition of HLH is crucial for achieving the best possible outcomes. The lecture reached over 150 physicians, and the recording will serve as a valuable resource for many more. Each physician we educate brings us one step closer to saving lives, honoring your son's memory through action.

David J. Kabakow Lectureship in Adult HLH

Thank you again for your tireless support. It is truly inspiring to see the impact your family has in furthering awareness and knowledge of HLH. I look forward to continuing this vital work together.

With sincere appreciation,

Nancy Berliner, MD

