Funding basic research to grow knowledge of FOP and translational research to develop treatments and, one day, a cure for the disease are at the core of the IFOPA’s mission.

The IFOPA maintains a longstanding collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1989, Jeannie Peeper, founder of the IFOPA, collaborated with Drs. Michael Zasloff and Frederick Kaplan at the University of Pennsylvania to initiate the FOP Collaborative Research Project.

In 1991, The FOP Laboratory at The University of Pennsylvania was founded by Eileen M. Shore, PhD and Frederick S. Kaplan, MD.

In 1997, the Center for Research in FOP and Related Disorders was established by Drs. Kaplan and Shore, with the generous support of The Cali Family.

Today, the Center is led by Dr. Kaplan and Dr. Shore who work together with many post-doctoral fellows, scientists, students and staff. The IFOPA is proud to continue our long-standing relationship and support of the FOP Laboratory at the University of Pennsylvania.

2017 Funding

Development of in vitro and in vivo models for FOP
Principal Investigators: Eileen Shore, PhD and Fred Kaplan, MD
IFOPA funding: $96,700

Characterization of animal models for classic FOP
Principal Investigators: Eileen Shore, PhD and Fred Kaplan, MD
IFOPA funding: $123,000

Developmental biology of FOP
Principal Investigators: Eileen Shore, PhD and Fred Kaplan, MD
IFOPA funding: $61,350

HO initiation and progression: Immune cell response in FOP
Principal Investigators: Eileen Shore, PhD and Fred Kaplan, MD
IFOPA funding: $51,800

HO initiation and progression: Biomechanical signaling in the tissue microenvironment
Principal Investigator: Eileen Shore, PhD
IFOPA funding: $88,900

Functional analysis of ACVR1 mutations in classic and variant FOP
Principal Investigators: Eileen Shore, PhD and Fred Kaplan, MD
IFOPA funding: $78,400

An additional $330,000 was raised in 2016 by family and friends of Ashley Martucci to support the FOP Laboratory at the University of Pennsylvania during the years 2016 and 2017.