



Castleman Disease Collaborative Network to Host Annual Fundraiser in its Quest to Cure This Rare and Potentially Fatal Disease

*Nonprofit Scientific Research and Patient Support Organization
Will Celebrate 10 Years of Lifesaving Research at November Gala*

PHILADELPHIA (Nov. 4, 2022)—The [Castleman Disease Collaborative Network](#) (CDCN) will celebrate ten years of lifesaving research at its annual Quest for a Cure gala in Philadelphia on November 12, 2022. The gala is the premier fundraising event for the nonprofit organization, established in 2012 in response to the urgent need to advance research and improve patient care for children and adults diagnosed with [Castleman disease](#)—a rare and potentially deadly disease affecting the lymph nodes.

Presenting at this year's Quest for a Cure gala is David Fajgenbaum, MD, MBA, MSc, Physician-Scientist at the University of Pennsylvania and Cofounder of the CDCN. He is also a Castleman disease patient. Dr. Fajgenbaum authored the national bestselling memoir, *Chasing my Cure: A Doctor's Race to Turn Hope into Action*, recounting the search for his own treatment when he was diagnosed with the most deadly subtype of Castleman disease, for which there was no cure.

The CDCN's innovative approach to transform Castleman disease (CD) research over the last 10 years has resulted in the first diagnostic criteria for CD, the first treatment guidelines, the first new drug target in 25 years, and the first clinical trial for patients with treatment-refractory Castleman disease. This work has been profiled on [Good Morning America](#), [The New York Times](#), [CNN](#), and [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#). Beyond helping thousands of children and adults diagnosed with CD around the world, the CDCN has also partnered with the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative to expand the organization's approach to research to advance cures for other rare diseases.

These accomplishments and more will be celebrated at the upcoming CDCN [Quest for a Cure](#) gala, attended by more than 150 guests, including patients, loved ones, donors, and supporters. In addition to remarks by Dr. Fajgenbaum, the evening will include a reception, seated dinner, awards presentation, and silent auction.

While numerous milestones have been reached, there remains a critical need for effective treatments for children and adults diagnosed with this rare and potentially deadly disease. The CDCN's black-tie anniversary gala aims to raise awareness and essential funding for further research and patient support initiatives.

The Castleman Disease Collaborative Network Quest for a Cure Gala will be held on the evening of Saturday, November 12, 2022, at The Arts Ballroom, located at 1324 Locust Street in Philadelphia. For additional event information, to purchase gala tickets, or to learn more about



the CDCN and how you can help, please visit www.cdcn.org/quest, or contact the CDCN at quest@castlemannetwork.org or 610.304.0696.

About Castleman Disease

[Castleman disease](#) (CD) is a rare and potentially deadly disease that affects the lymph nodes, causing a broad range of inflammatory symptoms and laboratory abnormalities. Whether CD should be considered an autoimmune disease, cancer, or infectious disease is currently unknown. Subtypes of this rare condition include Unicentric Castleman disease (UCD)—affecting a single lymph node, and various forms of Multicentric Castleman disease (MCD)—affecting multiple lymph nodes. Each subtype has different symptoms, disease courses, and treatments. Approximately 4,300 to 5,200 cases of CD are diagnosed in the U.S. each year, striking both children and adults. CD can be difficult to diagnose because it imitates numerous other diseases. It can be more deadly than lymphoma as it is still poorly understood.

About the Castleman Disease Collaborative Network

The [Castleman Disease Collaborative Network](#) (CDCN) is a global initiative dedicated to accelerating research and effective treatment for Castleman disease (CD), a rare and potentially deadly condition at the intersection of cancer, autoimmune disorders, and infectious disease. The CDCN was established as a nonprofit organization in 2012 by Drs. [David Fajgenbaum](#) and [Frits van Rhee](#) in response to the urgent need to advance research, and improve patient care and survival, for children and adults diagnosed with Castleman disease. The organization is based at the University of Pennsylvania, where Dr. Fajgenbaum—a physician, researcher, and CD patient—has made it his life's mission to cure this disease, and to revolutionize biomedical research to cure many other diseases. The CDCN is dedicated to facilitating collaboration among the global research community, strategically investing in high-impact research, partnering with stakeholders across the industry, and supporting patients and their loved ones. More information is available at cdcn.org.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Media attendance and onsite coverage at the CDCN Quest for a Cure gala are welcome. A number of complimentary event tickets are available for members of the press and their guests.

Media Contact

Barbara Link
barbara@linkink.com
610.668.2855 Office