CURA ZIKA is an international alliance launched by the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health to perform much needed research addressing the explosive pandemic of Zika virus infection. The association will provide quick access to funding for scientists performing time-sensitive research on the virus. This support is designed to move early-stage innovative research ideas into larger studies in an accelerated manner.

JENNIFER ADIBI, ScD, assistant professor, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh: Probing Zika’s Impact on First Trimester Placental Interferons

ROBERTO LINS, PhD, research scientist, Aggeu Magalhães Research Center, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation: Mapping Zika Virus NS1 Epitopes through Engineered Antigens

ROBBIE MAILLIARD, PhD, assistant professor, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh: Modeling Zika Virus Infection of Dendritic Cells within Pre-existing Flavivirus Cellular Immunity

EDUARDO NASCIMENTO, PhD, research assistant professor, Aggeu Magalhães Research Center, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation: High Performance Immunoassay to Detect Zika Virus Exposures in Pregnant Women and General Population

VISHWAJIT NIMGAONKAR, MD, PhD, professor, departments of psychiatry and human genetics, University of Pittsburgh: Modeling Zika Virus Infections Using Human iPSC-derived Cells

ISABELLE FREIRE TABOSA VIANA, PhD, postdoctoral associate, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh and Aggeu Magalhães Research Center, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation: Engineering and Efficacy Evaluation of a DNA Vaccine Against Zika Virus