



[www.cureCADASIL.org](http://www.cureCADASIL.org)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **cureCADASIL NAMES TWO SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY MEMBERS**

Two neurologist-researchers have been added to the cureCADASIL Scientific Advisory Board. They are Li-Ru Zhao, MD, PhD, an associate professor in the Dept. of Neurosurgery at SUNY Upstate Medical University, and Karen Orjuela, MD, a practitioner at the University of Colorado Denver, Anschutz Medical Center.

CADASIL -- cerebral autosomal dominant arteriopathy with subcortical infarcts and leukoencephalopathy--is a rare genetic brain disease. cureCADASIL is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping patients, families, caregivers and the medical community find treatments and a cure.

The cureCADASIL Scientific Advisory board is dedicated to CADASIL research collaboration. This group of volunteer individuals provides guidance to the cureCADASIL Board of Trustees

CADASIL is a disorder of the small blood vessels that causes subcortical transient ischemic attacks or strokes, and progresses to early vascular dementia. Though rare, this genetic form of stroke is the most common cause of vascular dementia and is inherited with a 50 percent chance by all family members.

Dr. Li-Ru Zhao is the author of numerous articles, books, and abstracts. She presented her research on the use of bone marrow stem cell factors as a potential therapeutic for CADASIL at the cureCADASIL Connection webinar in 2017. She completed her PhD at Wallenberg Neuroscience Center at Lund University, Sweden, and post-doctorate studies at the University of Minnesota Medical School.

Dr. Orjuela sub-specializes in vascular neurology and has a particular interest in the acute care of cerebrovascular diseases and second stroke prevention, cryptogenic stroke, inherited cerebrovascular disorders, and stroke in children and young adults. Working with cureCADASIL, she authored an article on CADASIL in Neurology Reviews in spring 2018.

“We look forward to working with these experienced and energetic board members; their dedication to finding a cure for CADASIL will be valued on our Scientific Advisory Board,” said Nancy Maurer, president of the cureCADASIL Board of Trustees.

There are no current treatments for CADASIL. However, several potential treatments are in early research. cureCADASIL operates a patient registry that will help researchers, pharmaceutical companies and doctors seeking to identify participants for clinical trials and studies, and develop new effective treatments. Information is available at [www.cureCADASILFamilyRegistry.com](http://www.cureCADASILFamilyRegistry.com)

For more information, please visit [www.cureCADASIL.org](http://www.cureCADASIL.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

**About cureCADASIL Association**

cureCADASIL is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization run by an all-volunteer Board of Trustees. The volunteers at cureCADASIL aim to unite patients and the medical community toward the common goal of treatments and ultimately a cure for CADASIL by promoting communication, advocacy, research and education.

For more information please contact:

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