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ATS conference 2019 attendance report

Thanks to a very generous travel grant from Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis, I was able to present my work at this year's American Thoracic Society (ATS) International Conference in Dallas, Texas. The ATS International Conference is the largest conference in the world to focus on pulmonary medicine, with thousands of the world's leading experts in respiratory disease attending every year.

I went to present a poster that outlined a pre-clinical model that I have been developing for IPF-associated chronic cough. We are hoping that my model will prove to be a more relevant way of recreating the chronic cough seen in IPF patients than current techniques; this will allow us to propose new therapeutics that can treat this distressing symptom more accurately, and with any luck, eventually lead to patients having a better quality of life. I had a great deal of interest from academics and individuals from the pharmaceutical industry, with many wanting to get in contact in the hope of future collaborations. As an early career researcher, this was extremely beneficial and it was great to get feedback for future publications.

The conference also enabled me to attend seminars and other poster sessions about a range of topics related to IPF. These sessions were extremely valuable for me and have allowed me to come home with many new ideas that will no doubt benefit my research.

I would like to thank Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis and their fundraisers for giving me the opportunity to attend this incredible conference, and I look forward to putting my newly acquired knowledge and industrial and academic connections to good use.

