



Davis announces cancer research grant awarded to local Champaign researcher

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WASHINGTON D.C. - U.S. Rep. Rodney Davis (R-Ill.) today released this statement after Iria, a cancer research start-up at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), received a \$300,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Iria was started by Prof. Jianjun Cheng and Dr. Kaimin Cai in 2017 to develop the next-generation of cancer targeting and drug delivery technology for cancer treatment.

“Finding a cure for cancer will only be done through public-private partnerships like this and it’s exactly why I continue to vote for greater federal investment in medical research,” **said Davis**. “The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is a powerhouse when it comes to ground-breaking research and grants like this help further the development of life-saving medical research. I applaud Professor Cheng and Dr. Cai for their work and look forward to seeing what it brings to future cancer treatments.”

This grant is part of a three-phase Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program encourages domestic small businesses to engage in Federal Research/Research and Development (R/R&D) that has the potential for commercialization. Learn more about the SBIR program [here](#).

Last year, [Davis voted for the largest investment in medical research](#) in ten years and continues to make cancer research and development a top priority