Your health is their world.

RESEARCHER PROFILE

Meet Dr. Jeanette Boudreau

> Your health is my world because we already have the answer to cancer within us; I'm simply studying it and trying to figure out where the pieces fit.

My name is Dr. Jeanette Boudreau and I'm an assistant professor of immunology in the Departments of Pathology and Microbiology and Immunology, and the Cameron Cancer Scientist. I specialize in cancer immunology and immunotherapy research with a focus on natural killer (NK) cells. NK cells have been allies in the fight against cancer all along, but we haven't been paying enough attention to them! My lab is really interested in understanding what makes NK cells good at killing cancer so we can make sure they are functioning at their best in every patient.

Additionally, our work aims to understand how cancers take up residence in a person's body by avoiding NK cells, and what goes wrong when the tumors outrun the NK cells. The mechanisms that we're uncovering are applicable across cancer types and across people. We are literally crowdsourcing cures by considering how different people's NK cells respond to a patient's tumor.

DMRF has been in my corner since I started my appointment at Dalhousie in 2016. They have supported my salary, students within my lab, and the acquisition of equipment for both my lab, and core facilities, where the big, expensive, and complicated equipment that we need for our work is maintained and used by highly skilled people. DMRF has been instrumental in helping me develop collaborations while also assisting me in reaching out to the community to tell our research story. DMRF works to help us demystify the science that happens in our lab, making health research accessible to all.

DMRF donors, I am entirely indebted to you. Thank you for putting your faith in our research and supporting the work that we're doing. Thanks for being our cheerleaders, our inspiration, and our support. Thank you for supporting the next generation of researchers: the trainees in my lab, and for trusting me to teach them. Thank you for making it possible for us to turn our ambitious ideas into tangible treatments.