



**Rita El-Hajj, MD FACE – Scientific Director and a Founding Partner**, is a Mayo Clinic trained physician with board certification in endocrinology, diabetes, metabolism, internal medicine and thyroid nuclear medicine. Dr. El-Hajj has a mathematics and information technology background, and was formerly the Program Director for the Division of Endocrinology at Drexel University College of Medicine, the largest private medical school in the United States. Currently Dr. El-Hajj is a practicing endocrinologist and partner at Main Line Endocrinology, Lankenau Hospital, a Clinical Assistant Professor at LIMR (Lankenau Institute for Medical Research), and is involved with ongoing diabetes clinical research at Lankenau Hospital. Dr. El-Hajj was the Principal Investigator for the Lankenau site for the NIH Type1 Diabetes Genetics Consortium Study in 2005 – 2006. Dr. El-Hajj holds professional memberships with the following organizations: American College of Endocrinology, Endocrine Society, American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, and the American Diabetes Association.

After years of scientific evaluation and clinical experience treating patients with diabetes, along with one of the other two founders, Dr. El-Hajj formulated and refined the initial concept of using islet neogenesis as a cure for diabetes leading to the discovery of Human Prolslet Peptide (HIP). As Scientific Director at CureDM, Dr. El-Hajj was instrumental in the design and monitoring of the initial proof of concept studies in vivo and in vitro.

Dr. El-Hajj attended medical school at American University – Beirut, performed her fellowship at the Mayo Clinic – Rochester, MN, has been an Attending Physician at Lankenau Hospital since 2004 and has been practicing medicine for 16 years.