

April 26, 2013

Announcements

Pilot Award Winners Announced

The leadership of Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2013 Pilot and Collaborative-Pilot Grants. In 2013, a total of \$726,132 of funding was awarded through the Pilot Grant Program. These grants support innovative basic, clinical, computational, prevention/control, and translational cancer research. Reviewers chose grant applications for funding based on scientific excellence, innovation, cancer relevance, and the likelihood of the project evolving into federally funded cancer research.

Qin Yan, PhD, Assistant Professor, Pathology
Functional Analysis of ARID2 Tumor Suppressor in Metastatic Melanoma

Frank Slack, PhD, Professor, MCDB
Understanding Oncogene Addiction by microRNAs

Carla Rothlin, PhD, Assistant Professor, Immunobiology
TAMing Inflammation-associated Cancer

Shiyi Wang, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Epidemiology
The Influence of Preoperative Breast MRI on Outcomes in Medicare Patients with Early-stage Breast Cancer

Shuangge (Steven) Ma, PhD, Associate Professor, Biostatistics
Development of Novel Integrated Methods and Analysis of TCGA Data

Peter Koo, PhD, Associate Professor, Internal Medicine
A Novel Method Targeting Autophagy and Metastasis for Cancer Treatment

Michael Robek, PhD, Associate Professor, Pathology
Enhancing Oncolytic Virotherapy for Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Susan Kaech, PhD, Associate Professor, Immunobiology
Defining the Mechanisms of PLX4720-induced

from the desk of

Thomas J. Lynch, Jr., MD
Director, Yale Cancer Center
Physician-in-Chief Smilow Cancer
Hospital at Yale-New Haven



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Center on Facebook

Like us on Facebook

Closer to Free

give
closer to free
Help advance cancer research and enhance patient care.

Links of Interest

CV Library

The CV library is a new resource available to our members, with CVs of post-docs and others looking for positions at Yale. Please browse the listings if you have openings, and send the

Immunosensitization and the Antitumor Response of Combined Immunotherapies with PLX4720

Zhong Yun, PhD, Associate Professor, Therapeutic Radiology
A Genetic Oxygen-sensing Mouse Model

Ranjit Bindra, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Therapeutic Radiology
High-throughput Screening for k-ras Mutant Cell Tumor Radiosensitizers

David Stern, PhD, Professor, Pathology
Integrated Analysis of Melanoma Combinatorial Screen

Robert Weiss, MD, Professor, Surgery, Urology
Nanoencapsulated GP130 siRNA as a Novel Treatment for Bladder Cancer Determination of Metabolic Mechanisms of Resistance to Targeted Therapies

2013 Co-Pilot Awards

Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD and **Richard Kibbey, MD, PhD**
Determination of Metabolic Mechanisms of Resistance to Targeted Therapies

Barbara Ehrlich, PhD, Hilary Blumberg, MD, Herta Chao, MD, PhD, and Paul Eder, MD
Translational Study of a New Mechanism to Prevent Chemotherapy-induced Neurotoxicity

Tony Koleske, PhD and **David Rimm, MD, PhD**
A Novel Marker for Breast Cancer Metastasis

ASCO Annual Meeting

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the ASCO annual meeting at the end of May. Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven's presence at the ASCO annual meeting is important in building our national reputation and gives us a national platform to share the exciting stories of basic science and translational research that we have coming from our labs and clinics. Please contact [Renee Gaudette](#) if you will be attending these meetings, and let her know if you have presentations or posters accepted.

Towards Health Equity in Cancer Conference

Please join us for an important conference on Health Equity and Diversity, chaired by Anees Chagpar, MD, on May 10 at the Anlyan Center. This conference will train clinicians to approach individuals of diverse origin with treatment options that include clinical trials and possible benefits of participating in them to dispel patient apprehension of participating in clinical trials, communicate effectively with individuals belonging to minority groups who may be English or non-

CVs you receive to share.
[Learn More >>](#)

In the News

Read recent articles featuring experts from Yale Cancer Center.
[Read More >>](#)

Subscribe to Yale Cancer Center Answers on iTunes

Yale Cancer Center's weekly radio program on CT Public Radio is ranked number 2 in the world for cancer programs on iTunes. Subscribe to the show.
[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Video presentations from Yale Cancer Center members are now available online.
[Learn More >>](#)

DirectConnect Archives

[Learn More >>](#)

ASCO Connection Blog

Stop the Madness!
by Anees Chagpar, MD
[Read More >>](#)

Events

April 26; 12:00 pm YCC Research in Progress Meeting

WWW 208
Biological Implications of PD-L1 in NSCLC: towards the development of an assay for its use as companion biomarker
Vamsidhar Velcheti, MD

Circulating Tumor DNA Measurement in Patients with KRAS Mutated Gastrointestinal Cancers
Edward James, MD
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

April 26; 1:00 PM YCC Genetics and Genomics Research Program

SHM I-116

English speakers, and gain the patient's trust and offer pertinent treatment. Beyond didactics, this innovative symposium is centered around the creation of an action plan that will start the process of change.

[Learn More >>](#)

Save the Date: Yale Cancer Center's Annual Scientific Retreat

Wednesday, May 29th, 2013
West Campus Conference Center

Please mark your calendars!

Yale Cancer Center's Annual Scientific Retreat will be held at the newly renovated West Campus Conference Center on Wednesday, May 29th. Details will be provided in the next several weeks.

Head and Neck Cancer Screening

Uveal Melanoma
Miguel Materin, MD
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

April 28; 6:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Answers

WNPR
Endocrine Cancers
Robert Udelsman, MD, MBA,
FACS, FACE
[Learn More >>](#)

April 30; 12:00 PM Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Park Street Auditorium
*The Biology and Therapy
of Brain Metastasis*
Isaiah Fidler, DVM, MD
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

May 1; 6:30 PM Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital Closer to Free Lecture Series

TAC N-107
*Cancer Trends in Research
and Treatment: Creating
Better Care for Patients with
Breast Cancer Through
Research and Treatment*
Anees Chagpar MD,
FRCS(C), FACS, and Lajos
Pusztai MD, DPhil
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

May 3; 9:00 AM Yale DNA Repair Symposium

TAC N-107
*50 Years of DNA Repair
@ Yale*
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

May 3; 12:00 PM YCC Research in Progress Meeting

WWW 208
Title TBD
Ali Raza, MD and Hamid
Saadati, MD
[Learn More >>](#)

May 5; 6:00 PM



The Smilow Cancer Hospital Head and Neck Cancer Program sponsored a free screening event last Friday, April 19 as part of Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week (OHANCAW), a nationwide event. Over 300 people were screened for the signs and symptoms of head and neck malignancies by the otolaryngology team.

The screening event is to help promote awareness of signs and symptoms and risk factors of head and neck cancers amongst school age children and the general population. In addition, these screenings will serve to support ongoing research in head and neck oncology at Yale.

The multidisciplinary head and neck cancer awareness committee was comprised of members from several areas including otolaryngology, medical oncology, radiation oncology, social work, nursing, nutrition, research, marketing and hospital leadership.

Yale Cancer Center Answers

WNPR

Radiation Associated Brain Tumors

Elizabeth Claus, PhD, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

May 6; 10:00 AM YCC Special Seminar

WWW 208

Intrinsic and Adaptive Cellular Responses to BRAF Inhibition in Melanoma

Rizwan Haq, MD, PhD

[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

May 7; 4:00 PM Geriatric Grand Rounds

Adler Center Library

Pain Management

Jennifer M. Kapo, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

May 8; 6:30 PM 'Closer To Free' Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital Lecture & Reception Series

55 Park Street

Survivorship a Cancer

Survivors Toolbox:

"Improving Cancer

Prevention and Prognosis

Tara Sanft, MD, and Melinda

Irwin, PhD, MPH

[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

May 10; 8:00 AM Yale Cancer Center Presents: Towards Health Equity in Cancer

TAC N-107

Creating an Action Plan

Addressing Clinical,

Research, Education, and

Community Perspectives

Anees Chagpar, MD,

FRCS(C), FACS

[Learn More >>](#)

May 10; 12:00 PM YCC Research in Progress Meeting

WWW 208

Title TBD

Closer to Free



The Closer to Free Lecture and Reception Series

continues next Wednesday, May 1 at 6:30PM at the Anlyan Center. Anees Chagpar, MD and Lajos Pusztai, MD, DPhil will discuss *Trends in Research and Treatment* for breast cancer. The presentation is followed by a reception and light supper. If you would like to attend, or know of individuals who may be interested in attending, please contact [Katie Schutt](#) in the YCC Office of Development at (203) 436-8550.

Employee Profile: BrieAnna Hamel

The Employee Profile recognizes the diverse contributions made by Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital staff to meet our patient care, research, education, and outreach goals. The staff profiled are examples of the great work being done here, and the dedication and values we possess. To suggest someone to be profiled, please contact [Emily Fenton](#).

While an undergrad at UCONN, BrieAnna Hamel, CCRP, was first introduced to research methodology while working in a behavioral neuroscience lab, which influenced her decision to get involved in clinical research.



Yue Zhang, MD, and Chrissy Kournioti, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

Employment Opportunities

We seek your assistance in the recruitment of qualified Oncology Research Nurses to join the Cancer Center for full time research opportunities. Positions traditionally require a minimum of BSN and 4 years of research nursing experience with a strong preference within oncology. In lieu of research experience, trained oncology nurses with little or no research experience are considered for positions of the same level. Should you know of any potential candidates, please encourage them to go on-line to www.yale.edu/jobs and navigate to the STARS employment website in search of positions 18343BR and 18943BR, upload the resume and apply. They may also contact [Sandra Greer](#) for further information.

Submissions

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Marketing

renee.gaudette@yale.edu

 [Forward to a Friend](#)

After college, she worked as a Data Coordinator at a CRO with a focus on Alzheimer's research. Following this, she took a position in the Yale Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office in 2010 as a Data Manager on the GU team, and was then promoted to Project Manager for the Lung Disease Group.

BrieAnna is responsible for opening new trials and overseeing them until their close. Before a trial can begin accruing patients, it must first receive approval from different committees including the Protocol Review Committee (PRC), Steering Committee, and the Institutional Review Board (IRB). BrieAnna makes sure this, and all budgeting, compliance, and logistical items are in place prior to study activation. If an issue is identified during the lifecycle of a protocol, she explores ways to resolve it in a timely manner. During this process, she interacts with all members of the Lung Disease Team, as well as the sponsor to ensure that everything is clean, compliant, and within the required project timelines.

"We have an extremely dedicated team, and they are a phenomenal group of people to work with. The effort they put forward every day is motivating, and the science and research they are involved in is working toward a real solution to a problem. I am constantly learning, and it's wonderful being a part of this team," said BrieAnna.

Currently there are over 20 lung trials in total that are either open and recruiting patients, or open, but closed to enrollment. BrieAnna is also responsible for Resource Planning for trials, which means she needs to be able to project the needs of the team for future protocols, such as how much staff they will need, what resources, etc.

Funding Opportunities

Do You Know a Compassionate Caregiver?

Nominations are open for the 15th Annual Schwartz Center Compassionate Caregiver Award. This prestigious award recognizes healthcare providers in New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) who display extraordinary compassion in caring for patients. The recipient will receive \$5,000, and four finalists will receive \$1,000 each. Nominations are due May 3, 2013. The Schwartz Center will honor the award recipient and four finalists at its annual Kenneth B. Schwartz Center Compassionate Healthcare Dinner on November 21, 2013, at the Boston Convention Center. For more information, visit www.theschwartzcenter.org or call (617) 724-4746.

Research Funds for Provocative Questions

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is looking for bold new approaches to answer 24 perplexing scientific questions identified by the community. The Provocative Questions Initiative has assembled a list of important questions to

stimulate the NCI's research communities to use laboratory, clinical, and population sciences in especially effective and imaginative ways to answer the questions.

Researchers are invited to apply for R01 and R21 grants in four thematic areas:

- Cancer Prevention and Risk
- Mechanisms of Tumor Development or Recurrence
- Tumor Detection, Diagnosis, and Prognosis
- Cancer Therapy and Outcomes

Letter of Intent Due: May 20, 2013

Applications Due: June 20, 2013

[Learn More >>](#)

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Quest for Cures

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is proud to announce The Quest For Cures (QFC), a new series of Request for Proposals (RFPs) to identify and develop safer, more effective treatment paradigms for patients with hematological malignancies. LLS has formed a partnership with Celgene to create the first of such RFPs that will build the foundation of this new LLS initiative. This initiative will identify and fund priority research areas, with support from biotech and pharmaceutical partners in order to address significant unmet medical needs. The near-term goal of this program is to advance the scientific and medical understanding of the various hematological malignancies.

This RFP represents a new LLS research grant paradigm; QFC projects should, if successful, have a measurable impact on the diagnosis or treatment of patients with hematologic malignancies over the next 5 to 10 years. Proposals must include specific timelines, milestones and deliverables that researchers believe are achievable with their proposed funding. The range of funding available is from \$200,000 to \$400,000 annually, for research to be completed in a period of 2 years.

Letters of Intent Due: June 3, 2013

[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

Advances in therapy for melanoma brain metastases.

Flanigan JC, Jilaveanu LB, Chiang VL, Kluger HM.
Clin Dermatol. 2013 May-Jun;31(3):264-81.

[Read More >>](#)

Assessing tobacco use by cancer patients and facilitating cessation: an american association for cancer research policy statement.

Toll BA, Brandon TH, Gritz ER, Warren GW, Herbst RS;
Writing Committee for the AACR Subcommittee on Tobacco
and Cancer.

Clin Cancer Res. 2013 Apr 15;19(8):1941-8.

[Read More >>](#)

**Expression of p75 Neurotrophin Receptor in Desmoplastic
Trichoepithelioma, Infiltrative Basal Cell Carcinoma, and
Microcystic Adnexal Carcinoma.**

Jedrych J, McNiff JM.

Am J Dermatopathol. 2013 May;35(3):308-15.

[Read More >>](#)

**Late recurrence of basaloid carcinoma initially treated as a
small cell lung cancer.**

Shumaster V, Bae JW, Gettinger SN, Cai G, Kim AW.

J Thorac Dis. 2013 Apr;5(2):E68-70.

[Read More >>](#)

**Bone scan findings of chest wall pain syndrome after
stereotactic body radiation therapy: implications for the
pathophysiology of the syndrome.**

Lloyd S, Decker RH, Evans SB.

J Thorac Dis. 2013 Apr;5(2):E41-4.

[Read More >>](#)

**Tubulin- β -III overexpression by uterine serous carcinomas
is a marker for poor overall survival after platinum/taxane
chemotherapy and sensitivity to epothilones.**

Roque DM, Bellone S, English DP, Buza N, Cocco E,
Gasparrini S, Bortolomai I, Ratner E, Silasi DA, Azodi M,
Rutherford TJ, Schwartz PE, Santin AD.

Cancer. 2013 Apr 12. doi: 10.1002/cncr.28017.

[Read More >>](#)

**Identification of Need for an Evidence-Based Nurse-Led
Assessment and Management Protocol for Radiation
Dermatitis.**

Oddie K, Pinto M, Jollie S, Blasiak E, Ercolano E, McCorkle R.

Cancer Nurs. 2013 Apr 11.

[Read More >>](#)

**Class III β -Tubulin Overexpression in Ovarian Clear Cell
and Serous Carcinoma as a Marker for Poor Overall
Survival after Platinum/Taxane Chemotherapy and
Sensitivity to Patupilone.**

Roque DM, Bellone S, Buza N, Romani C, Cocco E, Bignotti E,
Ravaggi A, Rutherford TJ, Schwartz PE, Pecorelli S, Santin
AD.

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2013 Apr 10.

[Read More >>](#)

**Impact of preoperative radiation on survival of patients
with T3N0 >7-cm non-small cell lung cancers treated with**

anatomic resection using the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results database.

Moreno AC, Morgensztern D, Yu JB, Boffa DJ, Decker RH, Dettlerbeck FC, Kim AW.
J Surg Res. 2013 Apr 3.

[Read More >>](#)

Endosonographic and cyst fluid characteristics of cystic pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours: A multicentre case series.

Ho HC, Eloubeidi MA, Siddiqui UD, Brugge WR, Rossi F, Bounds BW, Aslanian HR.
Dig Liver Dis. 2013 Apr 9.

[Read More >>](#)

A novel technique for perineal hernia repair.

Douglas SR, Longo WE, Narayan D.
BMJ Case Rep. 2013 Apr 10;2013.

[Read More >>](#)

Serotonin and the 5-HT7 receptor: the link between Hepatocytes, IGF-1 and Small intestinal neuroendocrine tumors.

Svejda B, Kidd M, Timberlake A, Harry K, Kazberouk A, Schimmack S, Lawrence B, Pfragner R, Modlin IM.
Cancer Sci. 2013 Apr 11.

[Read More >>](#)

Erratum: single-cell protein secretomic signatures as potential correlates to tumor cell lineage evolution and cell-cell interaction.

Kwak M, Mu L, Lu Y, Chen JJ, Wu Y, Brower K, Fan R.
Front Oncol. 2013 Apr 8;3:78.

[Read More >>](#)