

DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

June 21, 2013

Announcements

Roy Herbst Named the Ensign Professor of Medical Oncology



Roy Herbst (left) and Tom Lynch (right)
with Stephen Neuwirth, BA '84, JD '87

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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Links of Interest



Laura Pappano, Tom Lynch, Roy Herbst, and Karen Herbst

I am honored to announce that Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD has been named the Ensign Professor of Medical Oncology by the Yale Corporation. This is a well-deserved honor for Roy, who is nationally recognized for his leadership in lung cancer treatment and research, and who has led our section of medical oncology through amazing growth over the last two years. I was pleased to join the leadership of Yale School of Medicine, Yale-New Haven Hospital, and Yale Cancer Center, along with many of Roy's colleagues and friends, last week as we celebrated his appointment over dinner in the President's Room at Woolsey Hall.

[Read More >>](#)

Supreme Court Bans Human Gene Patenting



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 CVs you receive to share.

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In the News

Read recent articles featuring experts from Yale Cancer Center.

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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.

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Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Video presentations from Yale Cancer Center members are now available online.

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DirectConnect Archives

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ASCO Connection Blog

Stop the Madness!
by Anees Chagpar, MD

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Events

June 21; 7:30 AM Yale ASCO® Review 2013

New Haven Country Club
Highlights of the Annual Meeting
Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

June 22; 4:00 PM Fresh Yoga

Erector Square Location
Benefit Yoga Class for Yale Cancer Center
Dr. Julie A. Rosenberg

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

The Supreme Court unanimously ruled last week that patents on human genes could not be granted or upheld, a huge breakthrough for patients and patient advocates. Special congratulations to Yale Cancer Center's Director of Genetic Counseling, Ellen Matloff, who was a lead plaintiff in the case against Myriad Genetics, and who worked tirelessly to fight for her patients to overturn the patent Myriad has held on BRCA testing. Ellen's work over the last several years has brought the issues of gene patenting into the spotlight, and has helped to shed light on how the monopoly of gene patenting has affected patients.

[Read Last Week's Media Coverage >>](#)

Tanning Legislation Becomes Law in CT



Thanks to the continued efforts of Susan Mayne, David Leffell, and colleagues at Yale and throughout the State, Connecticut signed into law a ban on indoor tanning for individuals under age 17. The research, which started as part of the Yale SPORE in skin cancer and noted increased rates of basal cell carcinoma in younger patients, and linked the incidence to indoor tanning, helped to push this legislation forward and ultimately pass it and achieve the governor's signature. This is a major step forward in efforts to protect our youth from the harmful effects of indoor tanning. Efforts to continue to educate on the harmful effects of indoor tanning will continue. Congratulations to the team for their success in translating research into policy!

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Notables

Ellen Matloff, MS, Director of Cancer Genetic Counseling, recently published *Cancer Principles and Practices of Oncology: Handbook of Cancer Clinical Genetics*. The guidebook allows clinicians to search under each disease site for the hereditary cancer syndromes relevant for his/her patient's cancer. The book is available through Lippincott Williams & Wilcott.

June 23; 12:00 PM
Yale Pediatric Oncology/The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Picnic in the Park

Carriage House at Edgerton Park
Celebration of Survivorship!
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

June 23; 6:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center Answers
WNPR

Screening Options for Prostate Cancer
James Yu, MD
[Learn More >>](#)

June 25; 12:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Park Street Auditorium
Macrophages: From Villains to Heroes in Anti-Cancer Therapy
Claire Lewis, MD
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

June 26; 11:00 AM
Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program

SHM 1-304
Molecular Mechanism of RTEL1 to Suppress Homologous Recombination
Md Nurul Islam, PhD
[Learn More >> \(PDF\)](#)

June 27; 9:00 AM
Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds

Smilow, LL-412
The Changing Landscape of Colorectal Cancer Clinical Trials
Howard Hochster, MD
[Learn More >>](#)

June 30; 6:00 PM
Yale Cancer Center Answers
WNPR

The Future of Ovarian Cancer
Gil Mor, MD, PhD
[Learn More >>](#)

Updates from Smilow

Support Groups benefit many patients at Smilow Cancer Hospital

At Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven there are a variety of support groups available to our patients and their families. The groups are held on varying days and times and there are general cancer support groups as well as those for specific diagnoses. Bonnie Indeck, LCSW, Manager of Oncology Social Work at Smilow Cancer Hospital commented, "Meeting with others who are experiencing a similar situation may decrease feelings of loneliness and help build relationships and support, and can help patients and families feel more prepared to adapt to and live with the illness."

Licensed clinical social workers and registered nurses facilitate the support groups. Ms. Indeck commented that together, this team brings a myriad of knowledge and information, combining both the psychosocial aspects of living with cancer with the medical information helpful in learning how to manage the disease. Feedback from patients has been consistently positive and includes comments such as, "This group has helped me to learn to live with my cancer. The people I have met are so helpful. Thank you for running these - it makes coming to the hospital 'fun'."

Other support groups that are available include Radiation Support for Patients and Family, Lung Cancer, Metastatic Melanoma, and Patient and Family Support, and many others. [Click](#) to see a complete listing of support groups and encourage patients and families to attend.

Research in the News

Fast-acting virus targets melanoma in mice

Yale researchers eradicated most melanoma tumors by exposing them to a fast-acting virus, they report in the June 15 edition of the Journal Virology.

Melanoma is the deadliest type of skin cancer and can spread throughout the body and even into the brain.

"After injection into the blood stream of mice, the virus finds melanoma on its own, and is fast and aggressive with tumors," said Anthony N. van den Pol, professor of neurosurgery at Yale School of Medicine, investigator for Yale Cancer Center and senior author of the study. "Because the virus replicates rapidly, it can kill the melanoma before the immune system responds and kills the virus."

In the process of eliminating the virus, the immune system may also begin to target and kill tumor cells, he added.

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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](#)

Closer to Free

As we continue to make strides in cancer research and patient care, it is appropriate that we acknowledge two Yale faculty members whose discovery was one of the first major breakthroughs in the field. Louis S. Goodman, MD and Alfred Gilman, PhD investigated the use of chemical warfare agents in medicine and introduced the use of chemotherapy as a therapeutic treatment of cancer in the late 1940's.

THE LOUIS S. GOODMAN, MD
AND ALFRED GILMAN, PhD
LEADERSHIP SOCIETY

In recognition of the far-reaching impact of their work, we have established the **Louis S. Goodman, MD and Alfred Gilman, PhD Leadership Society** to acknowledge the most generous and committed donors to **Closer to Free**. These supporters will be offered unique opportunities and special recognition. Membership will be on an annual basis. This support builds on Goodman and Gilman's legacy by sustaining the innovative research and patient care of Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven.

We are delighted to welcome our charter members, and thank them for their partnership: Samuel V. Shoonmaker of Darien, Mary and Nicholas DiGioia of Wallingford, Deborah and Jeffrey Pollak of Woodbridge and Mary Ghaly of Niantic.

Funding and Award Opportunities

The Edith P. Rausch Fund of the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven

Two to three grants will be awarded to provide seed money to enable investigators to engage in innovative cancer research, with the goal of facilitating new research on the fundamental causes of, or an effective cure for, cancer. Preference will be given to research that has a high likelihood of having a demonstrable community impact in the Greater New Haven area. Members of Yale Cancer Center or faculty who have applied for membership are eligible to apply. Award amounts will be up to \$30,800 for one year commencing August 1, 2013.

Application Deadline: July 1, 2013

[Learn More >>](#)

Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research Medical Research Grants

To support the conduct of innovative and insightful medical research on the hematologic malignancies.

- Funds are provided for clinical or basic science research that will lead to novel therapeutic approaches that could replace, or be used in combination with existing effective therapies for patients with leukemia, lymphoma, and related cancers of the blood.
- For assistant professors (or equivalent) with the MD or PhD.
- \$225,000 to be used over a period of 3 years.

Application Deadline: June 28, 2013

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Center for Molecular Discovery Pilot Project Program

The Yale Center for Molecular Discovery is announcing an incentive program to underwrite activities performed at the Center.

The Yale Center for Molecular Discovery (ycmd.yale.edu) provides biology and chemistry services to the Yale community. Drawing upon the extensive experiences of our staff in the fields of target and molecular discovery, the Center offers access to small molecule compound and siRNA collections as well as expertise and instrumentation for high throughput assay design and execution. Our approach is service-oriented and results-driven.

All grants will utilize a 2:1 match to underwrite Center activities that accelerate or broaden applicants' research field, obtain new funding or publications.

Potential projects may include any combination of activities provided by YCMD, including:

- Assay development or adaptation to high-throughput screening
- Screening of small molecule or siRNA libraries
- Compound identification or optimization via structure-based design or ligand-based design High-Throughput, High Content Screening

Project selection by the Pilot Grant Review Committee, a panel comprised of faculty and prior RFP grantees. Any potential conflicts of interest should be identified by the Applicant. All activities will be confidential and the investigator retains all intellectual property on any discoveries. Awards will be based on project goals, impact, methods, availability of reagents, and innovation.

Application Deadline: July 15, 2013

[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

Randomized Phase III Trial of Single-Agent Pemetrexed Versus Carboplatin and Pemetrexed in Patients With Advanced Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer and Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Performance Status of 2.

Zukin M, Barrios CH, Rodrigues Pereira J, De Albuquerque Ribeiro R, de Mendonça Beato CA, do Nascimento YN, Murad A, Franke FA, Precivale M, de Lima Araujo LH, Da Rocha Baldotto CS, Vieira FM, Small IA, Ferreira CG, Lilenbaum RC.

J Clin Oncol. 2013 Jun 17.

[Read More >>](#)

Joint analysis of expression profiles from multiple cancers improves the identification of microRNA-gene interactions.

Chen X, Slack FJ, Zhao H.

Bioinformatics. 2013 Jun 14.

[Read More >>](#)

Toward standard HER2 testing of endometrial serous carcinoma: 4-year experience at a large academic center and recommendations for clinical practice.

Buza N, English DP, Santin AD, Hui P.

Mod Pathol. 2013 Jun 14.

[Read More >>](#)

Endoscopically Acquired Pancreatic Cyst Fluid MicroRNA 21 and 221 Are Associated With Invasive Cancer.

Farrell JJ, Toste P, Wu N, Li L, Wong J, Malkhassian D, Tran LM, Wu X, Li X, Dawson D, Wu H, Donahue TR.

Am J Gastroenterol. 2013 Jun 11.

[Read More >>](#)

Canonical and Non-Canonical Barriers Facing AntimiR Cancer Therapeutics.

Cheng CJ, Slack FJ.

Curr Med Chem. 2013 May 27.

[Read More >>](#)

The E5 proteins.

Dimaio D, Petti LM.

Virology. 2013 May 31.

[Read More >>](#)

Hepatocellular carcinoma: perspective of an oncologist.

Stein SM.

J Clin Gastroenterol. 2013 Jul;47 Suppl:S47-9.

[Read More >>](#)

Does time to definitive treatment matter in patients with ductal carcinoma in situ?

Sue GR, Lannin DR, Killelea B, Tsangaris T, Chagpar AB.

Am Surg. 2013 Jun;79(6):561-5.

[Read More >>](#)

Control of Alveolar Differentiation by the Lineage Transcription Factors GATA6 and HOPX Inhibits Lung Adenocarcinoma Metastasis.

Cheung WK, Zhao M, Liu Z, Stevens LE, Cao PD, Fang JE, Westbrook TF, Nguyen DX.

Cancer Cell. 2013 Jun 10;23(6):725-38.

[Read More >>](#)

A comparison of three treatment strategies for locally advanced and borderline resectable pancreatic cancer.

Lloyd S, Chang BW.

J Gastrointest Oncol. 2013 Jun;4(2):123-30.

[Read More >>](#)

High-throughput Screening Identifies Aclacinomycin as a Radiosensitizer of EGFR-Mutant Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer.

Bennett DC, Charest J, Sebolt K, Lehrman M, Rehemtulla A, Contessa JN.

Transl Oncol. 2013 Jun 1;6(3):382-91.

[Read More >>](#)

Printed guide improves knowledge of curative, palliative, and hospice care among women with metastatic breast cancer.

Schulman-Green D, Jeon S.

Support Care Cancer. 2013 Jun 1.

[Read More >>](#)

Nivolumab plus Ipilimumab in Advanced Melanoma.

Wolchok JD, Kluger H, Callahan MK, Postow MA, Rizvi NA, Lesokhin AM, Segal NH, Ariyan CE, Gordon RA, Reed K, Burke MM, Caldwell A, Kronenberg SA, Agunwamba BU, Zhang X, Lowy I, Inzunza HD, Feely W, Horak CE, Hong Q, Korman AJ, Wigginton JM, Gupta A, Sznol M.

N Engl J Med. 2013 Jun 2.

[Read More >>](#)