

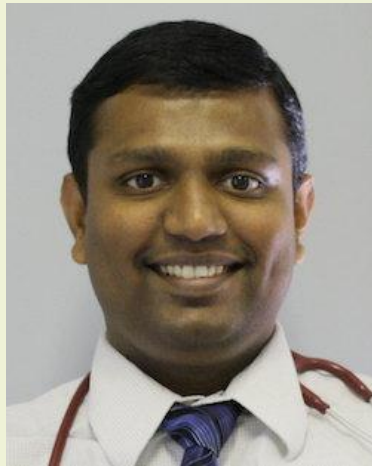
August 11, 2017

## Announcements

### Lohith Gowda Joins Hematology

I am pleased to announce the

appointment of Dr. Lohith Gowda as an Assistant Professor of Medicine (Hematology), effective September 1, 2017.



Dr. Gowda graduated from MS Ramaiah Medical College in India. After practicing medicine abroad for five years, he moved to the United States where he completed three fellowships; a fellowship in hematology and oncology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine; a fellowship in transfusion medicine at New York Presbyterian-Cornell and New York Blood Center; and a fellowship in stem cell transplant and cellular therapy at MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr. Gowda will see patients in our hematology clinic on the 7th floor of Smilow Cancer Hospital and focus on the care of patients in need of stem cell transplantation.

### OCM Site Visit

On August 1, Smilow Cancer Hospital hosted guests from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for an Oncology Care Model (OCM) Learning Site

*from the desk of*  
**Charles S. Fuchs, MD, MPH**  
Director, Yale Cancer Center  
and Physician-in-Chief  
Smilow Cancer Hospital

Yale  
NewHaven  
**Health**  
Smilow Cancer  
Hospital

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Yale **CANCER**  
CENTER  
A Comprehensive Cancer Center Designated  
by the National Cancer Institute

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### Recent News

[News Center >>](#)

### LATEST ARTICLES:

Visit. The visit primarily consisted of a series of discussions with key Smilow/YCC staff and leadership to identify barriers and challenges to implementing OCM practice transformation activities. Our Oncology Extended Care Clinic and new OCM Care Coordination program were among the highlighted infrastructure investments discussed. Guest and Lead Clinical Expert, Barbara Doyle, shared, *"We were very impressed with your organization's commitment to OCM and your candid feedback on what is working and things you feel could be improved. Your feedback is a crucial piece of our work, to help inform priorities for learning topics and events, and provide 'feet-on-the-street' feedback to CMMI about the program."*

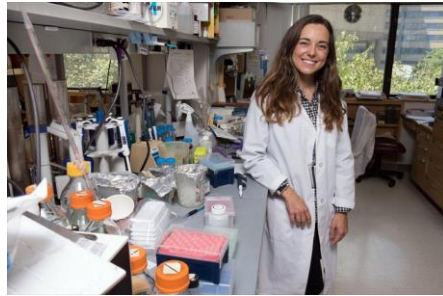
Thank you to Nara Sinanis, Dr. Kerin Adelson, Cathy Lyons, Dr. Rogerio Lilenbaum, and the entire OCM team for leading our efforts and for ensuring the success of our site visit.

### **Radiation Oncology Adds Gamma Knife Icon**

Smilow Cancer Hospital added the first Gamma Knife Icon device in New England to our radiation oncology platform this week, and used it to treat our first patient beginning on Monday. The Gamma Knife Icon is the most precise radiosurgery device on the market, limiting radiation dose to healthy tissue. Led by a multidisciplinary team at Smilow from neurosurgery, with Veronica Chiang, MD, and radiation oncology, with James Yu, MD, it is the only technology with microradiosurgery capabilities, allowing for the treatment of virtually any target in the brain with ultrahigh precision and without invasive fixation. At Smilow, the Icon will be used for patients who have brain lesions that can't be treated in a single day of treatment but need their treatment to be divided into 3 to 5 fractions. For these patients completion of treatment after consults is typically 2-3 weeks whereas with the Icon, we can get this down to 1-2 weeks with even less normal brain receiving radiation. Yale is one of the few centers in the world with multiple radiosurgery platforms, providing the flexibility and expertise to use any technology in the treatment planning for our patients - maximizing the benefits for our patients.

## **Notables**

**Juan Vasquez, MD**, a member of the Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital, has been awarded a fellows grant from the



### **Biomedical engineering meets radiology meets genetics**

[Read More >>](#)



### **Rare leukemia targeted by modifying patients' immune cells**

[Read More >>](#)



Aspirin: Wonder Drug for Cancer Prevention?

[Read More >>](#)

**St. Baldrick's Foundation** to support his research on childhood cancers.

**Hyun S. "Kevin" Kim, MD**, Professor of Radiology and Medicine (Medical Oncology) and a member of the Developmental Therapeutics Research Program at Yale Cancer Center, has been awarded a **Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program Award** to study Improving Immunotherapy: Boosting Immune Response And Functional Immune Cell Imaging.

**Edward Kaftan, PhD** has been promoted to **Research Scientist** at Yale Cancer Center. The promotion recognizes Dr. Kaftan's efforts to promote translational research at YCC, development of research teams, management of our multi-PI grants, and his mentorship of others to develop their projects/SPORES.

#### Lung SPORE Grants Funded

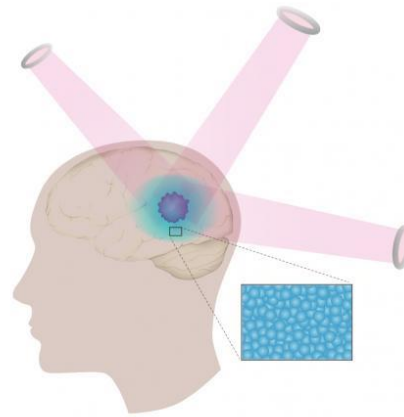
Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Associate Director for Translational Research and Principal Investigator of the Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer, has announced, along with Dr. Edward Kaftan and the grant committee, the 2017-2018 Lung SPORE Developmental Program and Career Development Program awardees.

#### 2017-2018 Lung SPORE Career Development Program Awardees

The Career Development Program seeks to develop the next generation of translational lung cancer researchers by supporting early-stage careers or enhancing those of investigators with newly defined interests in the field.

**Nadya Dimitrova** - Mentor: Katerina Politi  
*Making first strides towards elucidating the importance of long noncoding RNAs in lung cancer*

**Joelle Hillion** - Mentor: Richard Kibbey  
*The role of the pentose phosphate pathway in resistance to lung cancer therapy*



#### Engineering and Medicine Combine to Fight Brain Cancer

[Read More >>](#)



#### Yale Chemist's Upcoming Trial Could Open Doors For New Medical Treatments

[Read More >>](#)



Smilow Screening & Prevention Promote the NCI's Screen to Save Initiative

[Read More >>](#)

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#### Join Yale Cancer Center on Facebook

**Nikhil Joshi** - Mentor: Lieping Chen

*Investigating mechanisms of anti-tumor T cell function in autochthonous models of lung adenocarcinoma*

**Yu Zhang** - Mentor: Lieping Chen

*TCR sequences pre and post IO therapy*

### **Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer Awards 2017-18 Developmental Research Program Funds**

The Developmental Research Program provides seed money to investigators proposing studies that have strong multidisciplinary and translational components and the potential to evolve into a main SPORE project.

**Joseph Contessa**

*Synthesis of novel OST inhibitors for the treatment of NSCLC*

**Richard A. Flavell**

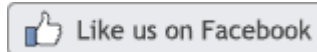
*Cas9 screen for identification of novel lung cancer co-therapies*

**J. Peter Koo**

*Development of novel treatments for immunotherapy refractory lung cancer*

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## **Development Update**



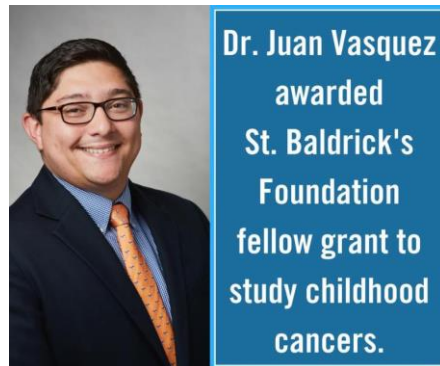
### **LATEST POSTS:**

Tune in to Yale Cancer Answers to listen to an interview with Dr. Anees Chagpar highlighting minimally invasive cancer treatment options.



[Read More >>](#)

Congratulations to Juan Vasquez, MD, who recently received a fellow grant from the St. Baldrick's Foundation, the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants. Dr. Vasquez, a member of the Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Program here at Smilow, studies immunotherapy and pediatric brain cancer.



[Read More >>](#)

Aspirin has long been used for pain relief, but cancer prevention is a relatively new benefit. Researchers performing thousands of different clinical trials have observed an interesting effect of the drug: preventing or slowing down cancer. The trend is present across multiple cancer types, though researchers disagree on the precise mechanism that causes the effect.



Tiva Lovemark, Jennifer Moliterno-Gunel, and Jamie Lovemark

The Lovemark Foundation, a nonprofit foundation that provides financial and emotional assistance to brain cancer patients and their families, held their first annual pro-am at the Hudson National Golf Club on Monday, June 26. Golfer Jamie Lovemark and his wife, Tiva, founded the Foundation. PGA tour pros, other sports celebrities, and Smilow Cancer Hospital's Dr. Jennifer Moliterno-Gunel attended to support the event, which donated \$100k to support patients cared for through the Brain Tumor Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital.

## Research in the News

### Use of alternative medicine for cancer has negative impact on survival

Patients who choose to receive alternative therapy as treatment for curable cancers instead of conventional cancer treatment have a higher risk of death, according to researchers from the Cancer Outcomes, Public Policy and Effectiveness Research (COPPER) Center at Yale School of Medicine and Yale Cancer Center. The findings were reported online by the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

Studies show aspirin effective at lowering cancer risk.



[Read](#)

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Congratulations to Edward Snyder, MD, Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Director of Transfusion Medicine, on his selection to receive the President's Award from the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB). Dr. Snyder was chosen in recognition of his role as a founding member of the AABB Cellular Therapy Section, dedicated to empowering practitioners and furthering transfusion science.



Congratulations,  
**Edward Snyder, MD**  
recipient of the  
President's Award  
from the  
American  
Association of  
Blood Banks.

[Read](#)

[More >>](#)

Lung cancer continues to be one of the most common and most deadly cancers in the United States and worldwide, causing more deaths every year than breast, prostate, and colon cancers combined. We join together to remember those we've lost to lung cancer, celebrate and encourage patients who are fighting, and spread awareness in our goal to end cancer. Talk about lung cancer screening with someone you care about today.

The researchers studied de-identified patients diagnosed from 2004-2013. By collecting the outcomes of patients who received alternative medicine instead of chemotherapy, surgery, and/or radiation, they found a greater risk of death. This finding persisted for patients with breast, lung, and colorectal cancer. The researchers concluded that patients who chose treatment with alternative medicine were more likely to die and urged for greater scrutiny of the use of alternative medicine for the initial treatment of cancer.

[Read More >>](#)

### Good cellular neighbors combat incipient cancers

Scientists have spent decades studying the nature of tumor cells, but few have looked to see what was happening in the surrounding tissue.

When Yale researchers took a closer look at skin cells, they discovered the unaffected neighbor cells are not helplessly awaiting invasion of cancer cells but acting like cellular police, actively correcting tissue flaws created by their aberrant neighbors, the investigators report Aug. 2 in the journal Nature.

The Yale team studied damaged cells or activated oncogenes in mouse tissue and used new live-imaging technology to study behavior of surrounding cells. They found these wild-type cells were necessary for the elimination of tumors, which progressed dramatically in their absence, and for correcting aberrations caused by damaged cells.

[Read More >>](#)

### Employee Profile: Renee Muse

In her role as office liaison for the Breast Center at Smilow, Shagunna "Renee" Muse, MBA supports



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One team at this year's Closer to Free ride will be riding in honor of the late Harry Randall, a husband, father, and grandfather, who passed away in 2015 after a battle with cancer that started as leukemia and transformed into T-cell lymphoma.

"Randy" put it on his bucket list to ride in the Closer to Free Ride after his 2011 diagnosis - son Scott said, "I think he wanted to ride because he wanted to give back to Smilow in some way because of all the things they had given him." The team, Randy's Riders, is certainly making good on that wish - they've already exceeded their goal and raised over five thousand dollars!

Kathy Randall, Randy's wife and captain of the team, mentioned that though she hasn't ridden a bike in probably 30 years, that wouldn't stop her from riding: "My children and all my grandchildren are riding with me in September and we will cross that finish line for Harry."

"My children and all my grandchildren are riding with me in September and we will cross that finish line for Harry."

Kathy Randall, riding for late husband Harry "Randy" Randall



[Read More >>](#)

Dr. Andrea Silber, Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), and handles new patient intake for Breast Surgery and Medical Oncology, as well as patient



coordination. Renee also promotes outreach with Dr. Silber in the community to help raise awareness and bring attention to breast cancer disparities. She helps to recruit patients for OWN IT (Oncologists Welcome NewHaven Into Trials), a program at Smilow focused on getting more minorities from New Haven into clinical trials.

"My patients are my world," said Renee, "and nothing is too small for me to do for them. This includes developing personal relationships with many of our patients to ensure they are comfortable asking for help during a very vulnerable time for them. Many patients struggle financially and need help accessing the resources available to them. I am readily available to guarantee our patients have the most optimal experience here at Smilow."

Camille Servodidio, Program Manager for Women's Oncology Services at Smilow, commented, "Renee is a passionate patient advocate who is tireless in her efforts to organize seamless care for our patients. She leaves no stone unturned and has a 'can do' attitude to solve any issue presented to her."

## Funding Opportunities

**Utilizing the PLCO Biospecimens Resource to Bridge Gaps in Cancer Etiology and Early Detection**

**Research (U01)**

As UV Safety Month comes to a close and we head into August, Summer Sun Safety Month, we'd like to share with you 9 tips from Yale Medicine about lowering your skin cancer risk. According to current research, each year in the US, there are more new cases of skin cancer than breast, prostate, lung and colon cancers, and over the past three decades, more people have had skin cancer than all other cancers combined - take steps to protect you and your loved ones, and share this post to spread skin safety tips.



[Read More >>](#)

## Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter

Follow us on [twitter](#)

### LATEST TWEETS:

Thank you .@RMHC for building an amazing home for our families who travel for their child's cancer care via .@WTNH

A scary statistic but it's never too late to decide to do better. Call our Tobacco Treatment Program for help <http://bit.ly/1akN95t>

Dr. Steven Gore explains how CAR-T Cells are used to fight #leukemia .@YaleMed .@YNHH

(8/6) at 7:30p ET Dr. @AneesChagpar of @YaleCancer discusses minimally invasive #cancer treatment <http://bit.ly/2iv00V3> on @WNPR

This (FOA) encourages the submission of applications that propose to advance research in cancer etiology and early detection biomarkers, utilizing the advantages of the unique biorepository resources of the NCI-sponsored PLCO Screening Trial.

**Application Deadline:** August 15, 2017

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for 2017:**

#### **Breakthrough Award**

**Deadlines for Full Applications:**

**Level 3 & 4 Due:** August 31, 2017

#### **Innovator Award**

**Deadline for Application:** August 31, 2017

#### **Distinguished Investigator Award**

**Deadline for Application:** August 31, 2017

[Learn More>>](#)

### **Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for 2017:**

#### **Clinical Consortium Award**

**LOI Due:** August 24, 2017

#### **Prostate Cancer Pathology Resource Network Award**

**LOI Due:** August 24, 2017

[Learn More>>](#)

### **Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Nurse Researcher Grants**

ALSF's Nurse Researcher Grants program is dedicated to improving the quality of life for young cancer patients and their families by supporting studies to discover better ways to care for children undergoing treatment. This year, ALSF is offering two grants:


#### **Discovery Grant**

**Application deadline:** August 21, 2017


#### **Nurse Researcher Fellowship**


**Application deadline:** September 25, 2017

[Learn More>>](#)

 Join us today at noon in #Smilow to learn how good nutrition and weight control can reduce risks for #cancer <http://bit.ly/2feEjNT>


@YNHH


 Our @YaleCancer team @AACR@ASCO clinical trials course with our friend and course director Dr Pat LoRusso @YNHH


 @YaleCancer@YaleSPH study: Taking aspirin every day for only three years cut pancreatic cancer risk by 48 percent.


 Engineering and Medicine Combine to Fight

#Brain #Cancer [bit.ly/2u1tjKj](http://bit.ly/2u1tjKj) #bcsm @yaleseas @ranjitbindra

 Congrats to Dr. Juan Vasquez, @StBaldricks fellow award winner #FightChildhoodCancer .@YaleMed

 Celebrate #WorldLungCancerDay at our #lungcancer support group at 1PM. Or any 1st or 3rd Tuesday of the month! <http://bit.ly/2u0k5hE> #lscsm

 Course co-director Pat Lorusso @YaleCancer at the @ASCO@AACR clinical trials course in Vail today. Over 100 students

 The Screen to Save Initiative hit the road this weekend with an inflatable #colon raising #colorectal#screening awareness! @NCIprevention

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### **Closer to Free**

# **closer to free**

The fund to advance cancer research and enhance patient care

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### **Calendar of Events**



### **Elsa U. Pardee Foundation Request for Proposals**

The Pardee Foundation provides support to investigators in U.S. nonprofit institutions proposing research aimed at identifying new treatments or cures for cancer.

**Application Deadline:** August 31, 2017

[Learn More >>](#)

### **NIH Director's Pioneer Award Program (DP1)**

The DPA complements NIH's traditional, investigator-initiated grant programs by supporting individual scientists of exceptional creativity.

**Application Deadline:** September 1, 2017

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Career Development Program (CDP)**

LLS offers career development awards to postdoctoral fellows as well as early career, independent investigators. This year the application will be completed in 3 phases.

**Deadlines:**

**Eligibility:** September 1st

**Abstract:** September 15th

**Full Application:** October 3rd

[Learn More >>](#)

### **SU2C Dream Team Translational Cancer**

#### **Research Grant**

SU2C is inviting proposals for a new \$10 million Dream Team of top scientific investigators searching for new strategies to prevent or treat cancer. The new \$10 million grant is open to any type of translational cancer research.

**Letter of Intent Due:** September 5, 2017

[Learn More >>](#)

**August 11; 11AM**

#### **YNHH Café**

*U/V Skin Cancer Awareness Month*

[Read More >>](#)

**August 13; 7:30PM**

#### **Yale Cancer Answers**

WNPR 90.5

*Cardio-Oncology*

Lauren Baldassarre, MD

[Read More >>](#)

**August 17; 8:30AM**

#### **Medical Grand Rounds**

LMP 1094

*Serious Illness Conversations: The Tools and Science Informing Best Practice*

Laura Morrison, MD

[Read More >>](#)

**August 17; 9AM**

#### **Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds**

Smilow LL505

*Pediatric Brain Tumors for the Radiation Oncologist*

Asher Marks, MD

[Read More >>](#)

**August 18; 12PM**

#### **Smilow Screening & Prevention Event**

Scantlebury Park

*New Haven Healthy Start's Family Fun & Fitness Day*

[Read More >>](#)

**August 20; 7:30PM**

#### **Yale Cancer Answers**

WNPR

*Sun Safety Awareness Month*

Jonathan Leventhal, MD

[Read More >>](#)

## **Gilead Sciences Research Scholars Program in Hematology/Oncology**

The Gilead Sciences Research Scholars Programs provide financial support to junior faculty researchers for a 2-year period.

**Application deadline:** September 8, 2017

[Learn More >>](#)

## **Department of Defense**

### **Lung Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for 2017:**

#### **Career Development Award**

**Letter of Intent Due:** September 13, 2017

[Learn More >>](#)

## **The Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium (U01)**

This FOA invites applications from multi-disciplinary teams of researchers and clinicians to establish the Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium (PCDC) to conduct research to improve the detection of early stage pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) and characterization of its precursor lesions.

**Application Deadline:** September 21, 2017

[Learn More >>](#)

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## **Recent Publications**

### **BET Inhibitors: A novel epigenetic approach**

Doroshov, DB, Eder, JP, LoRusso, PM

Annals of Oncology. 2017 Jul 21.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Advances in the diagnosis of hereditary kidney cancer: Initial results of a multigene panel test.**

Nguyen KA, Syed JS, Espenschied CR, LaDuca H, Bhagat AM, Suarez-Sarmiento A, O'Rourke TK Jr, Brierley KL, Hofstatter EW, Shuch B.

Cancer. 2017 Aug 8.

[Read More >>](#)

**August 25; 9AM**

### **CT Tennis Open/Smilow Day**

Connecticut Tennis Center at Yale

*Smilow Screening and Prevention Informational Table*

[Read More >>](#)

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## **Submissions**

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

### **Renee Gaudette**

Director, Public Affairs and Marketing

[renee.gaudette@yale.edu](mailto:renee.gaudette@yale.edu)

 Forward to a Friend

Computationally-guided optimization of small-molecule inhibitors of the Aurora A kinase-TPX2 protein-protein interaction.

Cole DJ, Janecek M, Stokes JE, Rossmann M, Faver JC, McKenzie GJ, Venkitaraman AR, Hyvönen M, Spring DR, Huggins DJ, Jorgensen WL.

Chem Commun (Camb). 2017 Aug 8.

[Read More >>](#)

**Double-blind, randomized phase 3 trial of low-dose 13-cis retinoic acid in the prevention of second primaries in head and neck cancer: Long-term follow-up of a trial of the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group-ACRIN Cancer Research Group (C0590).**

Bhatia AK, Lee JW, Pinto HA, Jacobs CD, Limburg PJ, Rubin P, Arusell RM, Dunphy EP, Khandekar JD, Reiner SA, Baez-Diaz L, Celano P, Li S, Li Y, Burtness BA, Adams GL, Pandya KJ.

Cancer. 2017 Aug 7.

[Read More >>](#)

**Effect of neoadjuvant chemotherapy on tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes and PD-L1 expression in breast cancer and its clinical significance.**

Pelekanou V, Carvajal-Hausdorf DE, Altan M, Wasserman B, Carvajal-Hausdorf C, Wimberly H, Brown J, Lannin D, Pusztai L, Rimm DL.

Breast Cancer Res. 2017 Aug 7;19(1):91.

[Read More >>](#)

**Correction of aberrant growth preserves tissue homeostasis.**

Brown S, Pineda CM, Xin T, Boucher J, Suozzi KC, Park S, Matte-Martone C, Gonzalez DG, Rytlewski J, Beronja S, Greco V.

Nature. 2017 Aug 2.

[Read More >>](#)

**Health Care Use by Older Adults With Acute Myeloid Leukemia at the End of Life.**

Wang R, Zeidan AM, Halene S, Xu X, Davidoff AJ, Huntington SF, Podoltsev NA, Gross CP, Gore SD, Ma X.

J Clin Oncol. 2017 Aug 7;JCO2017727149.

[Read More >>](#)

**Fibroblast growth factor receptor is a mechanistic link between visceral adiposity and cancer.**

Chakraborty D, Benham V, Bullard B, Kearney T, Hsia HC, Gibbon D, Demireva EY, Lunt SY, Bernard JJ.

Oncogene. 2017 Aug 7.

[Read More >>](#)

**Responses to crizotinib and chemotherapy in patients with lung adenocarcinoma harboring a concomitant EGFR mutation and ALK gene rearrangement: A case report and review of the literature.**

Li Y, Su S, Cai G, Lin Q, Zhou Y, Ouyang J, Chen B, Ye J, Wu X, Chen C.

Mol Clin Oncol. 2017 Aug;7(2):173-182.

[Read More >>](#)

Association of race and margin status among patients undergoing robotic partial nephrectomy for T1 renal cell carcinoma: Results from a population-based cohort.

Chen VS, Abouassaly R, Gonzalez CM, Kutikov A, Smaldone MC, Meropol NJ, Psutka SP, Williams SB, O'Malley R, Sedlacek HM, Kim SP.

Urol Oncol. 2017 Aug 3.

[Read More >>](#)

**Screening, treatment initiation, and referral for substance use disorders.**

Bernstein SL, D'Onofrio G.

Addict Sci Clin Pract. 2017 Aug 7;12(1):18.

[Read More >>](#)

**Association of LN Evaluation with Survival in Women Aged 70 Years or Older With Clinically Node-Negative Hormone Receptor Positive Breast Cancer.**

Chagpar AB, Hatzis C, Pusztai L, DiGiovanna MP, Moran M, Mougalian S, Sanft T, Evans S, Hofstatter E, Wilson LD, Lannin DR.

Ann Surg Oncol. 2017 Aug 1.

[Read More >>](#)

**Capture, amplification, and global profiling of microRNAs from low quantities of whole cell lysate.**

Wang N, Cheng J, Fan R, Lu J.

Analyst. 2017 Aug 2.

[Read More >>](#)