

# DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

**September 27, 2019**

## Announcements

### **Kevin Billingsley, MD, Appointed Chief Medical Officer**

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Kevin G. Billingsley, MD, as the Chief Medical Officer at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center and Professor of Surgery at Yale School of Medicine. As Chief Medical Officer, Dr.

Billingsley will be responsible for clinical cancer care across YCC, SCH, and our Care Centers, as well as clinical program development for cancer services throughout Yale New Haven Health. Among his many responsibilities, he will oversee quality and patient safety initiatives, evaluate and optimize our multidisciplinary team structure, assist with facilities/space planning, support our research mission, and interact and coordinate with Yale New Haven Hospital's clinical leadership structure.

Previously, Dr. Billingsley trained in Surgical Oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where he served as Administrative Chief Fellow. He graduated from Stanford University and



*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**

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

## News Center

received his medical degree from The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Billingsley is currently an MBA candidate at Oregon Health and Sciences University.

Dr. Billingsley joins Yale from Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) where he currently serves as Medical Director of the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute, Chief of Surgical Oncology, and the Hedinger Professor of Surgical Oncology. He is an international leader in the clinical care and research of hepatobiliary cancers, and serves as co-director of the Liver Tumor Program at OHSU.

### Bosenberg Appointed Interim Director of YCIO

In 2018, Yale Cancer Center and Department of Immunobiology (IBIO) jointly launched the Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology (YCIO), leveraging the great talent in basic, translational, and clinical research at Yale University and Smilow Cancer Hospital. Under the guidance of the inaugural Interim Director Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, who agreed to lead the project to launch the Center while we defined the position, we have laid the foundation for this important initiative. As we continue to expand the breadth and depth of the YCIO, we are pleased to announce the appointment of Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD, as the new Interim Director of the Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology

A Professor of Dermatology, Pathology, and Immunobiology, and Co-Director of Yale's SPORE in Skin Cancer, Marcus also serves as Co-Leader of Yale Cancer Center's Genomics, Genetics, &



**ASCO19: Key Take Aways on Gastrointestinal Cancers with Dr. Christina Gomez of Yale University**

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**Doctor Discusses Prostate Cancer Awareness Month**

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**September is Gynecological Cancer Awareness Month**

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Epigenetics Research Program. In his role as Interim Director, Marcus will design new strategies and advance the scientific activities, core resources, and faculty recruitments for the Center, while broadly engaging the clinical and scientific communities working in this arena.

Please plan to join all of us at the second annual Center for Immuno-Oncology Symposium on October 11 to learn more about the Center and for presentations from thought leaders in Immuno-Oncology from Yale and throughout the country.

## Cancer Microbiology and Cancer Signaling Networks

After careful review, discussion, and advisement from our External Scientific Advisory Board, Yale Cancer Center has renamed two of our Research Programs to better reflect the goals and science within the programs. Virus and Other Infection Associated Cancers is now the Cancer Microbiology Research Program, Co-led by Dr. Amy Justice and Dr. Walther Mothes. Signal Transduction is now the Cancer Signaling Networks Research Program, Co-led by Dr. Daniel Petrylak, Dr. Katerina Politis, and Dr. David Stern.

## Pamela-Jean Berkheiser Named Director for Ambulatory Practice

Please join me in congratulating Pamela-Jean Berkheiser on her promotion to Director for the Ambulatory Practice at Yale Cancer Center in Smilow Cancer Hospital. Pam has been with the Health System for 18 years, and over the last 3 ½ years her leadership and oversight of the



**This Man is Awake, and Singing, During Brain Surgery**

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**The Importance of Vaccinating School Students Against HPV**

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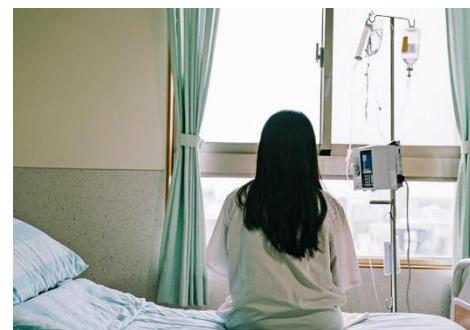
**Yale Cancer Center Research Highlighted at ASTRO 2019**

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University staff within Smilow has expanded considerably. Pam's exceptional focus on patient experience and access has noticeably improved our outpatient practices. She partners with Maureen Major Campos in planning and practice management and oversees all front desk, clinical operations managers, medical assistant, clinical secretaries, and intake specialists at our main campus. Her dedicated efforts and development of our administrative teams is an integral part in our successful growth and we look forward to continued success in these areas.

### Gastrointestinal Cancers Program Retreat

I was honored to gather with colleagues from throughout Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital earlier this week for the GI Cancer Program Retreat. Many of our leading investigators gave outstanding presentations covering a variety of topics across the spectrum of cancer research, including molecular targets, signaling pathways, translational studies, clinical trials, and biobanking. I am certain that this will be the beginning of a series of meetings that expand the breadth and depth of clinical and scientific innovation in GI malignancies and I look forward to continuing our discussions and building new collaborations together. Thank you to Jeremy Kortmansky, MD, and Jill Lacy, MD, Leaders for the Gastrointestinal Cancers Program and the other members of the organizing committee for planning and launching the retreat.



### Once-Common Hysterectomy Technique Linked to Worse Uterine Cancer Outcomes

[Read More >>](#)



### FDA Grants Priority Review to Enfortumab Vedotin for Metastatic Urothelial Cancer

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### Yale Cancer Center Annual Award Nominations

Nominations for Annual YCC Awards: Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce our call for nominations for our annual awards in the areas of excellence in research and clinical care. Each award will be announced at the Yale Cancer Center Conclave in January. The nomination deadline for all awards is **Friday, November 1st**.



### Yale Cancer Center Scientist Urges Widespread HPV Vaccinations

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**Yale Cancer Center Research Prizes:** Research Prizes will be awarded in support of excellence in the areas of basic science, clinical science, translational science, and population science. Awards will be chosen in each area to recognize a paper that is considered to have had the greatest impact on the field this year. The nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center and science in the publication must be cancer-focused. To be eligible, the nominee must also be either the first or last author of the publication. Please submit a PDF of the publication (publication date must be between October 2018 to October 2019) along with the category it should be considered for via email to [Anna Raso](#).

**Yale Cancer Center Award for Clinical Excellence:** This award will be given to the physician who best exemplifies excellence in clinical care including super clinical skills, use of a patient- and family-centered approach to care, and inclusion of a multi-disciplinary care model. Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please nominate yourself or a peer and send a brief nomination letter (one-page maximum) via email to [Anna Raso](#).

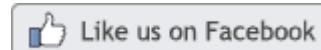
**Yale Cancer Center Lifetime Achievement Award:** Yale Cancer Center recognizes the achievements of one of our senior members through our annual Lifetime Achievement award. Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please send nomination suggestions for the award via email to [Anna Raso](#).

## Notables

**Lajos Pusztai, MD, DPhil,** Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and Co-Leader of the Cancer Genetics, Genomics, & Epigenetics Research Program, has been awarded a **Susan G. Komen Leadership Grant** to support his project, "Immunological characterization of primary and metastatic breast cancer and discovery of novel



## Join Smilow Cancer Hospital on Facebook



### Latest Posts:

Mary Lynne knew something wasn't right and insisted on additional testing by her gynecologist. Her persistence was key and she was ultimately diagnosed with ovarian cancer and found her way to Smilow Cancer Hospital.

"Be your own best advocate. Listen to that little voice inside you. Especially when you know you have choices. Ask questions. Do your own investigation. Don't let fear guide you. Stand your ground. And don't allow yourself to be rushed into making a decision."



*Meet Mary Lynne*

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Abigail Friedman, PhD, will discuss efforts to implement Tobacco 21 laws to prohibit the sale or distribution of tobacco or vaping products to people under the age of 21 on Yale Cancer Answers.

therapeutic targets from genomic analysis of cancers." The grant totals \$600,000 over three years.

**Sherry P. Greifzu, RN, MSN, AOCN, NEA-BC**, has been hired as the new Patient Services Manager for **Smilow Radiation Oncology**. Sherry joins us from Connecticut Children's Medical Center where she was the Nursing Director of Ambulatory Multispecialty Services and concentrated her efforts in Oncology Nursing Practice and Leadership.

**Camila Robles-Oteiza**, a graduate student co-mentored by Dr. Katerina Politi and Dr. Susan Kaech in the Department of Immunobiology, received an **NCI Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award** (F99/K00) to support her project, "Identifying mechanisms of response and resistance to immunotherapies in lung cancer." The award provides funding for 2 years of predoctoral research and up to 4 years of postdoctoral research.

**Laura Morrison, MD**, Associate Professor of Medicine (Geriatrics) and Director of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Education, presented at conference focused on **At the End of Life: Agency, Role, and Responsibilities of the Physician/Advanced Practitioner** in Seattle earlier this month. She presented as part of a case conference: Discontinuation of Cardiac Devices.

**Elizabeth Ferguson, MA, ATR, LPC**, Art Therapist in the Palliative Care Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital will attend the annual **American Art Therapy Association** conference on October 31 in Kansas City, Missouri to present "Art Therapy and Palliative Care: When there is Nothing Left to Give?"

## Research Highlights



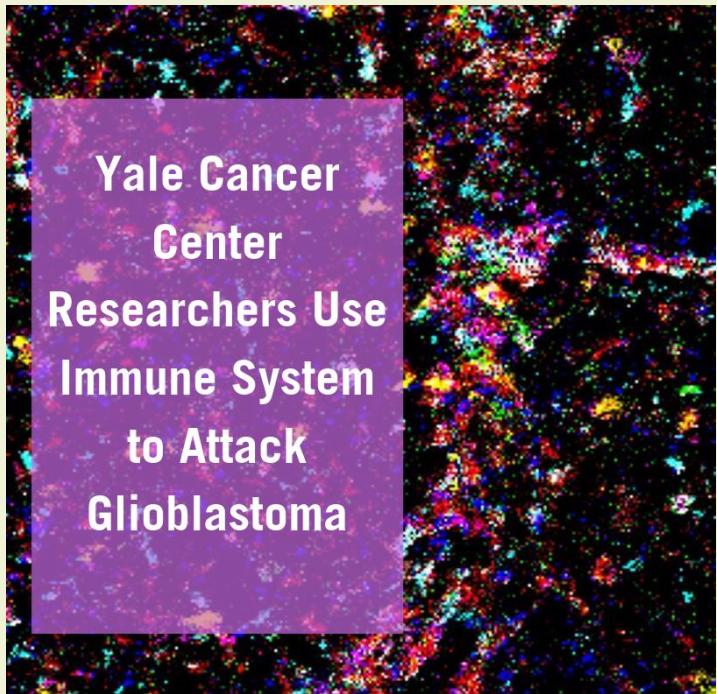
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Today, and every day, we #CelebrateWomen who make a difference at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital, whether caring for our patients or making groundbreaking discoveries in cancer research. Thank you!



[Read More >>](#)

The Yale Cancer Biology Training Program (CBTP) recently celebrated the graduation of its second class of predoctoral and postdoctoral PhD trainees. Congratulations to this year's graduates: Jocelyn Chen, Fernando J.



The Yale laboratory of Sidi Chen, PhD, Assistant Professor of Genetics in the Systems Biology Institute and Yale Cancer Center, has developed advanced gene-editing and screening technology to find new targets for cancer immunotherapy.

In a new study published in *Nature Biotechnology*, Chen and colleagues report that using T cells containing modifications of those gene targets reduced tumors in a mouse model of glioblastoma, a brain cancer that is especially difficult to treat.

[Learn More >>](#)

DeMiguel, Daniel Kim, Meaghan McGahey, and Kiran Patel. The CBTP provides comprehensive cancer training to add depth and clinical exposure in order to prepare PhD trainees to lead translational research. In addition to their pathfinding laboratory cancer research, these trainees have completed a rigorous series of courses and have benefited from clinical mentoring by Yale Cancer Center oncologists and surgeons.



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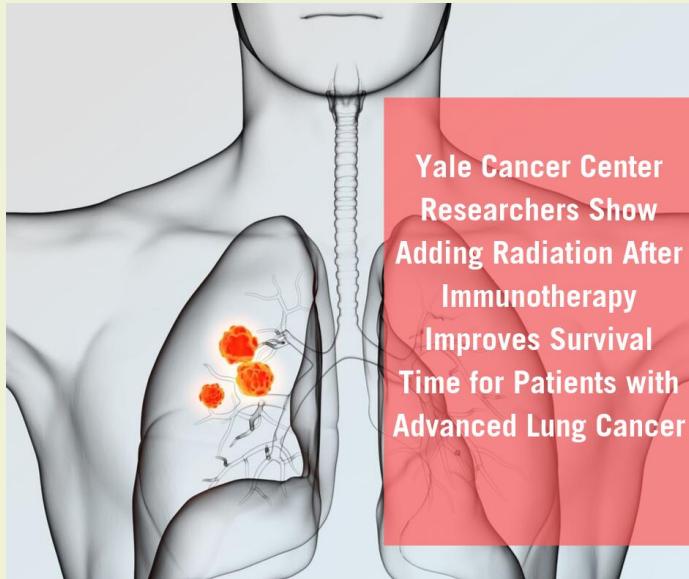
Suzanne B. Evans, MD, MPH, talks about new research our radiation oncology team is presenting at this year's American Society of Radiation Oncology annual meeting. #ASTRO19



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As the lead PET Tech in the Department of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging, David Menard oversees the day to day tasks of his team, and provides imaging to patients. Previously a computer technician, David came to Yale twelve years ago and enjoys the marriage of technology and patient care in his current role.

"Not only has David developed strong relationships with the clinical trial staff resulting in successful data collection for all clinical trials requiring PET imaging,



## **Yale Cancer Center Researchers Show Adding Radiation After Immunotherapy Improves Survival Time for Patients with Advanced Lung Cancer**

The results of a phase II clinical trial by Yale Cancer Center researchers show adding high-dose radiation after immunotherapy stops working increases survival time for patients with metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

"This study provides one more important piece of data that indicates the combination of immunotherapy and radiation is safe, and that for certain patients, may emerge as an important therapeutic option when immunotherapy alone stops working," said Allison M. Campbell, MD, PhD, a resident in the Department of Therapeutic Radiology at YCC and lead author on the study.

The clinical trial, performed at Smilow Cancer Hospital, enrolled 21 patients who progressed after receiving the immunotherapy drug pembrolizumab. Patients with high numbers of T cells in their tumors before radiation did best, with a median progression free survival of 6.7 months. In a few of the patients, the researchers saw responses in tumors through the whole body, not just the single site treated with radiation. Those responses lasted longer than one year.

[Learn More >>](#)

but he also excels in patient and family satisfaction. He goes above and beyond and is a role model for our service," David's manager explained.

## **Meet this week's Extraordinary Employee David Menard**



**YaleNewHavenHealth**  
Smilow Cancer Hospital | **Yale CANCER CENTER**  
A Comprehensive Cancer Center Design  
by the National Cancer Institute

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Isabel Cortopassi, MD, Associate Professor of Biomedical Imaging and Radiology, will discuss important information on lung cancer screening today on Yale Cancer Answers. Tune in to

Connecticut Public Radio to learn who should be screened, when, and where to go for the latest information.

## **Yale Cancer Answers**

### **Lung Cancer Screening: Who should be screened and when?**

Sunday, September 15  
7:30pm on WNPR

[Read More >>](#)

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Center on Twitter**

## Employee Profile: Shannon Ramos

When a patient is scheduled for an appointment at Smilow Cancer Hospital a lot of behind the scenes work goes into coordinating their care to make their visit efficient and seamless. One of the driving people behind that work is Shannon Ramos, Patient Financial Access Counselor for the Multispecialty Clinics.

Shannon works with various departments to schedule patients for any procedures or appointments they may need. She is also responsible for managing the check-out staff.

Scheduling is a large part of Shannon's role, which she has been doing for over eight years, including two years in her current role. Whether it is coordinating a schedule for staff or a patient, Shannon takes care to make sure all aspects are covered. For patients, they have either just received a diagnosis, or need continued follow-up care and may need several appointments scheduled in one day. It's important that their day flows well and that they don't have to come back on multiple days for appointments when it can be avoided.

"Everyone that I oversee takes pride in their work and in helping patients. You get to know patients and their families over time, and it is rewarding when someone remembers you even if you haven't seen them in a while," said Shannon. "Knowing you made a small difference for them is worth all of the hard work each day."



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Europe's largest meeting of medical oncologists #ESMO19 starts tomorrow in Barcelona, Spain. Members of our faculty will be there presenting research studies to help advance #cancer care for patients.

Promising new research concerning #Glioblastoma! A study led by @sidichen

@NatureBiotech shows advanced gene editing and screening technology can find targets for #cancer#immunotherapy to treat the deadly #braincancer.

What do women need to know about #Ovariancancer? Our expert .GloriaHuangMD talks with @JocelynMaminta@GMCT for #OvarianCancerAwarenessMonth about the facts of the 5th leading cause of #cancer deaths among US women.

Over 100k women are diagnosed with #Gynecologicalcancers every year. Dr. Sangini Sheth shares important information with @TimLammersFOX6 @FOX61News concerning prevention, screening and treatment.

Thank you to Dr. Peter Marks .@US\_FDA for being our guest speaker for today's Grand Rounds on Genetically Modified Cell Therapies during the @Yale\_LabMed Dr. Joseph Bove Memorial Lectureship.

It's #WorldCancerResearchDay! Research plays a vital role in slowing the progression of #cancer, improving survival rates and improving quality of life of our patients.

Learn the warning signs, latest treatment and research for

Sandy Elkin-Randi, Director of Access for Yale New Haven Health commented, "Shannon represents the best of Patient Financial and Access Services (PFAS). She is a role model for our department and we all are fortunate to have the honor to work with her every day. She doesn't make a "small difference" as she referenced above, she makes a big difference to every person she encounters on a daily basis."

## Recent Publications

### **Comparison of Survival After Mohs Micrographic Surgery vs Wide Margin Excision for Early-Stage Invasive Melanoma.**

Cheraghloou S, Christensen SR, Agogo GO, Girardi M. JAMA Dermatol. 2019 Sep 25.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Adaptive protein translation by the integrated stress response maintains the proliferative and migratory capacity of lung adenocarcinoma cells.**

Albert AE, Adua SJ, Cai WL, Arnal-Esteape A, Cline GW, Liu Z, Zhao M, Cao PD, Mariappan M, Nguyen DX. Mol Cancer Res. 2019 Sep 24.

[Read More >>](#)

### **In vivo CRISPR screening in CD8 T cells with AAV-Sleeping Beauty hybrid vectors identifies membrane targets for improving immunotherapy for glioblastoma.**

Ye L, Park JJ, Dong MB, Yang Q, Chow RD, Peng L, Du Y, Guo J, Dai X, Wang G, Errami Y, Chen S.

Nat Biotechnol. 2019 Sep 23.

[Read More >>](#)

### **Synthesis and reactivity of precolibactin 886.**

Healy AR, Wernke KM, Kim CS, Lees NR, Crawford JM, Herzon SB.

Nat Chem. 2019 Oct;11(10):890-898.

[Read More >>](#)

### **The Association between Industry Payments and Brand-Name Prescriptions in Otolaryngologists.**

Morse E, Hanna J, Mehra S.

#ProstateCancerAwarenessMonth from our expert @DanielPetrylak

 Monique Stefanou from our Cancer Screening & Prevention Program presents on the impact of health navigators at #AACRidsp19. The conference advances the understanding of disparities that represent a major public health problem in the US.

 .@GloriaHuangMD is interviewed by @JocelynMaminta@WTNH about #OvarianCancerAwarenessMonth. Watch the full interview @GMCT at 9am this Wednesday!

 Abigail Friedman, PhD, will discuss efforts to implement #Tobacco21 laws to prohibit the sale or distribution of tobacco or vaping products to people under 21 on @YaleCancer Answers this evening. Tune in at 7:30pm on @wnpr to learn more.

 Thank you to all the nurses who joined us for the first annual Southeastern CT Oncology Nursing Symposium today.

 Welcome Dr. Kevin G. Billingsley! Dr. Billingsley has been appointed Chief Medical Officer at #Smilow Cancer Hospital and Professor of Surgery @YaleMed. He will be responsible for clinical #Cancer care and program development.

 A new progress report .@AACR shows the number of US #cancer survivors has reached a record high. Patients and families can get info on prevention, wellness, research and supportive services related to cancer #survivorship

 Our Integrative Medicine team is at .@espn today sharing #Reiki with their employees as part of their Living Smart Wellness Series.

Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg. 2019 Sep 24:605-612.

[Read More >>](#)

**Apical-Basal Polarity Signaling Components, Lgl1 and aPKCs, Control Glutamatergic Synapse Number and Function.**

Scott J, Thakar S, Mao Y, Qin H, Hejran H, Lee SY, Yu T, Klezovitch O, Cheng H, Mu Y, Ghosh S, Vasioukhin V, Zou Y.

iScience. 2019 Sep 9;20:25-41.

[Read More >>](#)

**Use of Virtual Injection Software to Aid in Microcatheter Positioning During Transarterial Chemoembolization.**

Soliman MM, Stein SI, Doustaly R, Madoff DC.

J Vasc Interv Radiol. 2019 Aug 27. pii: S1051-0443(19)30612-8. doi: 10.1016/j.jvir.2019.07.003. [Epub ahead of print] No abstract available.

[Read More >>](#)

**Interventional radiology's role in the diagnosis and management of patients with gallbladder carcinoma.**

Fine GC, Smith TA, Stein SI, Madoff DC.

Chin Clin Oncol. 2019 Aug;8(4):40. doi: 10.21037/cco.2019.07.09. Epub 2019 Aug 5.

[Read More >>](#)

**Management of Advanced Stage Hepatocellular Carcinoma with Extensive Portal Vein Tumor Thrombus Using an Adjustable Dual Balloon Occlusion Technique.**

Madoff DC, Kim D, Holzwanger DJ, Kishore SA, Friedman T.

J Vasc Interv Radiol. 2019 Jul;30(7):1145-1147. doi: 10.1016/j.jvir.2019.01.006. Epub 2019 May 24. No abstract available.

[Read More >>](#)

**Acetyl Zingerone: An efficacious multifunctional ingredient for continued protection against on-going DNA damage in melanocytes after sun exposure ends.**

Chaudhuri RK, Meyer T, Premi S, Brash D.

Int J Cosmet Sci. 2019 Sep 20.

[Read More >>](#)

 Today, and every day, we #CelebrateWomen who make a difference @YaleCancer and @YNHH, whether caring for our #cancer patients or making groundbreaking discoveries in #cancerresearch!

 Congratulations to Dr. Lajos Pusztai! He was awarded a 3 year, \$600K Leadership Grant by @SusanGKomen to study the immunological characterization #breastcancer and to help discover novel therapeutic targets using genomic analysis.

 "It's a two-shot vaccination that helps prevent six types of cancer" - .@LindaNiccolai talked to @EdStannardNHR@nhregister about the need to vaccinate children against #HPV.

 Join us for a #CME symposium on #esophagealcancer on November 1 on @YaleWestCampus

 Congratulations to .@RoyHDecker! Dr. Decker has been named our new Associate Cancer Center Director for Clinical Services and will oversee our #clinicaltrial endeavors and serve as PI for our NCI NCTN Lead Academic Participating (LAPs) site

 New research .@JCO\_ASCO by Dr. Xiao Xu shows a once common #hysterectomy #myomectomy technique is linked to worse outcomes for women with #uterinecancer.

 Promising new research #ASTRO19 for #lungcancer patients. Dr. Allison Campbell explains how #immunotherapy and #radiation work together to improve survival time.

 New research presented today at #ASTRO19 by Dr. Allison Campbell shows adding #radiation after #immunotherapy improves survival time for #nsclc patients.

**Epidermal growth factor (EGF) triggers nuclear calcium signaling through the intranuclear phospholipase C delta-4 (PLC $\delta$ 4).**

de Miranda MC, Rodrigues MA, de Angelis Campos AC, Faria JAQA, Kunrath-Lima M, Mignery GA, Schechtman D, Goes AM, Nathanson MH, Gomes DA.

J Biol Chem. 2019 Sep 19.

[Read More >>](#)

**Severity of reduced bone mineral density and risk of fractures in long-term survivors of childhood leukemia and lymphoma undergoing guideline-recommended surveillance for bone health.**

Bloomhardt HM, Sint K, Ross WL, Rotatori J, Ness K, Robinson C, Carpenter TO, Chow EJ, Kadan-Lottick NS.

Cancer. 2019 Sep 19.

[Read More >>](#)

**miR-147b-mediated TCA cycle dysfunction and pseudohypoxia initiate drug tolerance to EGFR inhibitors in lung adenocarcinoma.**

Zhang WC, Wells JM, Chow KH, Huang H, Yuan M, Saxena T, Melnick MA, Polit K, Asara JM, Costa DB, Bult CJ, Slack FJ.

Nat Metab. 2019 Apr;1(4):460-474.

[Read More >>](#)

**Closed system RT-qPCR as a potential companion diagnostic test for immunotherapy outcome in metastatic melanoma.**

Gupta S, McCann L, Chan YGY, Lai EW, Wei W, Wong PF, Smith JW, Weidler J, Rhee B, Bates M, Kluger HM, Rimm DL.

J Immunother Cancer. 2019 Sep 18;7(1):254.

[Read More >>](#)

**The calcium-sensing receptor: A novel target for treatment and prophylaxis of neratinib-induced diarrhea.**

Lysyy T, Lalani AS, Olek EA, Diala I, Geibel JP.

Pharmacol Res Perspect. 2019 Sep 13;7(5):e00521.

[Read More >>](#)

**Clinical Outcomes of Head and Neck Cancer Patients Who Undergo Resection, But Forgo Adjuvant Therapy.**

 Our radiation oncology team will be busy throughout #ASTRO19. Here's a list of their presentations throughout the meeting - stop by!

 Isabel Cortopassi, MD @YaleRadiology will discuss important information on #lungcancer #screening on Yale Cancer Answers. Tune in to @wnpr to learn who should be screened, when, and where to go for the latest information.

## Calendar

**Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table**

**September 27; 11:00 AM**

20 York Street

*National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month Event*

[Learn More >>](#)

**Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table**

**September 28; 10:00 AM**

480 Sherman Parkway

*Greater New Haven NAACP 28th Annual Family Health Expo*

[Learn More >>](#)

**Yale Cancer Answers**

**September 29; 7:30 PM**

WNPR

*Patient Perspective: Head and Neck Cancers*

Dick Brescia, Patient

[Learn More >>](#)

**Yale ICSNM Program 2019-2020 Lecture Series**

**October 1; 11:00 AM**

Brady Auditorium

*Microbiome Contributions to Drug Metabolism*

Andrew Goodman, PhD

Loganadane G, Kann BH, Park HS, Johnson SB, Mehra S, Judson BL, Bhatia A, Belkacemi Y, Yarbrough WG, Burtness B, Husain ZA.

Anticancer Res. 2019 Sep;39(9):4885-4890.

[Read More >>](#)

#### **Acute and Long-term Adverse Events Associated With Checkpoint Blockade.**

Davies M.

Semin Oncol Nurs. 2019 Sep 9:150926.

[Read More >>](#)

#### **Modeling of implementation of the new Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network/United Network for Organ Sharing policy for patients with hepatocellular carcinoma.**

Kokabi N, Nezami N, Xing M, Ludwig JM, Strazzabosco M, Kim HS.

J Comp Eff Res. 2019 Sep;8(12):993-1002.

[Read More >>](#)

#### **The impact of socioeconomic status on outcomes in hepatocellular carcinoma: Inferences from primary insurance.**

Sellers CM, Uhlig J, Ludwig JM, Taddei T, Stein SM, Lim JK, Kim HS.

Cancer Med. 2019 Aug 22

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#### **Comparison of Survival Rates After a Combination of Local Treatment and Systemic Therapy vs Systemic Therapy Alone for Treatment of Stage IV Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer.**

Uhlig J, Case MD, Blasberg JD, Boffa DJ, Chiang A, Gettinger SN, Kim HS.

JAMA Netw Open. 2019 Aug 2;2(8):e199702.

[Read More >>](#)

#### **Inflammatory markers in intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma: Effects of advanced liver disease.**

Sellers CM, Uhlig J, Ludwig JM, Stein SM, Kim HS.

Cancer Med. 2019 Aug 20.

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[Learn More >>](#)

#### **Genetics Department Seminar Series**

**October 1; 11:30 AM**

The Anlyan Center, N-107

Andrew Xiao, PhD

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#### **Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds**

**October 1; 12:00 PM**

55 Park Street, Park Street Auditorium

TBD

Sanjay Aneja, MD and Joseph Craft, MD

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#### **Endocrine Workshop**

**October 2; 4:00 PM**

Fitkin Memorial Pavilion, 132

*My Approach to Thyroid Cancer 2*

Elizabeth H. Holt, MD, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

#### **Cancer Biology Meeting**

**October 2; 4:00 PM**

Sterling Hall of Medicine, SHM I-304

*Metabolic and behavioral responses during tolerance to oncogenic mutations in the mouse skin*

Sara Gallini, PhD and Anupama Hemalatha, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

#### **Smilow Cancer Hospital & Yale Cancer Center Host**

**October 2; 5:00 PM**

55 Park Street, Park Street Auditorium

*Breast Cancer Symposium*

Erin Hofstatter, MD | Kerin Adelson, MD | Christin A. Knowlton, MD, MA | Tomer Avraham, MD | Tara Sanft, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

#### **Pathology Grand Rounds**

**October 3; 12:30 PM**

Fitkin Memorial Pavilion Auditorium, LMP 1094

## Funding Opportunities

### Alex's Lemonade Stand (ALSF) Single-Cell Pediatric Cancer Atlas

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is now accepting applications for the ALSF Single-cell Pediatric Cancer Atlas. ALSF seeks to build a Pediatric Cancer Atlas as an open resource for discovery with an initial goal of producing data that can be harmonized. ALSF seeks researchers to create datasets that profile pediatric cancers at a single-cell resolution level. Single-cell profiling can provide insights into the heterogeneity of cells in a tumor and the surrounding tumor microenvironment, as well as variability in the states of cancer cells, all of which can influence the cancer's response to treatments.

**Application Deadline:** September 30, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) 2020 Crazy 8 Initiative Award

The Crazy 8 Initiative Award will fund research into innovative and rigorous approaches that directly address the most intractable issues in pediatric cancer research today.

**Application Deadline:** October 1, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### Burroughs Wellcome Fund - Career Awards for Medical Scientists

The Career Awards for Medical Scientists (CAMS) is a highly competitive program that provides \$700,000 awards over five years for physician-scientists, who are committed to an academic career, to bridge advanced postdoctoral/fellowship training and the early years of faculty service. Proposals must be in the area of basic biomedical, disease-oriented, or translational research. Proposals in health services

*Classic Hodgkin Lymphoma: Advances in Diagnosis, Biology and Biomarkers*

Eric Hsi, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

### Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar - Journal Club

**October 3; 2:30 PM**

Orchard Medical Center, 107-109

*Universal tumor DNA BRCA1/2 testing of ovarian cancer: prescreening PARPi treatment and genetic disposition*

Camille Varin-Tremblay, MS, LCGC

[Learn More >>](#)

### Hematology Research Seminar Series

**October 4; 11:45 PM**

Brady Auditorium

*Myelodysplastic Syndromes: Understanding and Improving Outcomes at the Individual and Population Levels*

Amer Zeidan, MBBS

[Learn More >>](#)

### Yale Cancer Answers

**October 6; 7:30 PM**

WNPR

*Supportive Care for Breast Cancer*

Elspeth Knill-Selby

[Learn More >>](#)

### Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

**October 8; 12:00 PM**

55 Park Street, Park Street Auditorium

*Addressing Physician Well-Being in an Academic Medical Practice*

Marcela G. del Carmen, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

### Yale Cancer Center Seminar

**October 8; 1:30 PM**

Sterling Hall of Medicine, SHM B-201

*Mesothelin Targeted Therapies and Genetics of Mesothelioma: An NCI Approach to Mesothelioma Treatment*

Idress Mian, MD

research or involving large-scale clinical trials are not eligible.

**Application Deadline:** October 1, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Life Sciences Research Foundation - Postdoctoral Research Fellowship**

Since 1983, the Life Sciences Research Foundation (LSRF) has funded nearly 550 outstanding postdoctoral fellows in all areas of the life sciences, and raised more than \$50 million from generous industries, foundations, and individuals to support this effort.

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Cancer Research Institute - CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Applications**

The Cancer Research Institute is currently accepting applications for its CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. The CRI Irvington Fellowship furthers career development and supports laboratory research for promising young scientists working under the mentorship of leading immunologists.

**Program Note:** In recent years, significant advances in immunotherapy have yielded major breakthroughs in cancer treatment. CRI recognizes, however, that getting to the next great breakthrough will require continued investment in fundamental research and training. With this in mind, CRI accepts applications from qualified young scientists at leading universities and research centers around the world who wish to receive training in fundamental immunology or tumor immunology.

CRI is seeking hypothesis-driven, mechanistic studies in both immunology and tumor immunology that aim to directly impact our understanding of the immune system's role in cancer.

**Application Deadline:** October 1, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Pathology Grand Rounds**

**October 10; 12:30 PM**

Fitkin Memorial Pavilion Auditorium, LMP 1094

*Developing Effective Immuno-oncology Therapies*

Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar**

**October 10; 2:30 PM**

Orchard Medical Center, 107-109

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Yale Cancer Center Seminar**

**October 10; 4:00 PM**

Winchester Building, WWW208 Conference Room

*Efforts toward the development of novel biomarkers in colorectal cancer*

Hao Xie, MD, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Smilow Cancer Hospital Breast Cancer CME Dinner**

**October 10; 5:00 PM**

Artisan Restaurant, Southport

*Demystifying the Risk and Genetics of Breast and Gynecologic Cancers*

Mary Pronovost, MD, FACS | Erin Hofstatter, MD | Elena Ratner, MD | Gulden Menderes, MD | Danielle Bertoni, MD, MPH | Neal Fischbach, MD | Jaime Geisel, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

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### **Submissions**

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

### **Renee Gaudette**

Director, Public Affairs and Communications

**Defense Health Program - Department of Defense  
Melanoma Research Program Funding  
Opportunities for Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19)**

The FY19 Defense Appropriation provides \$10 million (M) to the Department of Defense (DoD) Melanoma Research Program (MRP) to support innovative, high-impact melanoma research.

FY19 MRP Program Announcements and General Application Instructions for the following award mechanism is posted on the Grants.gov website.

The FY19 MRP Focus Areas are listed below:

- \* **Precursor Lesions, Melanomagenesis, Host Factors, and the Tumor Microenvironment** (e.g., melanoma instigators, ultraviolet [UV] exposure, other instigators)
- \* **Melanoma Primary Tumor Evolution** (e.g., dormancy, heterogeneity, metabolism, epigenetic dysregulation, cell death)
- \* **Therapeutic Prevention**
- \* **Minimal Residual Disease**
- \* **Rare Melanomas** (e.g., uveal, acral, leptomeningeal disease, pediatric, adolescent and young adult [AYA], mucosal)

The MRP challenges the research community to redefine the concept of prevention and has issued a [FY19 MRP Challenge Statement](#) that should be considered when responding to the FY19 MRP Focus Areas and funding opportunities.

<https://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/mrp>

[Learn More >>](#)

**Concept Award**

Investigators at or above postdoctoral fellow (or equivalent)

- \* Supports the exploration of highly innovative, untested, potentially groundbreaking concepts in melanoma.
- \* Emphasis is on Innovation.
- \* Preliminary data is strongly discouraged.
- \* Clinical trials are not allowed.
- \* Blinded review.
- \* The maximum allowable funding for the entire period of performance is \$75,000 in direct costs.

- \* Indirect costs may be proposed in accordance with the institution's negotiated rate agreement.
- \* The maximum period of performance is 1 year.

**LOI Deadline:** October 2, 2019

**Application Deadline:** October 23, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### **American Lung Association Lung Cancer Discovery Award**

Intended to support independent investigators conducting clinical, laboratory, epidemiological or any groundbreaking project aimed at revolutionizing our current understanding of lung cancer and improving diagnostic, clinical and treatment methods. A Letter of Intent (LOI) is required for this award.

**Letter of Intent (LOI) Deadline:** October 3, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Maximizing the Scientific Value of Existing Biospecimen Collections (R21)**

The purpose of this FOA is to invite R21 applications to stimulate exploratory research relevant to the mission of the FDA - Center for Tobacco Products using existing (publicly available) biospecimens currently stored in repositories in the United States.

**Application Deadline:** October 8, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Secondary Analyses of Existing Datasets of Tobacco Use and Health (R21)**

The purpose of this FOA is to invite R21 applications proposing the innovative analysis of existing (publicly available) nationally representative U.S. cross-sectional and longitudinal data, to investigate novel scientific ideas and/or to generate new models, systems, tools, methods, or technologies that have the potential for significant impact on biomedical or biobehavioral research in areas relevant to the FDA-Center for Tobacco Products.

**Application Deadline:** October 8, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

## **Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) - 2019 Global Breast Cancer Competitive Research Grant Program**

The intent of this request for proposal (RFP) is to invite investigators from across the global to submit innovative proposals focusing in the following areas:

In hormone receptor positive metastatic breast cancer:

- Treatment strategies to overcome palbociclib + endocrine treatment resistance
- Novel treatment concepts of adding immuno-oncology (IO) agents to palbociclib + endocrine therapy  
In metastatic breast cancer:
  - Novel treatment strategies utilizing talazoparib beyond gBRCA mutation
  - Novel treatment strategies to overcome talazoparib resistance or improve tumor sensitization to talazoparib

**Letter of Intent Deadline:** October 15, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

## **NIBIB Trailblazer Award for New and Early Stage Investigators (R21)**

This Trailblazer Award is an opportunity for New and Early Stage Investigators to pursue research programs of high interest to the NIBIB that integrate engineering and the physical sciences with the life and behavioral sciences.

**Application Deadline:** October 16, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

## **Stimulating Innovations in Behavioral Intervention Research for Cancer Prevention and Control (R21)**

The purpose of this FOA is to provide support for the development of innovative interventions that improve cancer-related health behaviors across diverse racial/ethnic populations.

**Application Deadline:** October 16, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### **NCI Clinical and Translational Exploratory/Developmental Studies (R21)**

This FOA supports the development of new exploratory research in cancer diagnosis, treatment, imaging, symptom/toxicity, and prevention clinical trials.

**Application Deadline:** October 18, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Linking the Provider Recommendation to Adolescent HPV Vaccine Uptake (R21/R03)**

This FOA encourages research on how the healthcare delivery system enhances or inhibits the effectiveness of a provider's recommendation of the adolescent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.

**Application Deadline:** October 16, 2019

[R21 Learn More >>](#)

[R03 Learn More >>](#)

### **Intervening with Cancer Caregivers to Improve Patient Health Outcomes and Optimize Health Care Utilization (R01) (R21)**

This FOA invites applications for intervention research designed to support caregivers of adult cancer patients.

**Application Deadline (R01):** October 17, 2019

**Application Deadline (R21):** November 16, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Linking the Provider Recommendation to Adolescent HPV Vaccine Uptake (R01)**

This FOA encourages research on how the healthcare delivery system enhances or inhibits the effectiveness of a provider's recommendation of the adolescent HPV vaccine.

**Application Deadline:** October 17, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

### **Neural Regulation of Cancer (R01) (R21)**

This FOA encourages collaborative, transdisciplinary research with both neuroscience and cancer research elements, which together will advance our current understanding of the nervous system's contribution to cancer.

**Application Deadline:** October 21, 2019

[R01 Learn More >>](#)

[R21 Learn More >>](#)

**2020 Women's Health Research at Yale Pilot Project Award**

WHRY's Pilot Project Program is currently seeking to fund studies that provide new approaches to understanding the health of women.

**Application Deadline:** October 24, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**Revision Applications for Mechanisms of Cancer Drug Resistance (R01), (U01), (U54), (P01), (P50)**

This FOA is associated with the Beau Biden Cancer MoonshotSM Initiative. The purpose is to support the addition of new aims and directions to ongoing NCI-funded Research Project grants on underlying mechanisms of resistance, preclinical design and foster development of single or combination therapies to effectively target resistant/refractory tumors and/or their microenvironment at the clinical level.

**Application Deadline:** October 24, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**Participant Engagement and Cancer Genome Sequencing (PE-CGS): Research Centers (U2C)**

This FOA is associated with the Beau Biden Cancer MoonshotSM Initiative that is intended to accelerate cancer research. Specifically, this FOA falls under a scientific priority designated by the Blue Ribbon Panel (BRP) as Recommendation A: "Establish a Network for Direct Patient Engagement."

**Application Deadline:** October 30, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**Yale Cancer Center Translational-Targeted Area of Research Excellence (T-TARE) Award**

To provide seed money to YCC Disease-Aligned Research Teams (DARTs) and members of the YCC community in support of translational studies in order to generate preliminary data and evidence of collaboration sufficient to obtain extramural funding, such as multi-investigator R01, P01, or SPOR (P50) grants.

**LOI Due:** October 30, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**2020 Pershing Square Sohn Prize for Young Investigators in Cancer Research**

This award provides greater New York City area-based early career scientists the freedom to take risks and pursue their boldest research at a stage when traditional funding is lacking.

**LOI's Due:** November 4, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**Integration of Imaging and Fluid-Based Tumor Monitoring in Cancer Therapy (R01)**

Through this FOA, the NCI seeks research project (R01) grant applications describing projects that integrate imaging and fluid-based tumor monitoring (liquid biopsy) assays during cancer therapy in patients to determine the optimal use of those modalities in the characterization of therapy response and/or emergence of resistance.

**Application Deadline:** November 5, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**NCI Outstanding Investigator Award (R35)**

This FOA invites grant applications for the Outstanding Investigator Award (R35) in any area of cancer research.

**Application Deadline:** November 6, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**Small-Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC) Consortium: Therapeutic Development and Mechanisms of Resistance (U01)**

This FOA invites applications for research projects to join the Small-Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC) Consortium.

**Application Deadline:** November 12, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**Terri Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation Grant Program**

This award is intended to support scientists at earlier stages of their careers to enable the development of independent programs and compelling careers in breast cancer research.

**Application Deadline:** November 16, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**2020 Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Translational Research Grant**

This award supports an independent investigator conducting high priority pancreatic cancer research that is poised for important translational next steps to help move scientific discovery to application in patients.

**Application Deadline:** December 6, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

**2020 Pancreatic Cancer Action Network Career  
Development Award**

This award supports junior faculty to conduct pancreatic cancer research and establish successful career paths in the field.

**Application Deadline:** December 13, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)