

DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

August 16, 2019

Announcements

Halene Named Interim Chief of Hematology

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Stephanie Halene, MD, PhD, as Interim Chief of Hematology at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital. Over the course of Stephanie's tenure at Yale, she has demonstrated outstanding commitment to and leadership in our tripartite mission of clinical care, research, and education. Stephanie's dedication to patient care, her efforts to enable and promote outstanding research, her work to advance the careers of trainees and faculty, and her success as a physician-scientist make her an ideal interim leader for the section of Hematology.



I have had the privilege of working with Stephanie, both through her leadership of our Clinical Research Support Laboratory for the Clinical Trials Office and through our

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

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collaborative efforts to launch The DeLuca Center for Innovation in Hematology Research. Stephanie's ability to inspire and encourage her colleagues and our staff, combined with her extensive knowledge and skill in hematology patient treatment and care and research endeavors will be of benefit to the Section of Hematology. Please join me in welcoming Stephanie to her new role.

Stem Cell Transplant Accreditation

Once again, our remarkable Stem Cell Transplant and Lab Medicine teams received a wonderful review from the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) and were awarded accreditation under the FACT-JACIE International Standards for Hematopoietic Cellular Therapy for our Stem Cell Transplant Program. The accreditation is effective for three years and continues our long history of providing transplant care to patients in Connecticut. The autologous program began in 1994 and our allogeneic transplant program was added in 1997. Last year, 166 adult and 11 pediatric transplants were completed at Smilow under the direction of Stuart Seropian, MD, and Niketa Shah, MD. Thank you to our entire team for your dedicated care to our patients.

New T32 Training Program

We are pleased to announce the Yale Cancer Center-Advanced Training Program (YCC-ATPP) for physician-scientists. This newly funded T32 training program is led by principal investigators Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, and Lieping Chen, MD, PhD. This five-year grant started on August 1, 2019, and provides salary and research funds for four 3rd and 4th year Hematology/Medical Oncology fellows who are strongly committed to be independent physician-scientists performing basic, translational, clinical, or outcomes research in a cancer-related field each year.



Teen Remembers Late Mom as She Prepares for This Year's Closer to Free Ride

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**Smilow Cancer Hospital
CAR T-CELL THERAPY PROGRAM**

The CAR T-Cell Therapy Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital brings an innovative new cancer treatment option to patients with certain blood cancers. Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy reprograms a patient's own T-cells to target tumor antigens. CAR T-cell therapy has shown complete remission rates of 80 to 90 percent in younger patients with B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, and 40 percent in patients with aggressive B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphomas who have failed multiple prior lines of treatment. The groundbreaking therapy is currently only available in Connecticut at Smilow Cancer Hospital.

The program is Co-Directed by Dr. Stuart Seropian, MD, Professor of Medicine, and Dr. Niketa Shah, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine. Kristina Bouk, MS, APRN is the Program Manager and available to assist with questions. At this time, the therapy is only FDA-approved for patients with childhood (up to age 25) acute lymphoblastic leukemia, the most common cancer in children, or adult B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Researchers are currently conducting clinical trials to extend CAR T-cell therapy against other cancers, and Dr. Seropian and Dr. Shah expect CAR T-cell therapies to be approved for a wider array of lymphomas and leukemias, and expanded to include all age groups.

For information please call (203) 200-CART

YaleNew Haven Health | Smilow Cancer Hospital

Smilow Cancer Hospital CAR T-Cell Therapy Program

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Yale Scientists Zero in on Atomic Driver of Tumor Formation

[Read More >>](#)

The T32 will build on a foundation of excellence established during clinical training in our Heme/MedOnc Fellowship Program. As such, the prospective trainees will have already received an MD or MD/PhD degree, completed internal medicine residency, and 2 years of clinical fellowship training. At the conclusion of their training, it is our goal that individuals supported by this T32 will have developed the skills necessary to function independently, including the ability to design, initiate, and complete research projects, and to effectively write grants and manuscripts. The T32 will firmly position Heme/MedOnc fellows as independent clinical, translational, or basic cancer research leaders of tomorrow.

Kothari Appointed to Hematology

Please join me in welcoming Shalin Kothari, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Hematology) to Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital. Dr. Kothari

completed his residency in Internal Medicine at SUNY Upstate Medical University and recently completed his Hematology and Medical Oncology fellowship through the University at Buffalo/Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center where he was the Chief Fellow. He received his Medical Degree from Gujarat University in India.



Dr. Kothari is a Lymphoma Research Foundation (LRF) Scholar and an inductee of the ASH Advocacy Leadership Institute and the Gold Humanism Honor Society. His research is focused on using his clinical skills and basic



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Latest Posts:

Dr. Niketa Shah reviews CAR T-Cell Treatment options for children with cancer, and new options available for our littlest patients, in a recent Yale Cancer Answers podcast.



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Please join us in welcoming our 8 new hematology/oncology fellows to our fellowship program. Together, they will work with our faculty mentors for the next three years to advance cancer care, treatment, and research!

science knowledge to answer scientific questions focused on mechanistic understanding of lymphoma therapeutics and its translation in the form of early phase clinical trials, especially for Mantle Cell Lymphoma and other aggressive forms of B-cell lymphomas.

Advances in Immuno-Oncology

Please save the date for a Dean's Symposium: Advances in Immuno-Oncology, on Friday, October 11 in Harness Auditorium. Hosted by Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, and Nikhil Joshi, PhD, the full-day symposium will feature lectures on tumor immunity and response, the tumor microenvironment, therapeutic success, and development of cell-based therapies.

[Learn More and Register >>](#)

Notables

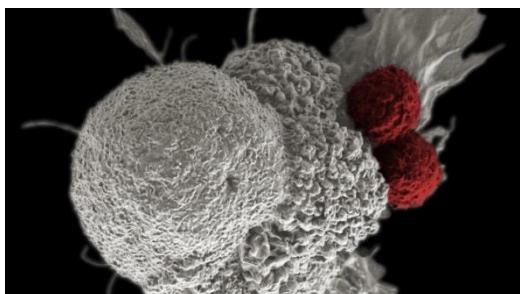
Jun Deng, PhD, Professor of Therapeutic Radiology and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Radiobiology & Radiotherapy Research Program, has been awarded a big data research grant from the **National Science Foundation/National Institutes of Health**. In this collaborative project, Dr. Deng will serve as the leading PI and work with Co-PI, Enrico Capobianco, PhD, from University of Miami, and another Co-Investigator, Harrison Zhou, PhD, Chair of Department of Statistics and Data Science of Yale University, to develop a generalizable data framework toward precision radiotherapy. The award is \$750,000 over three years, and began on August 1, 2019.

Stand Up To Cancer and the **Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer** awarded **Dr. Yang Liu**, a postdoctoral associate in the Yale School of Engineering & Applied Science Biomedical Engineering program, one of five Convergence Scholar Fellowship Awards. Dr. Liu's project, Single Cell Functional Multi-omics to Characterize CAR-T Therapy, is under the direction of Team Leader, **Rong Fan, PhD**,



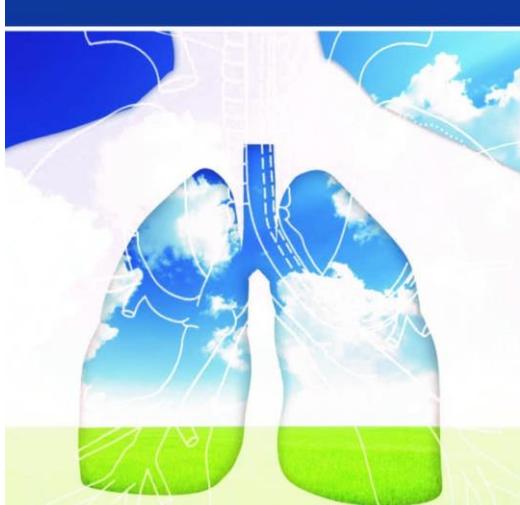
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Good news for patients needing CAR T-Cell therapy, available at only select hospitals in the country, including Smilow Cancer Hospital. New rules will allow Medicare to cover treatment.



[Read More >>](#)

Celebrate #WorldLungCancerDay today on August 1st by learning if you would benefit from lung cancer screening.



[Read More >>](#)

Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Signal Transduction Research Program.

Amy Caroline Justice, PhD, was recently appointed as the **C.N.H. Long Professor of Medicine and of Public Health**. Dr. Justice is co-leader of the Virus and Other Infection-associated Cancers Research Program at Yale Cancer Center. She has conducted research focusing on outcomes in chronic HIV infection for over 25 years and oversees the Veterans Aging Cohort Study, an ongoing, longitudinal study of >170,000 United States veterans with and without HIV infection continuously funded by National Institutes of Health since 1996.

Stephanie Samples O'Malley, PhD, was recently named as the **Elizabeth Mears and House Jameson Professor of Psychiatry**. A member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, Dr. O'Malley focuses her research on the development of more effective treatments for substance use disorders, primarily the abuse of alcohol and tobacco, and research supporting effective policies to regulate tobacco.

Kevan Herold, MD, is newly appointed as the **C.N.H. Long Professor of Immunobiology and of Medicine**. Dr. Herold is a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program and conducts research on the basis for autoimmune diseases and develops new therapies based on these studies.

The National Academy of Inventors (NAI) has named **Rong Fan, PhD**, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Signal Transduction Research Program, as one of the Spring 2019 NAI Senior Members. NAI Senior Members are selected based on their demonstrated capacity to produce remarkable technologies that positively impact society. Dr. Fan is a leader in the field of microtechnologies

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 New research @sciencedirect by .@rfanyale sheds new insight on the biology of #CARTcell activation and approaches for treatment and patient care.

 Dr. Illana Richman and Dr. Regina Hooley talked to @wnpr about new #breastcancer screening laws to help women get better access to care.

 With improving #multiplemyeloma survival rates, new research by graduating fellow Dr. Smith Giri in @journalcancer shows older patients need more supportive care.

 Learn the latest on the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of #melanoma on September 12 during a free symposium at #Smilow Cancer Hospital.

 Dr. Niketa Shah reviews CAR T-Cell Treatment options for children with cancer, and new options available for our littlest patients, in a recent Yale Cancer Answers podcast.

 Join us for a CME Dinner discussing the Risk and Genetics of Breast and Gynecologic Cancers on October 10 in Southport, CT.

 Good news for patients needing #CARTCell therapy, available at only select hospitals in the country, including #Smilow Cancer Hospital. New rules will allow #Medicare to cover treatment.

 "The Back to School routine should include getting the #HPV vaccine!" - Dr. Linda Niccolai. Along with @AmericanCancer we're reminding parents to protect girls and boys from certain #cancers including #throatcancer#cervicalcancer.

that facilitate measurements in single cells, as well as genomic, epigenetic, and transcriptional profiling.

The Yale Cancer Center Business Office would like to welcome four new employees. **Todd Andrews**, Portfolio & Grant Analyst; **Richard McGill**, Accountant II; **Jamie Germaine**, Accountant II, and **Logan Huber**, Clinical Analyst. Please reach out if you need assistance.

The Lung Cancer Research Foundation (LCRF) is hosting the 13th annual Hartford Free to Breathe Walk on Sunday, October 5 at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, CT. Yale University's Office of Development's **Briana Ragaini** is the chair of the Hartford walk and dedicated to raising funds and awareness after her father passed away from the lung cancer in 2015.

[Learn More >>](#)

The Signal Transduction Research Program is proud to welcome **Evan Vosburgh, MD**, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology). Dr. Vosburgh is an active member of the clinical faculty at Yale School of Medicine and the VA Hospital in West Haven and teaches clinical practice hematology/oncology. He has made a number of contributions to translational research, including work on stem cell transplantation, hematologic disorders, and most recently has focused on neuroendocrine tumors. Dr. Vosburgh's substantial experience in the pharmaceutical industry will also contribute to the YCC mission.

Employee Profile: Jennifer Horn

 Congratulations to Dr. Yang Liu for receiving a @SU2C@sitcancer Convergence Scholar Fellowship Award for #immunotherapy research!

 We are pleased to announce Dr. Stephanie Halene as our new Interim Chief of #Hematology at YCC and #Smilow Cancer Hospital! Dr. Halene is a mentor to her colleagues and trainees and a leader in patient care and research.

 Join us for a free Oncology Nursing Symposium on September 21 hosted by the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Waterford.

 Read new #NCCN guidelines for small bowel #adenocarcinoma out today. The guidelines are the first for this type of #cancer in the US.

OOTB Thanks Tiffany Jones!



YCC #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Tiffany Jones, a Delivery Assistant 2 in the Clinical Research Support Lab. When a lost patient ended up in her work area, Tiffany immediately stopped what she was doing to escort the patient to the correct area. The patient was impressed with Tiffany's kindness, describing her as a stellar employee. Thank you, Tiffany!

The #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS program is a staff recognition initiative to show appreciation to employees who have exemplified an above-and-beyond effort or an outstanding contribution to

Jennifer Horn provides vital support to Drs. Steven Gore, Amer Zeidan, Thomas Prebet, and Noffar Bar as a Senior



Administrative Assistant in the Section of Hematology. Moving from a more clinically focused role, Jennifer has been working in the section of Hematology for just over two years and enjoys supporting the faculty.

In addition to general office tasks, Jennifer coordinates meetings, schedules travel, files expense reports, and plans the Hematology Research Seminars. Jennifer commented that a lot of her time is spent arranging travel, since the doctors she supports often give lectures both around the country and internationally. Dr. Gore, who is Clinical Program and Disease Aligned Research Team Leader for Hematology, is also co-host of Yale Cancer Answers, a radio program on WNPR, which requires Jennifer to coordinate his time to include taping segments.

Jennifer prides herself on efficiency and helping in the common goal of benefitting patients. "Even though I am not in the lab or working with patients directly, I feel as though I am contributing in some way by making it easier for my doctors to do what they do best, which is help their patients," said Jennifer.

Richard Carr, Program Manager in Hematology, commented, "Jennifer has been a

the team. All nominations should be submitted to the Director's Office c/o [Anna Raso](#),

Calendar

Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table

August 16; 12:00 PM

Ella B. Scantlebury Playground

NHHS Family Fun Day

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Answers

August 18; 7:30 PM

WNPR

Prevention and Treatment of Colorectal Cancer

Charles S. Fuchs, MD, MPH

[Learn More >>](#)

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar

August 22; 2:30 PM

Orchard Medical Center, 107-109

[Learn More >>](#)

Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table

August 24; 12:00 PM

Ella B. Scantlebury Playground

YCCI Community Health Fair

[Learn More >>](#)

Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table

August 25; 1:00 PM

Goffe Street Park

Unity in the Community Health Fair

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Answers

August 25; 7:30 PM

WNPR

Surgical Advances and Care

Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA

[Learn More >>](#)

great addition to our team. Her work has garnered praise not only from her faculty but from colleagues and visiting speakers as well."

Dr. Gore commented, "Jennifer multitasks with aplomb and a smile. She gets unsolicited rave reviews from outside collaborators, vendors, and patients who interact with her. She's a great public gateway for Yale!"

Recent Publications

Special Issue on Single-Cell Multi-Omics for Immuno-Oncology and Cancer Systems Biology.

Wei W, Fan R.

Proteomics. 2019 Aug 14:e1900235.

[Read More >>](#)

Red blood cell alloimmunization is associated with lower expression of FcγR1 on monocyte subsets in patients with sickle cell disease.

Balbuena-Merle R, Curtis SA, Devine L, Gibb DR, Karafin MS, Luckey CJ, Tormey CA, Siddon AJ, Roberts JD, Hendrickson JE.

Transfusion. 2019 Jul 29.

[Read More >>](#)

Preoperative biopsy in parotid malignancies: Variation in use and impact on surgical margins.

Benchetrit L, Torabi SJ, Morse E, Mehra S, Rahmati R, Osborn HA, Judson BL.

Laryngoscope. 2019 Aug 14.

[Read More >>](#)

Association of Timing of Adjuvant Therapy With Survival in Patients With Resected Stage I to II Pancreatic Cancer.

Ma SJ, Oladeru OT, Miccio JA, Iovoli AJ, Hermann GM, Singh AK.

JAMA Netw Open. 2019 Aug 2;2(8):e199126.

[Read More >>](#)

Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table

August 29; 9:00 AM

Immanuel Baptist Missionary Church

APNH Half-Day Health Conference

[Learn More >>](#)

Farewell Party Honoring Dr. Joann Sweasy

August 27; 4:00 PM

Beaumont Room

[Learn More >>](#)

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar

August 29; 2:30 PM

Orchard Medical Center, 107-109

[Learn More >>](#)

Submissions

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Communications

Quantitative assessment of PD-L1 as an analyte in immunohistochemistry diagnostic assays using a standardized cell line tissue microarray.

Martinez-Morilla S, McGuire J, Gaule P, Moore L, Acs B, Cougot D, Gown AM, Yaziji H, Wang WL, Cartun RW, Hornick JL, Sholl LM, Qiu J, Mino-Kenudson M, Yi ES, Beasley MB, Merrick DT, Ambaye AB, Zhang ZJ, Walker J, Rimm DL.

Lab Invest. 2019 Aug 13.

[Read More >>](#)

Integrative Analysis of Cancer Omics Data for Prognosis Modeling.

Wang S, Wu M, Ma S.
Genes (Basel). 2019 Aug 9;10(8).

[Read More >>](#)

Utilization, duration, and outcomes of neoadjuvant endocrine therapy in the United States.

Pariser AC, Sedghi T, Soulos PR, Killelea B, Gross CP, Moughalian SS.

Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2019 Aug 10.

[Read More >>](#)

From clonal hematopoiesis to myeloid leukemia and what happens in between: Will improved understanding lead to new therapeutic and preventive opportunities?

Bewersdorf JP, Ardasheva A, Podoltsev NA, Singh A, Biancon G, Halene S, Zeidan AM.

Blood Rev. 2019 Jul 4:100587.

[Read More >>](#)

Hospital Variation in spending for Lung Cancer Resection in Medicare Beneficiaries.

Jean RA, Bongiovanni T, Soulos PR, Chiu AS, Herrin J, Kim N, Xu X, Kim AW, Gross CP.

Ann Thorac Surg. 2019 Aug 7.

[Read More >>](#)

Structure elucidation of colibactin and its DNA cross-links.

Xue M, Kim CS, Healy AR, Wernke KM, Wang Z, Frischling MC, Shine EE, Wang W, Herzon SB, Crawford JM.

Science. 2019 Aug 8.

[Read More >>](#)

Standard Tangential Radiation Fields Do Not Provide Incidental Coverage to the Internal Mammary Nodes.

Loganadane G, Kassick M, Kann BH, Young MR, Knowlton CA, Evans SB, Higgins SA, Belkacemi Y, Potenziani M, Saltmarsh N, Wilson LD, Moran MS.

Pract Radiat Oncol. 2019 Aug 5.

[Read More >>](#)

Neuregulin Signaling is a Mechanism of Therapeutic Resistance in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma.

Baro M, Lopez Sambrooks C, Burtness BA, Lemmon MA, Contessa JN.

Mol Cancer Ther. 2019 Aug 6.

[Read More >>](#)

Underutilization of guideline-recommended supportive care among older adults with multiple myeloma in the United States.

Giri S, Zhu W, Wang R, Zeidan A, Podoltsev N, Gore SD, Neparidze N, Ma X, Gross CP, Davidoff AJ, Huntington SF.

Cancer. 2019 Aug 5.

[Read More >>](#)

Longitudinal cognitive assessment in patients with primary CNS lymphoma treated with induction chemotherapy followed by reduced-dose whole-brain radiotherapy or autologous stem cell transplantation.

Correa DD, Braun E, Kryza-Lacombe M, Ho KW, Reiner AS, Panageas KS, Yahalom J, Sauter CS, Abrey LE, DeAngelis LM, Omuro A.

J Neurooncol. 2019 Aug 3.

[Read More >>](#)

Ribosomopathies: Old Concepts, New Controversies.

Farley-Barnes KI, Ogawa LM, Baserga SJ.

Trends Genet. 2019 Jul 31.

[Read More >>](#)

The effect of modifiable risk factors on breast cancer aggressiveness among black and white women.

Killelea BK, Gallagher EJ, Feldman SM, Port E, King T, Boolbol SK, Franco R, Fei K, Le Roith D, Bickell NA.

Am J Surg. 2019 Jul 18.

[Read More >>](#)

Regional Differences in Palliative Care Utilization Among Geriatric Colorectal Cancer Patients Needing Emergent Surgery.

Heller DR, Jean RA, Chiu AS, Feder SI, Kurbatov V, Cha C, Khan SA.

J Gastrointest Surg. 2019 Jan;23(1):153-162.

[Read More >>](#)

Practice Patterns and Guideline Non-Adherence in Surgical Management of Appendiceal Carcinoid Tumors.

Heller DR, Jean RA, Luo J, Kurbatov V, Grisotti G, Jacobs D, Chiu AS, Zhang Y, Khan SA.

J Am Coll Surg. 2019 Jun;228(6):839-851.

[Read More >>](#)

APC mutational patterns in gastric adenocarcinoma are enriched for missense variants with associated decreased survival.

Rubinstein JC, Khan SA, Christison-Lagay ER, Cha C.

Genes Chromosomes Cancer. 2019 Jul 28.

[Read More >>](#)

Comparison on Clinicopathological Features, Treatments and Prognosis between Proximal Gastric Cancer and Distal Gastric Cancer: A National Cancer Data Base Analysis.

Wang X, Liu F, Li Y, Tang S, Zhang Y, Chen Y, Khan SA.

J Cancer. 2019 Jun 2;10(14):3145-3153.

[Read More >>](#)

Funding Opportunities

Enhancing Academic-Community-Patient Partnerships in Metastatic Breast Cancer Care

National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) is pleased to announce that it is collaborating with Pfizer Global Medical Grants (Pfizer) to offer a new grant opportunity for improving care for patients with metastatic breast cancer (MBC). The intent of this RFP is to encourage investigators at NCCN Member Institutions to submit proposals describing concepts for developing best practices and collaborative oncology care models between academic centers and referring community providers. The overarching goal is to leverage the expertise and resources of NCCN-designated cancer centers to improve quality and outcomes across the continuum of care for all MBC patients.

Application Deadline: August 28, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

Cancer Prevention Clinical Trials Network (CP-CTNet): CP-CTNet Sites (UG1)

Through this FOA, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) proposes and will support the Cancer Prevention Clinical Trials Network (CP-CTNet).

Application Deadline: August 29, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

Novel Technology Tools to Facilitate Research Using Next Generation Patient-derived Cancer Models (U01)

Through this FOA, the NCI will support the development of technology tools that will facilitate, accelerate, and/or enhance research using advanced human-derived next generation cancer models, such as organoids, conditionally reprogrammed cells, and others.

Application Deadline: August 30, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program

This FOA encourages applications for the Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program for the purpose of supporting the research activities during the early stage careers of independent clinical researchers. The program offers the opportunity for a unique bridge between the NIH intramural and extramural research communities and contains two phases. In the first phase, Lasker scholars will receive appointments for up to 5-7 years as tenure-track investigators within the NIH Intramural Research Program with independent research budgets. In the second phase, successful scholars will receive up to 3 years of NIH support for their research at an extramural research facility; or, the scholar can be considered to remain as an investigator within the intramural program.

Application Deadline: August 30, 2019, by 5:00 PM

[Learn More >>](#)

Cancer Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment Technologies for Low-Resource Settings (R43/R44)

This FOA encourages Small Business Innovation Research grant applications from small business concerns proposing commercially-directed research for the development of cancer prevention, diagnosis, or treatment technologies to improve cancer outcomes in low- and middle-income countries, and low-resource settings in the US.

Application Deadline: September 5, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

Gilead Sciences Research Scholars Program in

Hematology/Oncology

This program supports innovative scientific research that will advance knowledge in the field of Hematology/Oncology and provide support for research career development. The awards provide financial support to 3 junior faculty researchers in Canada or the United States for a 2- year period.

Application Deadline: September 6, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

National Cancer Institute Youth Enjoy Science Research Education Program (R25)

The over-arching goal of this NCI R25 program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral and clinical research workforce.

Application Deadline: September 25, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

Susan G. Komen Career Catalyst Research Grant

The topic area for the FY20 Career Catalyst Research Award is Redefining Metastatic Breast Cancer through Liquid Biopsy. The goal of this focus area is to support outstanding research seeking to use liquid biopsy techniques to improve treatment, detection, and understanding of metastatic breast cancer which will lead to a reduction in breast cancer deaths by 2026. Komen requests Letters of Intent for research projects that address one of the following focus areas:

- Refining treatment of metastatic breast cancer
- Early detection of metastatic breast cancer

Applications that fit the focus areas as detailed in the LOI Announcement and include studies that address metastatic breast cancer

disparities, or leverage data science to better understand and treat metastatic breast cancer are highly encouraged. The award provides funding up to \$450,000 (direct and indirect costs combined) over 3 years.

Application Deadline: September 25, 2019

[Learn More >>](#)

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.

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.

LOI Deadline: October 2, 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 >>](#)