

December 4, 2020

Announcements

Dr. Stephanie Halene Appointed Chief of Hematology

Following an extensive national search, I am delighted to announce the appointment of Stephanie Halene, MD, PhD, as Chief of Hematology at Yale Cancer Center, Smilow Cancer Hospital, and the Yale School of Medicine Department of Internal Medicine. Please join me in congratulating Stephanie on her new leadership position, and thanking her for her work and dedication as Interim Chief.



Stephanie has served with distinction as Interim Chief, leading the section through tremendous growth, research development, and clinical challenges with a strong commitment to the success of the section's faculty, trainees, providers, and staff. Stephanie has steered the section through the challenging times of uncertainty and change throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and she has consistently prioritized the needs of our patients and our staff.

Beyond these attributes, Stephanie is a highly accomplished physician-scientist whose work is having a meaningful impact on our understanding of hematologic malignancies. As Chief of Hematology, Stephanie will oversee the DeLuca Center for Innovation in Hematology Research to aid in the translation of Yale Cancer Center laboratory discoveries to our clinics, establish a hematology biobank, and nurture the development of young investigators in hematology research through career development awards and mentorship. The DeLuca Center will propel hematology research at Yale over the next decade.

Stephanie joined our faculty in 2006 after completing her residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Hematology here at Yale New

Haven Hospital and Yale Cancer Center. She received her medical

from the desk of

Charles S. Fuchs, MD, MPH

Director, Yale Cancer Center
and Physician-in-Chief
Smilow Cancer Hospital



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

News Center

**Yale Cancer Center Study Shows Regional
Variation in Genomic Testing for Men with
Prostate Cancer**



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**Newly Identified Gene Could Slow Down Tumor
Repair in Breast Cancer Brain Metastasis**

degree and doctorate degree from Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen in Tübingen, Germany. In 2015, she was presented the Sir William Osler Young Investigator Award. Locally, Stephanie has served on the Board of Directors for Music Haven, a non-profit organization providing free music lessons to New Haven Public School students, since 2014.

Dr. Justin Persico Named Medical Director of Trumbull and Fairfield Care Centers

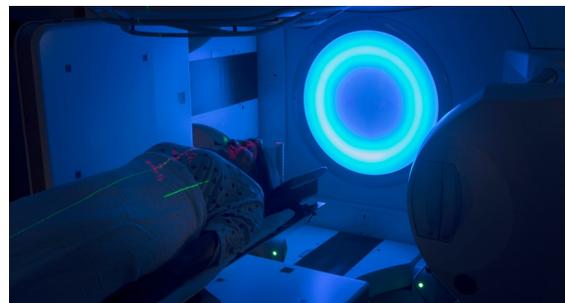
I am happy to announce that Justin Persico, MD, has been appointed the Medical Director for our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers in Trumbull and Fairfield. As the current chair of the Smilow Care Center Quality, Safety, and Clinical Practice Council, he will bring leadership skills and knowledge of our Network quality initiatives, as well his clinical expertise and dedication to patient care and research to this position. We thank Harold Tara, Jr., MD, for his past service as Medical Director and future leadership of the Smilow Bridgeport Service Line.



Luminary Awards

Congratulations to the 55 individuals and teams who were recognized on Monday, November 16 during our annual **Luminary Awards celebration** for their excellence in Community Service, Leadership, Optimization, Patient Experience, and Research. Their hard work, diligence, and perseverance reminds us all that it's not the bricks and mortar that make our hospital great, but the people who work here who make the difference each and every day for our patients. 2020 will long be remembered as our finest hour, and we thank you for all that you have done, and all that you will continue to do! As our champions, we are proud of this year's Luminary Award winners:

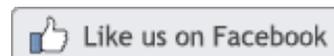
- **Community Service:** Karen Coombe, Sue Faraone, Volunteer Musician Coordinators
- **Leadership:** Kerin Adelson, Nancy Beaulieu, D'Ana Brooks, Michelle Cone, Kylie Kuck, Bethany Larkin, Sarah Lombardi, Christina Matousek, Man-Yee Merl, Renee Muse, Paula Pike, Ina Pike, Danielle Pike, Christina Wiess, James Yu, Ambulatory Nursing Leadership New Haven
- **Optimization:** Suzanne Evans, Barbara Holahan, Christina Solano, Outpatient Palliative Care Team
- **Patient Experience:** Taryn Baldwin, Gloriamary Calhoun, Jennifer Cohen, Kelly Derosier, Vanna Dest, Laura Donnelly, Ana Guedes, Annie Jha, Gulden Menderes, Elizabeth Prsic, Celestino Rivera, Halley Robinson, Rebecca Rode, Vanessa Salino, Stephanie Ward, Margret Barnes, Gisela Boxleitner,



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Join Smilow Cancer Hospital on Facebook



Help support Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center by donating to our Matching Gift Challenge! Any gift you make between now and December 31st to the Closer to Free Fund will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$25,000, by **All American Waste**.



[Read More](#)

Dr. Jill Lacy, Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), discussed the latest advances in the treatment of gastrointestinal cancers on Yale Cancer Answers. Download our podcast from iTunes and listen weekly to learn the latest in cancer treatment and care from Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center experts.



Andrea Couto, Janine Franklin, Maria Tintone, Ebonie Washington, Smilow Operations, Smilow Torrington, Smilow North Haven, NP8 Infusion Team, Clinical Trials Office and Clinical Research Support Laboratory, Palliative Care APP Team

- **Research:** Antonella Bacchiocchi, Kwasi Boateng, Talia Gallagher, Barbara Johnson

Yale Cancer Center Research at National Meetings

December is a busy month for our Hematology and Breast Cancer teams. Beginning tomorrow, our Hematology Program will participate in the 62nd American Society of Hematology (ASH) Annual Meeting with presentations on clinical and research advances for the treatment of hematologic malignancies. In addition, our Breast Cancer team will participate in the annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS) starting on Tuesday, December 8. Please review the presentations from Yale scheduled to be presented at [ASH](#) and [SABCS](#) and support your colleagues during their online presentations.

Town Hall and Patient and Family Forum

Please schedule time to join the leadership of Smilow Cancer Hospital on [Monday, December 7 at 5pm](#) to hear updates on the planning for our providers, staff, and patients during the latest COVID surge. We will also welcome LeeAnn Miller, MS, PharmD, Vice President and Chief Pharmacy Officer for Yale New Haven Health, to present on the vaccine and plans for distribution.

In addition, we invite our patients and families to join us for a [Forum on Tuesday, December 8 at 6:30pm](#) to hear updates from a panel of Smilow Cancer Hospital physicians and nurses, and ask questions. Please share this information with your patients, and join us if you are available.

Holiday Party

Please join us for our annual Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 9 from 5-6pm. While we cannot gather in person this year, we want to take the opportunity to appreciate each and every one of you and celebrate the holiday season, including musical performances from Yale a cappella group Pitches & Tones and Yale School of Music pianist Clara Gerdes. The party will be live via [Zoom](#) and everyone is welcome to join us, families included!

Cancer Center Retreat

Please [register](#) for the 2020 YCC Annual Retreat on December 10 focused on *Team Science*. Presentations will highlight collaborative, interdisciplinary research, as well as challenges and benefits of diverse scientific teams. Leaders from across the Cancer Center will discuss their experiences developing teams (from SPOREs to working groups) and share exciting science that is emerging from these efforts.

We are excited to be joined by [L. Michelle Bennett, PhD](#), NIH Director of the Center for Research Strategy, and [Jennifer Grandis, MD](#), Professor of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and Associate Vice Chancellor for Clinical and Translational Research from



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Janine Hoffmann, senior administrative assistant in the department of surgery's section of surgical oncology, is a key member of our Breast Surgery team. Janine's efforts support all seven breast surgeons in the section, and she ensures that each faculty member has the resources they need to help their days run smoothly. Janine is thoughtful, and anticipates issues and other concerns in advance using her experience navigating both Yale School of Medicine and Yale New Haven Hospital. "Janine truly embodies the qualities you would want in a highly-reliable team member, a colleague, and a friend -- loyal, passionate, diligent, and empathetic. We are privileged to have her supporting our faculty, and our patients," said Alfonsina Frascilla, division administrator.

In addition to her central role supporting our breast surgeons, Janine also serves as the CME coordinator for the Breast Program, the coordinator for the Interdisciplinary Breast Fellowship Program, and the coordinator for the Breast Cancer Leadership Committee for the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC). "In reality, Janine is the heart of our breast program. The number of people who rely on her for support and guidance is endless, as is her love and dedication to our program," said Mehra Golshan, MD, MBA, Director of the Breast Program. Thank you, Janine, for being a #SmilowStar!

Smilow Stars



the University of California, San Francisco.

Yale ENGAGE Series

In conjunction with Yale Cancer Center, the Yale Corporate Strategy and Engagement office presents YALE ENGAGE, an interactive webinar series promoting impactful collaboration between academic experts and industry executives. The next session, scheduled for December 9 at 1pm, is focused on Defining Mechanisms and Biomarkers of Sensitivity & Resistance To Anti-Cancer Treatments.

[Learn More](#)

Closer to Free Fund Matching Gift Challenge

A Matching Gift Challenge for friends of Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center has been established by All American Waste, a local, family-owned business that is invested in the cancer care and research that we do. Giving back to the community has always been a core value of All American Waste's ownership, and today they are excited to offer this matching challenge for others in the community to help give patients a better chance to beat their cancer. Any gift you make between now and December 31st to the Closer to Free Fund will be matched dollar-for-dollar – up to \$25,000 – by All American Waste.

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Notables

Dr. Roy Herbst, Chief of Medical Oncology, is proud to announce the promotion of **Andrea Silber, MD**, to **Professor of Clinical Medicine (Medical Oncology)**. "Andrea's dedication to her patients, treatment advances in breast cancer, and access to clinical research opportunities for all of our patients is tremendous. Her work reaching out to the diverse New Haven community to provide access to clinical trials is a model for us all. Andrea's promotion to Professor of Clinical Medicine is well deserved, and I look forward to continuing to work together to advance her clinical and research practice."

President Peter Salovey and Linda K. Lorimer, former vice president for global and strategic initiatives at Yale and former Yale trustee, presented 51 Yale staff members with the **Linda K. Lorimer Award for Distinguished Service** in a virtual ceremony on Wednesday, November 18. The award, now in its seventh year, recognizes staff members who exemplify Yale's spirit of leadership, innovation, collaboration, and excellence. Congratulations to **Trisha Burrello, Diane Eannotti, Laura Leary, Neta Shanwetter Levit, Talia Mitchell, Kira Pavlik, and Sara Raboin** from the **Yale Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office** who were awarded a Linda K. Lorimer Award for Distinguished Service this year in recognition of the work they did to rapidly transition Smilow cancer patients, researchers, and staff to remote care and work while upholding a high level of productivity, engagement, and quality.

Nina Kadan-Lottick, MD, MSPH, Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Hematology/Oncology) was appointed to the **Executive Committee of the NCI-funded Children's Oncology Group**, which is responsible



Thank you,
Janine Hoffmann,
Senior Administrative
Assistant, Department
of Surgical Oncology
(Breast Surgery),
at Smilow Cancer Hospital!

YaleNewHavenHealth
Smilow Cancer Hospital

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

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Today, and every day, we are grateful for the amazing physicians, nurses, and caregivers at Smilow Cancer Hospital and our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers who work tirelessly to provide the very best in cancer care and treatment to our patients and their families. Thank you to our team members for your dedication and care.

Happy Thanksgiving to our patients, their families, and our entire Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center community!

Today, we are thankful for...



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We are pleased to announce that Avanti Verma, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Otolaryngology), has joined the Head & Neck Cancers Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital. Dr. Verma's clinical focus is on the surgical treatment of patients with both benign and cancerous tumors of the head and neck, including thyroid and salivary diseases. Her clinical practice ranges from advanced reconstruction to minimally invasive techniques such as robotic surgery to prioritize the aesthetic and functional outcome of her patients.

Dr. Verma completed her undergraduate studies here at Yale University. She went on to obtain her medical degree and complete her residency training

for strategic planning, resource allocation, performance monitoring, review of the Operations Office and the Statistics and Data Management Center.

Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Chief of Medical Oncology, presented at the **Stand Up To Cancer Innovation Summit on Lung Cancer Health Equity** yesterday highlighting *Challenges in Health Equity in Innovative Clinical Trials*.

Dr. Prajwal Boddu, a third year fellow in our Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program, was awarded a pilot grant from the **National Institutes of Health (NIH) NIDDK Cooperative Centers of Excellence in Hematology** to investigate mechanisms by which novel protein isoforms of Mitoferrin 1 regulate iron delivery during erythroid maturation. This one year, \$75,000 project will be conducted under mentorship of Dr. Manoj Pillai (Hematology) with additional guidance from Drs. Karla Neugebauer (MB&B) and John Hwa (Cardiology).

Sanjay Aneja, MD, Assistant Professor of Therapeutic Radiology, has been named an **Associate Editor** for the *Journal of Clinical Oncology – Clinical Cancer Informatics*.

Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, will present during the **Best of ASCO Africa 2020** on Lung Cancer next Friday, December 11 to share the latest advances in screening and treatment with colleagues throughout Africa in the virtual forum.

Employee Profile: Terry Naser

Terry Naser, Environmental Services Associate, hits the ground running when he arrives for his shift on NP 8 and assesses what needs to be done in the busy clinic area. He serves as the point person for the nurses and does what he can to help make their jobs easier. Once patients have left for the day, he gets to work cleaning the apheresis unit. An apheresis instrument removes blood from a patient or donor's body and separates it into its various components, and the instruments and collection procedures are highly regulated by accrediting agencies.



When the NP8 apheresis unit was moved to NP 7 during the height of the pandemic, Terry worked to find ways to adjust to the new space, and to make sure patient safety was still at the forefront. "I love what I do and feel so lucky to be able to help in the care of patients," said Terry. "It was a difficult two months when we had to move our unit, but

in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at New York University. During her residency, she developed an interest in caring for head and neck cancer patients and was inducted into the esteemed Gold Humanism Honor Society. She continued her training at Emory University where she completed a fellowship in Head and Neck Surgical Oncology with Microvascular Reconstruction. Welcome Dr. Verma!

Welcome to Smilow Cancer Hospital



Dr. Avanti Verma, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Otolaryngology), joins the Head & Neck Cancers Program

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"I've had people in their 70's who quit after 50 years of smoking tell me they wish they did it decades earlier because of how great they feel."— Margaret Antenucci, nurse practitioner for the Smilow Cancer Hospital Tobacco Treatment Program. Call 203-688-1378 for more information.



[Watch Now](#)

Beauty and Power
Great Wave off Kanagawa
Steady Mount Fuji

Our Integrative Medicine team is reaching out to all creative members of our Smilow Cancer Hospital family to collect Japanese Haiku poems for a new inspirational collection to share. Take a moment to reflect on something important to you and write a #SmilowHaiku to share!

...I was up for the challenge and was able to find ways to make it work.”

Jeanne Hendrickson, MD, Medical Director of the Apheresis Service, commented, “Terry is incredibly deserving of this recognition. His work ethic and dedication to improving the cleanliness, organization, and safety of our apheresis unit, day in and day out, amaze me. His attention to detail allows us to focus on patient care and to comply with regulatory requirements. On behalf of the apheresis patients, providers, nurses, trainees, and staff, I’d like to convey a huge THANK YOU to Terry!”

#OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS to Lucilina Gilkes!

Yale Cancer Center & Smilow Cancer Hospital’s #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Lucilina Gilkes, Senior Administrative Assistant II, for going above-and-beyond in pulling together an amazing virtual program during our recent Heme/Onc fellowship interview season. This was a mammoth operation this year for many reasons, as we interviewed almost twice as many applicants as in previous years, we made special arrangements for applicants to meet with their chosen faculty, and we also arranged for candidates to attend some of our core teaching conferences—on top of all this, everything was done via ZOOM. Luci organized the entire operation, orchestrating each of our 12 interview days, scheduling each and every applicant interview, and facilitating all of the interviews on the days of our recruitment, which necessitated changing ZOOM sessions every 15-30 minutes for 15 candidates and a dozen or more faculty and fellows. What could have been an absolute logistical nightmare was pulled off seamlessly by Luci’s incomparable organization. She poured so many more hours into this operation than anyone would ever have asked her to do, and she did an absolutely incredible job. To this day, the compliments from applicants and faculty haven’t stopped! We are expecting to have a sensational recruitment this year, all because of her. Thank you, Luci!



#OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS to Brian Bengyak!

Yale Cancer Center & Smilow Cancer Hospital’s #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Brian Bengyak, Clinical Research



How to Haiku:

1. The entire poem consists of just three lines, totaling 17 syllables
2. The first line of every haiku has 5 syllables
3. The second line has 7 syllables
4. The third line has 5 syllables. (Typically this line of the poem makes an observation)
5. Punctuation and capitalization are up to the poet, and need not follow rules
6. A haiku poem usually does not rhyme

Haiku A very short form of Japanese poetry



The Great Wave off Kanagawa, Katsushika Hokusai

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“When I put people on #clinicaltrials, I tell them, ‘You’re getting tomorrow’s treatment today.’ What worries me is that without access, there are still people getting yesterday’s treatments,” Dr. Andrea Silber presenting at @ACSCANCT

Dr. Andrea Silber @ACSCANCT “The time has come for #clinicaltrials to reflect real world patients and practice. We need to take some of the adaptations taught to us during #COVID and modify clinical trials to help all of our patients gain access.”

Join us today at Noon for @YaleCancer virtual Grand Rounds. @BarbaraBurtness presents “Synthetic Lethal Therapy of TP53-mutated #HeadandNeckCancer” & Dr. Elizabeth Claus presents “Molecular Signatures of #Glioma Causation.”

A new editorial in @DiseasePrimers including @BarbaraBurtness discusses an innovative approach to de-escalation for HPV associated #headandneckcancer.

Assistant 2, for being the definition of a team player throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. He recently went above-and beyond when two of his teammates became ill and he became the main covering Clinical Research Coordinator for the team. His ability to step in and help with little notice allowed the team to continue treating patients on clinical trials without issue, delay, or error. Without Brian, the team and the patients supported could have experienced a significant negative impact. We are grateful to Brian for his teamwork, support, and dedication over the last several weeks. Thank you, Brian!



*Yale Cancer Center & Smilow Cancer Hospital's #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 the team. If you are interested in submitting a nomination, please complete this [nomination form](#) and return it to the Director's Office c/o **Anna Raso**.*

Recent Publications

Khan, S. A., Burke, M., Zhu, F., Yang, D. H., Dubyk, C., Mehra, R., Lango, M. J., Ridge, J. A., Sher, D. J., & Burtness, B. (2020). **Survivin expression and impact on head and neck cancer outcomes.**

Oral oncology, 112, 105049. Advance online publication.

[Read More](#)

Kunst, N., Wang, S. Y., Hood, A., Mougalian, S. S., DiGiovanna, M. P., Adelson, K., & Puztai, L. (2020).

Cost-Effectiveness of Neoadjuvant-Adjuvant Treatment Strategies for Women With ERBB2 (HER2)-Positive Breast Cancer.

JAMA network open, 3(11), e2027074.

[Read More](#)

Tolchin, B., Latham, S. R., Bruce, L., Ferrante, L. E., Kraschel, K., Jubanyik, K., Hull, S. C., Herbst, J. L., Kapo, J., Moritz, E. D., Hughes, J., Siegel, M. D., & Mercurio, M. R. (2020).

Developing a Triage Protocol for the COVID-19 Pandemic: Allocating Scarce Medical Resources in a Public Health Emergency.

The Journal of clinical ethics, 31(4), 303–317.

[Read More](#)

Johnson, D. E., Burtness, B., Leemans, C. R., Lui, V., Bauman, J. E., & Grandis, J. R. (2020).

Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma.

Nature reviews. Disease primers, 6(1), 92.

[Read More](#)

 Today on Yale Cancer Answers, Dr. Jill Lacy @lacyjil5 will discuss the latest advances in the treatment of #gastrointestinalcancers. Tune in @WNPR at 7:30pm or download our podcast @iTunes and listen to @SmilowCancer and @YaleCancer experts weekly.

 We are grateful for our amazing providers who work tirelessly to provide the very best in cancer care and treatment to our patients and their families. Happy Thanksgiving to our patients, their families, & our entire @SmilowCancer @YaleCancer community!

 Research out today led by @MLeapman in @JAMAOnC shows substantial regional variation in the use of #genetesting for men with #prostatecancer.

 Just published research in @JAMANetworkOpen led by Dr. Lajos Puztai & @NataliaKunst shows cost-effectiveness of neoadjuvant-adjuvant treatment strategies for women with HER2-positive #breastcancer.

 .@PamelaKunzMD, Director of the Gastrointestinal Cancers Program @SmilowCancer, will discuss advances in the treatment of neuroendocrine tumors (NETs) on Yale Cancer Answers today at 7:30pm @wnpr. Tune in or subscribe and download the weekly podcast from @iTunes.

 Watch .@DrRoyHerbstYale on a panel discussion exploring the challenges impacting patients with #LungCancer and new advances in treatment and care.

 New research led by .@BarbaraBurtness in the journal Oral Oncology discusses survivin expression and its impact on #headandneckcancer outcomes in patients.

 Should You be Screened for Lung Cancer? Join us tomorrow at 6:30pm for a webinar on the topic and to ask a panel of experts your questions.

 Starting at 1pm today at virtual #NCCRT2020 conference Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith @ERIC_Yale discusses Systemic Racism & Impact on Health Care & #ColorectalCancer and Dr. Xavier Llor talks

Emancipator, K., Huang, L., Aurora-Garg, D., Bal, T., Cohen, E., Harrington, K., Soulières, D., Le Tourneau, C., Licitra, L., Burtness, B., & Swaby, R. (2020).

Comparing programmed death ligand 1 scores for predicting pembrolizumab efficacy in head and neck cancer.

Modern pathology : an official journal of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology, Inc, 10.1038/s41379-020-00710-9. Advance online publication.

[Read More](#)

Ananth, P., Revette, A., Reed-Weston, A., Das, P., & Wolfe, J. (2020).

Parent and patient perceptions of medical marijuana in the childhood cancer context.

Pediatric blood & cancer, e28830. Advance online publication.

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Krystal, J. H., Alvarado, J., Ball, S. A., Fortunati, F. G., Hu, M., Ivy, M. E., Kapo, J., Olson, K. D., Rohrbaugh, R. M., Sinha, R., Tebes, J. K., Vender, R. J., Yonkers, K. A., & Mayes, L. C. (2020).

Mobilizing an institutional supportive response for healthcare workers and other staff in the context of COVID-19: The Yale experience.

General hospital psychiatry, 68, 12–18. Advance online publication.

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Kunst, N., Wang, S. Y., Hood, A., Mougalian, S. S., DiGiovanna, M. P., Adelson, K., & Puzstai, L. (2020).

Cost-Effectiveness of Neoadjuvant-Adjuvant Treatment Strategies for Women With ERBB2 (HER2)-Positive Breast Cancer.

JAMA network open, 3(11), e2027074.

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Tam, A. L., Papadimitrakopoulou, V., Wistuba, I. I., Lee, J. J., Ensor, J. E., Kim, E. S., Kalhor, N., Blumenschein, G. R., Jr, Tsao, A. S., Heymach, J. V., Herbst, R. S., Hicks, M. E., Hong, W. K., & Gupta, S. (2020).

The value of interventional radiology in clinical trial teams: experience from the BATTLE lung cancer trials.

Clinical radiology, S0009-9260(20)30439-6. Advance online publication.

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Durand, M. A., Friedewald, S. M., Plecha, D. M., Copit, D. S., Barke, L. D., Rose, S. L., Hayes, M. K., Greer, L. N., Dabbous, F. M., & Conant, E. F. (2020).

False-Negative Rates of Breast Cancer Screening with and without Digital Breast Tomosynthesis.

Radiology, 202858. Advance online publication.

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Suzuki, Y., Kuzina, E., An, S. J., Tome, F., Mohanty, J., Li, W., Lee, S., Liu, Y., Lax, I., & Schlessinger, J. (2020).

FGF23 contains two distinct high-affinity binding sites enabling bivalent interactions with α -Klotho.

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States

#ColorectalCancer and Dr. Xavier Llor talks Screening Updates & Innovations.



Join us at noon for virtual @YaleCancer Grand Rounds. @ASCO Vice-President

Doug H.M. Pyle will present "ASCO and Global #Oncology".

Calendar

Yale Cancer Answers

December 6; 7:30 PM

NPR

Robotic Surgery for Colon and Rectal Cancers

George A. Yavorek, MD

[Learn More](#)

Smilow Town Hall

December 7; 5:00 PM

An Update from Smilow Cancer Hospital

Kim Slusser, MSN, RN and Kevin Billingsley, MD, MBA, FACS

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Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

December 8; 12:00 PM

Type I Interferon Transcriptional Network Regulates Expression of Co-inhibitory Receptors on Human T cells and co-Stimulating Innate and Adaptive Immunity to Treat Melanoma

Harriet Kluger, MD and David Haffler, MD, FANA

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We Are Here for You: A Smilow Patient and Family Forum

December 8; 6:30 PM

Kevin Billingsley, MD, MBA, FACS | Christina Gomez, MD | Kelsey Martin, MD | James B. Yu, MD, MHS | Javier Alvarado, LCSW | Lori Pickens, MHA | Kim Slusser, MSN, RN

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Yale Engage Cancer Series: Presented by Corporate Strategy and Engagement Office, OCR, and Yale Cancer Center

December 9; 1:00 PM

Defining Mechanisms and Biomarkers of Sensitivity & Resistance To Anti-Cancer Treatments

Megan C. King, PhD | Mark A. Lemmon, PhD, FRS | Katerina Politi, PhD | Kurt Schalper, MD, PhD | Qin Yan, PhD | Susan Galbraith

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Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 202018554. Advance online publication.

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Shallis, R. M., Pollyea, D. A., & Zeidan, A. M. (2020).

Complete, yet partial: the benefits of complete response with partial haematological recovery as an endpoint in acute myeloid leukaemia clinical trials.

The Lancet. Haematology, 7(12), 853–856.

[Read More](#)

Bewersdorf, J. P., Carraway, H., & Prebet, T. (2020).

Emerging treatment options for patients with high-risk myelodysplastic syndrome.

Therapeutic advances in hematology, 11, 2040620720955006.

[Read More](#)

Wu, C., Ba, Q., Lu, D., Li, W., Salovska, B., Hou, P., Mueller, T., Rosenberger, G., Gao, E., Di, Y., Zhou, H., Fornasiero, E. F., & Liu, Y. (2020).

Global and Site-Specific Effect of Phosphorylation on Protein Turnover.

Developmental cell, S1534-5807(20)30875-3. Advance online publication.

[Read More](#)

Leapman, M. S., Wang, R., Ma, S., Gross, C. P., & Ma, X. (2020).

Regional Adoption of Commercial Gene Expression Testing for Prostate Cancer.

JAMA oncology, 10.1001/jamaoncol.2020.6086. Advance online publication.

[Read More](#)

Tempany-Afdhal, C., Padhani, A., Barentsz, J., & Weinreb, J. (2020).

Perspectives and Concerns about PI-RADS and Variability.

Radiology, 202340. Advance online publication.

[Read More](#)

Yumeen, S., Mirza, F. N., Lewis, J. M., & Girardi, M. (2020).

Research Techniques Made Simple: Preclinical Development of Combination Antitumor Targeted Therapies in Dermatology.

The Journal of investigative dermatology, 140(12), 2319–2325.e1.

[Read More](#)

Damast, S., Felder, S., Fields, E., & Singer, L. (2020).

Feasibility of deploying a U.S. simulation-based gynecological brachytherapy educational workshop to an international setting.

Brachytherapy, S1538-4721(20)30216-6. Advance online publication.

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Funding and Award Opportunities

Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Transition Award (R00)

The Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program supports research

Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital

2020 Virtual Holiday Celebration

December 9; 5:00 PM

[Learn More](#)

Bereavement Seminar

December 9; 5:30 PM

Hope for the Holidays

[Learn More](#)

Yale Cancer Center Annual Retreat

December 10; 10:00 AM

Team Science

Charles Fuchs, MD, MPH | Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD | Nancy J. Brown, MD | Stephanie O'Malley, PhD | Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin, PhD | Mandar Muzumdar, MD | Qin Yan, PhD | Robert Garofalo, PhD | Gary Hunnicutt, PhD | Edward Kaftan, PhD | Barbara Burtness, MD | Antonio Omuro, MD | Murat Gunel, MD, FACS, FAHA, FAANS | L. Michelle Bennet, PhD | Jennifer Grandis, PhD

[Learn More](#)

Pathology Grand Rounds

December 10; 12:30 PM

Epstein-Barr Social Distancing: Epigenetic Silencing of Viral Immunogens

Benjamin E. Gewurz, MD, PhD

[Learn More](#)

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Seminar

December 10; 2:30 PM

[Learn More](#)

Neurology Clinical Grand Rounds

December 11; 12:00 PM

[Learn More](#)

Yale Cancer Center Seminar

December 11; 5:00 PM

Linking Data Science with Cancer Biology: How Computational Genomics Can Guide the

Development of Diagnostics and Complex Therapies

Felix Dietlein, MD, PhD

[Learn More](#)

Yale Cancer Answers

December 13; 7:30 PM

NPR

Immunotherapeutic Strategies for Melanoma

Sarah Weiss, MD

[Learn More](#)

Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program

December 14; 11:00 AM

activities during the early stage careers of independent clinical researchers. This FOA offers the opportunity for current Lasker awardees (Si2) to apply for the transition phase (R00) of the program.

Application Deadline: December 6, 2020

[Read More](#)

AACR Research Funding Opportunities

The AACR is proud to announce the following current funding opportunities:

- **AACR-Bristol Myers Squibb Midcareer Female Investigator Grant - Application Deadline:** December 17, 2020
- **The AACR-QuadW Foundation Fellowship for Clinical/Translational Sarcoma Research - Application Deadline:** December 18, 2020
- **Breast Cancer Research Foundation-AACR Career Development Awards to Promote Diversity and Inclusion - Application Deadline:** December 18, 2020
- **AACR Gertrude B. Elion Cancer Research Award - Application Deadline:** January 5, 2021
- **AACR Immuno-oncology Research Fellowships - Application Deadline:** January 6, 2021
- **AACR-Ocular Melanoma Foundation Career Development Award, in honor of Robert C. Allen, MD - Application Deadline:** January 7, 2021
- **AACR Lymphoma Research Fellowships - Application Deadline:** January 8, 2021
- **AACR-Novocure Career Development Awards for Tumor Treating Fields Research - Application Deadline:** January 12, 2021
- **AACR-Novocure Tumor Treating Fields Research Grants - Application Deadline:** January 12, 2021
- **AACR-Exelixis Renal Cell Carcinoma Research Fellowship - Application Deadline:** January 14, 2021

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Mary Kay Foundation Cancer Research Grant

The Mary Kay Foundation is a non-profit public foundation, which focuses on funding research for innovative grants for translational research of cancers affecting women (predominantly ovarian, uterine, breast, endometrial or cervical cancer among others). \$100,000 award.

Internal Application Deadline: December 14, 2020

[Read More](#)

Investigation of the Transmission of Kaposi Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus (KSHV) (R01) □

Through this FOA, the NCI intends to advance our understanding of: the modes of transmission of Kaposi sarcoma-associated herpesvirus (KSHV), also called human herpesvirus-8 (HHV-8); the biology of the initial steps of infection; and the risk factors for infection.

Application Deadline: December 15, 2020

[Read More](#)

Alex's Lemonade Stand RUNX1 Early Career Investigator Grant

The RUNX1 Early Career Investigator grant is a 3-year award designed to fund research in strategies leading to the development of therapies to prevent the transition from pre-leukemia to leukemia for patients with RUNX1-FPD.

Application Deadline: December 16, 2020

[Read More](#)

December 14; 11:00 AM

Targeting Oncometabolite-Producing Cancers with DNA Repair Inhibitors

Amrita Sule

[Learn More](#)

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

December 15; 12:00 PM

Polycythemia Vera (PV): Epidemiology, Prognosis and Real-world Outcomes and Overcoming hypomethylating agent failure in acute myeloid leukemias and myelodysplastic syndromes

Nikolai Podoltsev, MD, PhD and Thomas Prebet, MD, PhD

[Learn More](#)

Endocrine Workshop

December 16; 4:00 PM

My Approach to Thyroid Cancer 2

Elizabeth H. Holt, MD, PhD

[Learn More](#)

Program for Biomedical Ethics

December 16; 5:00 PM

Marcella Nunez-Smith, MD, MHS

[Learn More](#)

Yale General Internal Medicine Clinical Conference Meeting

December 17; 7:30 AM

Christina Gomez, MD

[Learn More](#)

Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds

December 17; 9:00 AM

Clinical Updates in Radiation Oncology: Gynecologic Malignancies

Shari Damast, MD

[Learn More](#)

Cancer Prevention and Control Research Seminar

December 17; 12:00 PM

Multisite M-Health Physical Activity Intervention in Adolescent and Young Adult Survivors of Childhood Cancer

Nina Kadan-Lottick, MD, MSPH

[Learn More](#)

Yale Cancer Center Seminar

December 17; 4:00 PM

Discovering the Next Generation of Cancer Therapeutics via Systematic Pharmacogenomics

Steven Corsello, MD

[Learn More](#)

[Read More](#)

Basser Center For BRCA External Research Grant Program - Basser Innovation Award

Research grant applications in basic science, prevention, early detection, or targeted therapeutics and relevant to the study of BRCA1/2 will be considered.

Letter of Intent Due: December 21, 2020

[Read More](#)

Yale Head and Neck SPORE (YHN-SPORE) Career Enhancement Program

The CEP of the Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer has been established to educate the next generation of investigators committed to translational research in head and neck cancer. The CEP will provide support to promising junior investigators and/or establish investigators who have not previously conducted head and neck cancer focused research.

Application Deadline: December 28, 2020

[Read More](#)

Yale Head and Neck SPORE (YHN-SPORE) Developmental Research Program

The Yale Head and Neck SPORE's DRP provides seed money to investigators to support studies with a strong translational component that have the potential to evolve into, or be incorporated as, a full YHN-SPORE project or to generate preliminary data or evidence of collaboration for other new NIH grant applications.

Application Deadline: December 28, 2020

[Read More](#)

2021 K12 Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) Scholar Awards

We are pleased to solicit applications for the Yale Cancer Center (YCC) K12 Calabresi Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) Scholar Award for junior faculty to enhance research skills beyond the training provided during graduate and postgraduate training.

Application Deadline: January 4, 2021

IOTP Award Instructions

IOTP Award Application

NCI Research Specialist Awards

- Core-Based Award: **Application Deadline** - January 4, 2021
- This FOA invites grant applications in any area of NCI-funded cancer research. This FOA is specifically for core/shared resource/central scientific support scientists.

Laboratory-Based Award: **Application Deadline** - January 4, 2021

This FOA invites grant applications in any area of NCI-funded cancer research. This FOA is specifically for laboratory-based scientists.

[Read More](#)

Collaborative Approaches to Engineer Biology for Cancer Applications (U01)

This FOA invites applications to develop and apply innovative synthetic biology approaches to address challenges across the spectrum of cancer research.

Application Deadline: January 15, 2021

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Seminar

December 17; 2:30 PM

[Learn More](#)

Submissions

Please submit your recent publications, awards, and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Communications

Application Deadline: January 15, 2021

Read More

NCCN Request for Proposals (RFP): Phase I/II Clinical and Correlative/Preclinical Trials of Decitabine and Cedazuridine for Hematologic Malignancies and Solid Tumors

This RFP, made possible by a research grant from Taiho Oncology, Inc., is to support NCCN Member Institution faculty for the performance of clinical and correlative studies of decitabine and cedazuridine (DEC-C) in the treatment of hematologic malignancies and solid tumors.

Application Deadline: January 19, 2021

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Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modeling Network (CISNET) Incubator Program for New Cancer Sites (U01)

The overarching goal of this FOA is to expand comparative simulation modeling approaches developed by CISNET to new cancer organ sites beyond the sites which have been previously funded (breast, colorectal, prostate, lung, esophageal, and cervical) under CISNET.

Application Deadline: January 20, 2021

Read More

Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs) in Human Cancers for Years 2021, 2022, and 2023 (P50)

Through this FOA, the NCI and National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) invite applications for P50 Research Center Grants for Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE)

Application Deadline: January 25, 2021

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Cancer Research Education Grants Program

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of the NCI R25 program is to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nation's biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs.

- Curriculum or Methods Development (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) **Read More**
- Courses for Skills Development (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) **Read More**
- Research Experiences (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) **Read More**

Due Dates: January 25, 2021

New Cohorts for Environmental Exposures and Cancer Risk (CEECR) (UG3/UH3/U24)

Through this FOA, the NCI and NIEHS invite applications to support innovative scientific research in new prospective cohorts that addresses knowledge gaps in cancer etiology and carcinogenesis processes with a focus on environmental exposures.

Application Deadline: January 29, 2021

Read More

DeLuca Awards

The DeLuca Center for Innovation in Hematology Research was

formed thanks to a generous donation by the Fredrick A. DeLuca Foundation. Each year a total of 5 Pilot Awards and 1 Career Development Award will be awarded to investigators who are participating in hematologic based research.

Pilot Award: intended to support collaborative hematology based research.

Application Deadline: February 1, 2021

Read More

Career Development Award: intended to provide early career clinical or laboratory-based investigators in Hematology, the opportunity to focus on research to advance patient care, therapies, and outcomes.

Letter of Intent Due: March 1, 2021

Read More

Utilizing In Vitro Functional Genomics Advances for Gene-Environment (G x E) Discovery and Validation (R01)

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications that fully integrate recent innovative advances of in vitro functional genomics tools/technologies and approaches for environmental health and toxicology research. The overall goal of this NIEHS led initiative is to generate proof-of-principle studies incorporating these new in vitro approaches, together with well characterized exposures, to further our understanding of gene-environment (G x E) interactions in complex human disorders.

Application Deadline: February 1, 2021

Read More

Clinical Translation of Activated Optical Fluorescence Methods and Technologies for Sensitive Cancer Detection in Vivo (R01)

The purpose of this FOA is to bring a highly sensitive imaging technology capable of detecting very small (1-3 mm³) tumors *in vivo* to clinical utility.

Application Deadline: February 10, 2021

Read More

Assay Validation of High Quality Markers for Clinical Studies in Cancer (UH2/UH3)

Through these FOAs, the NCI invites applications to support the validation of molecular/cellular/imaging markers and assays for cancer detection, diagnosis, prognosis, monitoring, and prediction of response or resistance to treatment, as well as markers for cancer prevention and control.

Application Deadline: February 18, 2021

Read More

Innovative Molecular and Cellular Analysis Technologies for Basic and Clinical Cancer Research (R21)

This FOA solicits grant applications proposing exploratory research projects focused on the early-stage development of highly innovative technologies offering novel molecular or cellular analysis capabilities for basic or clinical cancer research.

Application Deadline: February 22, 2021

Read More

Advanced Development and Validation of Emerging Molecular and Cellular Analysis Technologies for Basic and Clinical Cancer Research (R33)

This FOA invites grant applications proposing exploratory research projects focused on further development and validation of emerging technologies offering novel capabilities for targeting, probing, or assessing molecular and cellular features of cancer biology for basic or clinical cancer research.

Application Deadline: February 22, 2021

Read More

Innovative Biospecimen Science Technologies for Basic and Clinical Cancer Research (R21)

This FOA solicits grant applications proposing exploratory research projects focused on the early-stage development of highly innovative technologies that improve the quality of the samples used for cancer research or clinical care.

Application Deadline: February 22, 2021

Read More

Advanced Development and Validation of Emerging Biospecimen Science Technologies for Basic and Clinical Cancer Research (R33)

This FOA solicits grant applications proposing exploratory research projects focused on further development and validation of emerging technologies that improve the quality of the samples used for cancer research or clinical care.

Application Deadline: February 22, 2021

Read More

NCI Pathway to Independence Award for Outstanding Early Stage Postdoctoral Researchers (K99/R00)

The purpose of the NCI Pathway to Independence Award for Outstanding Early Stage Postdoctoral Fellows (K99/R00) program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented, NCI-supported, independent investigators. The objective of this award is to facilitate a timely transition of these fellows from their mentored, postdoctoral research positions to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions.

Application Deadline: February 26, 2021

Read More

NCI Pathway to Independence Award for Outstanding Early Stage Postdoctoral Researchers (K99/R00 - Independent Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)

The purpose of the NCI Pathway to Independence Award for Outstanding Early Stage Postdoctoral Researchers (K99/R00) program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented, NCI-supported, independent investigators. The program will provide independent NCI research support during this transition to help awardees to launch competitive, independent research careers.

Application Deadline: February 26, 2021

Read More

NCI Pathway to Independence Award for Outstanding Early Stage Postdoctoral Researchers (K99/R00)

The purpose of the NCI Pathway to Independence Award for Outstanding Early Stage Postdoctoral Researchers (K99/R00) program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented, NCI-supported, independent investigators. The objective of this award is to facilitate a timely transition of these fellows from their mentored, postdoctoral research positions to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions.

Application Deadline: February 26, 2021

Read More

JH Milestone Fund 2021

This FOA supports early stage investigators and innovative research and education in thrombosis, thrombolysis and hemostasis. Proposals may focus on any aspect of thrombosis, thrombolysis and hemostasis – including biochemistry, genetics, clinical evaluation and testing, quality improvement and treatment. Please contact **Richard Carr** for more information.

Letter of Intent Due: March 1, 2021

Social and Behavioral Intervention Research to Address Modifiable Risk Factors for Cancer in Rural Populations (R01)

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications to develop, adapt, and test individual-, community- or multilevel interventions to address modifiable risk factors for cancer in rural populations.

Application Deadline: March 15, 2021

Read More

Cancer Grand Challenges Program

The NCI and Cancer Research UK (CRUK) are partnering to fund the Cancer Grand Challenges program. Cancer Grand Challenges will fund novel ideas by multidisciplinary research teams from around the world that offer the potential to advance bold cancer research and improve outcomes for people affected by cancer. These nine challenges are aimed at solving complex problems in cancer research, which, if solved, could have a transformative impact towards progress.

Application Deadline: April 22, 2021

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