DirectConnect Inside Yale Cancer Center

October 1, 2021

Announcements

Dr. Jennifer Kilkus Joins Psycho-**Oncology Program**

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Jennifer Kilkus, PhD, ABPP, as an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry (Psychological Medicine). Dr. Kilkus received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Kentucky, completed a post-doctoral fellowship in psychooncology from WellStar Health System, and obtained board certification in clinical health psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology. Her work has received both regional and national recognition; Dr. Kilkus received the WellStar Health System Quality Award in 2018 for efforts made to develop an integrated



behavioral health oncology program for one of the largest health systems in Georgia. In 2019, she received the Early Career Achievement Award from the American Psychological Association.

At Smilow, Dr. Kilkus provides evidence-based behavioral medicine and psychotherapy interventions to patients with cancer. Her research interests reflect her commitment to improve quality of life in cancer survivorship, with current studies investigating treatment options for persistent and late side effects of cancer treatment. Dr. Kilkus has a special interest in training and provides mentoring and supervision to interns in the Behavioral Medicine service through Yale's APA-accredited clinical psychology internship program. She serves on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for the Yale New Haven Psychiatric Hospital.

Assistant Medical Directors in the Clinical Trials Office Named

As clinical trial opportunities expand across the Smilow Cancer Hospital Network and more clinical trials open, we recognize the need for an expanded leadership team in our Clinical Trials Office (CTO) to support our

clinical research staff and mission. As such, we are pleased to announce

from the desk of Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA, FACS Interim Director, Yale Cancer Center Interim Physician-in-Chief, Smilow Cancer Hospital

Yale NewHaven Health

Smilow Cancer Hospital



News Center

Smilow Shares Greenwich: Prostate Cancer: Screening, Treatment, and **Advances**



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appointments to the positions of Assistant Medical Director of the Clinical Trials Office and Assistant Medical Director of the Clinical Trials Office for the Care Center Network. These two positions report directly to the Medical Director of the Clinical Trials Office/Acting Associate Cancer Center Director for Clinical Sciences, Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, and join current Assistant Medical Director for the Clinical Research Support Laboratory in the CTO, Stephanie Halene, MD, PhD.

Stacey Stein, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), has been appointed **Assistant Medical Director of the** Clinical Trials Office and will be responsible for the quality and medical direction of the clinical trials unit at Smilow Cancer Hospital. Dr. Stein joined Yale Cancer Center in 2010 and has led numerous clinical trials for cancer over the last decade. She has served on our Protocol Review Committee since 2013 and has been vice-chair since 2019. Her incredible passion for clinical research and expanding the prospects for our patients will translate to continued improvements in clinical trial opportunities through our CTO.



Neal Fischbach, MD, Assistant **Professor of Clinical Medicine** (Medical Oncology), has been appointed to Assistant Medical **Director of the Clinical Trials** Office for the Care Center Network. Dr. Fischbach has been serving as **Assistant Director for Clinical** Research for the Care Center Network since 2019 and we look forward to continuing to work with him to grow our clinical trial portfolio throughout our 15 care centers in Connecticut and Westerly, RI. His preliminary work to create a clinical trial matching program for patients in our Care Centers suggests that a significant impact will be achieved with a systemwide roll out, both in



overall accrual and in enrolling underrepresented minorities. Dr. Fischbach will work to achieve that growth with collaboration from each of our providers in our Care Centers.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Stein and Dr. Fischbach to their new positions. We are confident that the addition of two new Assistant Medical Directors will help provide continuity and leadership at all our clinical locations. Your collaboration with them on accrual to our clinical trial portfolio,

Dr. Victor Chang Shares Why He Works in Cancer Research



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Cancer Without Chemotherapy: 'A Totally Different World'



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Yale Cancer Center Study Demonstrates
Efficacy of Risk Calculator in Treating
Geriatric Patients with Cancer



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Yale Cancer Center Study Shows Benefits of a Next Day Access Program for

Patients with Cancer

on-site planning and execution of clinical trials, and implementation of Yale Cancer Center's clinical trial goals is critical to our success in the coming months.

Notables

Elizabeth Claus, PhD, MD, Professor of Biostatistics and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, has been awarded a U2C grant from the National Cancer Institute to support her proposal, "OPTimIzing engageMent in discovery of molecular evolution of low grade glioma (OPTIMUM)."

Michael Cecchini, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Developmental Therapeutics Research Program, has been awarded a **K08 Career Development Award** to support his research and development of two investigator-initiated early phase clinical trials for patients with colorectal cancer under the mentorship of Patricia LoRusso, DO.

Adam Roshka has been promoted to Director of Finance and Administration for both the Yale Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office (CTO) and the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation (YCCI). Leveraging the Integrated Business Office model for functional and resource alignment across multiple departments, Adam will serve as Lead Administrator for both the YCCI and YCC CTO organizations and will maintain oversight of the day-to-day financial operations while having increased responsibility to drive key initiatives. Adam will continue to manage the business office staff as well as the staff and faculty affairs team for these two areas.

Adam joined Yale 16 years ago as an Accountant in Radiology and Biomedical Imaging. In October 2008, he joined Yale Cancer Center and in September 2020, Adam officially began his dual role supporting both the CTO and the YCCI as an Associate Director of Finance and Administration. In his new role, Adam will provide support to Tesheia Johnson, Chief Operating Officer for YCCI, and Margaret Gilshannon, Deputy Director for Finance & Administration for YCC, and will also have accountability to Brian Rebeschi, Executive Director, Finance & Administration.

Amber Selvidge has joined the Clinical Trials Office (CTO) as Senior Assistant Director of the CTO and brings 18 years of oncology clinical research experience to her new role at Yale. Amber has held prior leadership positions at Baylor College of Medicine, US Oncology Network, and Stephenson Cancer Center at Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center. Her management experience, along with expertise in IRB and regulatory requirements, protocol development, and clinical trial management, including remote management, will be an asset to the CTO.

Diane Wall joins the CTO as **Regional Assistant Director of the Care Centers** from Fetal Medicine at Yale New Haven Hospital where she has spent the last nine years focused on developing and expanding the Fetal

Care Center. In her new role with the CTO, Diane will oversee our clinical trial operations in the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers throughout Connecticut.



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Dr. Maryam Lustberg Of Yale Cancer Center On The 5 Things Everyone Needs To Know About Cancer



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Tackling Disparities in Oncology Requires Action, as well as Research



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Rachel Greenup, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Surgery (Surgical Oncology) and Chief of Breast Surgery, will present Surgical Oncology Grand Rounds at The Ohio State University The James Cancer Hospital Solove Research Institute on Wednesday, October 6 on, "The Price We Pay: The Financial Costs and Burden of Cancer Care."

Please register to join us for our Yale Breast Program Retreat on October 29, 2021, from 9am to 2pm via Zoom. The goal of the retreat is to continue to unite the outstanding Breast Research and Breast Health Care communities at Yale and our healthcare partners across the state to make us the world premier program for understanding, treatment, and care of those afflicted with breast diseases.

On Saturday, October 23rd, as part of the 2021 Susan G. Komen Connecticut Virtual More Than Pink Walk, The Breast Center at Smilow Cancer Hospital team, organized by Adriana Kahn, MD, will walk to raise money for breast cancer patients everywhere. With support from breast faculty including Maryam Lustberg, MD, MPH, and Lajos Pusztai, MD, DPhil, the team hopes to raise \$2,500 to fund research to discover more effective treatments, as well as vital patient support to help connect people with things like breast cancer screenings, diagnostics, treatment assistance and so much more. Learn more, register to join, and support the cause!

Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce our call for nominations for our annual awards in the areas of excellence in research, teaching, mentorship, and clinical care. Each award winner will be announced at the Yale Cancer Center Conclave in January (date TBD). The nomination deadline for all awards (unless otherwise noted) is November 1, 2021.

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 the 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 2020 to October 2021) 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 outstanding 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 outstanding candidates and send a brief nomination letter (onepage maximum) via email to Anna Raso.

Yale Cancer Center Award for Mentorship Excellence: This award will be given to the faculty member who best exemplifies excellence in mentorship by providing ongoing feedback and support, serving as a role model to their mentee(s), inspiring them in their passion for cancer care or for their specific field of study, providing opportunities and resources for mentee(s) to advance their careers, and encouraging their mentee(s) to grow, strive for excellence.

Yale New Haven Health Check: Breast Cancer Signs, Treatment, and Prevention



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Smilow Shares Greenwich: Lymphoma



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Did you know that thyroid cancer is the fifth most common cancer in women and is the most common endocrine cancer? We close out September celebrating Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month, and with diagnosis rates tripling in the last thirty years, it's important to be aware of possible symptoms of thyroid disease: a lump in the front of the neck, changes to your voice including increasing hoarseness, difficulty swallowing, and pain in

the throat or neck. Early detection is key, including maintaining or establishing regular physicals which include a neck exam.

and achieve their full potential. Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please nominate outstanding candidates and send a brief nomination letter (one-page maximum) via email to **Anna Raso**.

Yale Cancer Center Award for Teaching Excellence: This award will be given to the faculty member who best exemplifies excellence in teaching by ensuring their trainee(s) acquire the skills they need to develop as outstanding health practitioners, scientists, and/or researchers, providing ongoing feedback, inspiring passion for cancer care or for their specific field of study, explaining difficult concepts in innovative and creative ways, and stimulating excitement, debate, and critical and independent thinking.

Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please nominate outstanding candidates and send a brief nomination letter (one-page maximum) via email to Anna Raso.

Yale Cancer Center Award for Teaching Excellence: This award will be given to the faculty member who best exemplifies excellence in teaching by ensuring their trainee(s) acquire the skills they need to develop as outstanding health practitioners, scientists, and/or researchers, providing ongoing feedback, inspiring passion for cancer care or for their specific field of study, explaining difficult concepts in innovative and creative ways, and stimulating excitement, debate, and critical and independent thinking.

Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please nominate outstanding candidates 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.

Ruth McCorkle Oncology Advanced Practice Provider Award: This annual award from Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital recognizes the contributions of our Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant colleagues who contribute so much to oncology patient care. Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for this award. Nominations are due for the Ruth McCorkle Award to J.C. Carley by November 30, 2021. Link to Nomination Form

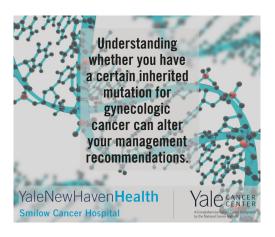
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Endocrine Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital is one of the largest multidisciplinary endocrine programs in the country, providing patients with evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of both cancerous and benign tumors of the thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal glands, pituitary gland, hypothalamus, and pancreas. We have the only endocrine surgery program in the state of Connecticut and our team is devoted to providing compassionate, state-of-the-art care.



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Understanding whether you have a certain inherited mutation for gynecologic cancer can alter your management recommendations, such as developing a screening plan that may help to detect cancer at an early stage, or risk-reduction surgery to reduce the risk of developing cancer. During Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month, the Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program focuses on hereditary causes of uterine, ovarian, and fallopian tube cancer.



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Cecelia Calhoun, MD, MSPH, MBA, Assistant Professor of Medicine





October is National Disability Awareness Month. The awareness month was declared in 1988 by the United States Congress to raise awareness of the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. People with disabilities constitute one of the nation's largest minority groups, and the only group that ANY OF US can become a member of at any time. At Yale, The DiversAbility at Yale (DAY) Affinity Group creates an environment that is open and inclusive for all individuals impacted by disability, through engagement, education, and advocacy. The group also focuses on ways to support the recruitment, retention, and advancement of staff and faculty with disabilities. **Resources are available**.

Yale Black Postdoctoral Association

The Yale Black Postdoctoral Association (YBPA) was formed to enhance the visibility of Black postdocs—to one another, and to the Yale School of Medicine community at large—and provide much needed support to address the unique needs of postdoctoral fellows/associates from groups traditionally underrepresented in science.

Yale Cancer Center is very well represented in YBPA. Two of YBPA's founding members are postdocs Aileen Fernandez, PhD, (David Rimm's lab), and Chrystal Starbird, PhD, (Kathryn Ferguson's lab). Also on the Executive Board is Krishna C. Mudumbi, PhD, (Mark Lemmon's lab). The group hosts speakers and workshops, provides peer mentorship, partners with community groups, and promotes wellness events. As part of this effort, they host the tri-annual Emerging Scholars Symposium where speakers are invited to give a research seminar and meet with various groups at Yale, including graduate students, postdocs, and faculty. The next Emerging Scholar Seminar will be held virtually on October 21, at Noon.

If you are interested in joining or learning more, please visit https://medicine.yale.edu/diversity/studentstraineespostdocs/ybpa/

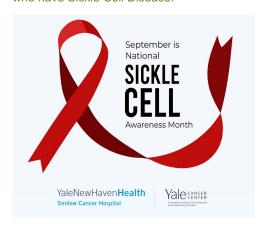
Employee Profile: Javier Perez Irizarry

For over nine years Javier Perez

Irizarry, MPH, CTR, Data Quality Coordinator for the Cancer Registry at Yale New Haven Hospital, has ensured that all cancer data collected among the Certified Tumor Registrars within

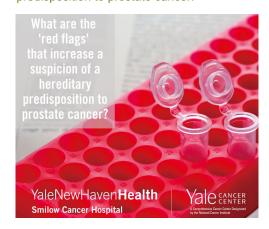


young adults with Sickle Cell Disease as part of the Smilow Cancer Hospital Pediatric and Adult Hematology Programs and Director of the Adolescent-Young Adult Sickle Cell Program. Dr. Calhoun was a recent guest on Yale Cancer Answers, a weekly podcast featuring specialists from Yale Cancer Center, where she discussed care and treatment of adolescents and young adults who have Sickle Cell Disease.



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Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer diagnosis in men and most men are diagnosed in their mid-60s. Black men are more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer and have a more aggressive type. During Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, the Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program shares possible 'red flags' that increases suspicion of a hereditary predisposition to prostate cancer.



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Please join us for a 5 session, weekly virtual group that is focused on teaching skills to patients managing anxiety, depression, adjustment, and physical side effects of treatment. It is free of charge and open to

the five Cancer Registries across the Yale New Haven Health System are accurate and complete. This includes many different types of data, including patient demographics, tumor characteristics, treatment, and outcomes. In addition, he serves as a core resource for clinical, epidemiological, and laboratory investigations in cancer.

Javier oversees and performs

quality control functions for Cancer Registries at all Smilow locations. He is responsible for the oversight of special quality projects as required by Smilow leadership and for ensuring compliance with regulatory and accreditation requirements, including but not limited to, the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (ACoS CoC), the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) and the Connecticut Tumor Registry (CTR).

"As the oldest Cancer Registry in the United States, we take great pride in the work that we do here and the potential impact for patients," said Javier. "The data collected provide highly critical information for planning, monitoring, and measuring cancer-related services, research, and education. I work closely with physicians and other healthcare professionals, administrators, researchers, and healthcare planners to provide support for cancer program development, ensure compliance with reporting standards, and serve as a valuable resource for cancer information."

Naralys Sinanis, MPH, CHES, Oncology Care Model Program Manager commented, "Javier is exceptionally detailed-oriented, conscientious, and committed to exceeding expectations. He is collaborative and always strives to produce the highest quality work." Dr. Kerin Adelson added, "Javier is a dedicated perfectionist who rises to every challenge and exceeds all expectations."

Recent Publications

Knobf, MT, Moura M, Major-Campos, M, Musa SR, Silber A. **Bridging the Care Continuum: A Pilot Program for Underserved Women with Breast Cancer**JONS, August 2021, Vol. 21, No. 8.

Read More

Iwase T, Blenman KRM, Li X, Reisenbichler E, Seitz R, Hout D, Nielsen TJ, Schweitzer BL, Bailey DB, Shen Y, Zhang X, Pusztai L, Ueno NT.

A Novel Immunomodulatory 27-Gene Signature to Predict Response to Neoadjuvant Immunochemotherapy for Primary Triple-Negative Breast Cancer.

Cancers. 2021; 13(19):4839.

Read More

cancer survivors at any stage of their treatment or post-treatment. The group will begin on Monday, October 11 at 2:30pm.



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Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center at Greenwich Nurses celebrate magnet redesignation! The recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the nation's highest honor of nursing excellence, honors professional nursing practices, career development, and safety.



Watch Now

Tune in to Yale Cancer Answers to hear from endocrine surgeon Dr. Grace S. Lee speaking in honor of Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month. Listen on Connecticut Public Radio or download our podcast from iTunes.



Ferrucci LM.

Effect of the Lifestyle, Exercise, and Nutrition (LEAN) Study on Long-Term Weight Loss Maintenance in Women with Breast Cancer.

Nutrients, 13(9):3265.

Read More

Berger ER, Golshan M.

Surgical Management of Hereditary Breast Cancer.

Genes, 12(9):1371.

Read More

Jansen JA, Omuro A, Lucca LE.

T cell Dysfunction in Glioblastoma: a Barrier and an Opportunity for the **Development of Successful Immunotherapies.**

Current Opinion in Neurology, Online ahead of print.

Read More

LoRusso P, Hamilton E, Ma C, Vidula N, Bagley RG, Troy S, Annett M, Yu Z, Conlan MG, Weise A.

A First-in-Human Phase 1 Study of a Novel Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator (SARM), RAD140, in ER+/HER2- Metastatic Breast

Clinical Breast Cancer, Online ahead of print.

Read More

Kaidar-Person O, Dahn HM, Nichol AM, Boersma LJ, de Ruysscher D, Meattini I, Pignol JP, Aristei C, Belkacemi Y, Benjamin D, Bese N, Coles CE, Franco P, Ho AY, Hol S, Jagsi R, Kirby AM, Marrazzo L, Marta GN, Moran MS, Nissen HD, Strnad V, Zissiadis YE, Poortmans PM, Offersen BV.

A Delphi Study and International Consensus Recommendations: The Use of Bolus in the Setting of Postmastectomy Radiation Therapy for **Early Breast Cancer.**

Radiotherapy & Oncology, Online ahead of print.

Read More

Gibney B, Sade RM, Detterbeck F, Wood DE.

Should Lung Cancer Screening Be Suspended During a Pandemic? The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, Online ahead of print.

Read More

Gupta A, Nshuti L, Grewal US, Sedhom R, Check DK, Parsons HM, Blaes AH, Virnig BA, Lustberg MB, Subbiah IM, Nipp RD, Dy SM, Dusetzina SB. Financial Burden of Drugs Prescribed for Cancer-Associated Symptoms.

JCO Oncology Practice, Online ahead of print.

Read More

Guo Y, Czeyda-Pommersheim F, Miccio JA, Mahalingam S, Cecchini M, Pahade J.

Can a Simplified CT Response Criteria for Vascular Involvement in Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma after Neoadjuvant Therapy Predict Survival in Patients Who Achieved Subsequent R0 Resection?

Abdominal Radiology, Online ahead of print.

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September is Blood Cancer Awareness Month, and leukemia, lymphoma (Hodgkin lymphoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma) and myeloma are the three most common types of blood cancers. Data has shown that the survival rate of patients with blood cancer has improved dramatically over the years, and while there is no current method to screen a person for blood cancer in its earliest stages, it is usually detected after a person notices their symptoms and visits their doctor. Symptoms can include persistent fatigue, loss of appetite, fever/chills, bone/joint pain, headaches, shortness of breath, frequent infections, itchy skin, and swollen lymph nodes.

The Hematology Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital offers the most comprehensive services for the diagnosis and treatment of blood cancers in the region. Physicians within the program are organized into a multispecialty team that discusses the treatment plans for patients until consensus is reached on the best management course for each individual patient. Our researchers continue to work on current promising therapies and are able to offer treatment for all phases and stages of lymphoma, leukemia, and myeloma.

Yale New Haven Hospital is a member of the National Marrow Donor Program and is accredited as a major transplant center by the FACT transplant accreditation committee. In an effort to destroy abnormal cancerous cells in leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma, stem cell transplants are often used. We are pleased to shared that Yale is the only center in Connecticut offering allogeneic transplant, a transplant using compatible donor stem cells.



Lopez de Rodas M, Schalper KA.

Tumour Antigen-induced T cell Exhaustion - the Archenemy of Immune-hot Malignancies.

Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology, Online ahead of print.

Read More

Leapman MS, Stone K, Wadia R, Park LS, Gibert CL, Goetz MB, Bedimo R, Rodriguez-Barradas M, Shebl F, Justice AC, Brown ST, Crothers K, Sigel KM.

Prostate Cancer Screening and Incidence Among Aging Persons Living with HIV.

The Journal of Urology, Online ahead of print.

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Bredbeck BC, Baskin AS, Wang T, Sinco BR, Berlin NL, Shubeck SP, Mott NM, Greenup RA, Nathan H, Hughes TM, Dossett LA.

Incremental Spending Associated with Low-Value Treatments in Older Women with Breast Cancer.

Annals of Surgical Oncology, Online ahead of print.

Read More

Gatsios A, Kim CS, Crawford JM.

Escherichia coli Small Molecule Metabolism at the Host-Microorganism Interface.

Nature Chemical Biology, 17(10):1016-1026.

Read More

Bewersdorf JP, Allen C, Mirza AS, Grimshaw AA, Giri S, Podoltsev NA, Gowda L, Cho C, Tallman MS, Zeidan AM, Stahl M.

Hypomethylating Agents and FLT3 Inhibitors as Maintenance Treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukemia and Myelodysplastic Syndrome Following Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant - a Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.

Transplantation and Cellular Therapy, Online ahead of print.

Read More

Dwyer KE, Wang R, Cozen W, Cartmel B, Wiemels JL, Morimoto LM, Metayer C, Ma X.

Mode of Delivery, Birth Characteristics and Early-Onset Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in a Population-Based Case-Control Study.

Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention, Online ahead of print.

Read More

Pak LM, Purad CC, Nadipally S, Rao MP, Mukherjee S, Hegde SKB, Golshan M.

ASO Visual Abstract: Cancer Awareness and Stigma in Rural Assam India: Baseline Survey of the Detect Early and Save Her/Him (DESH) Program.

Annals of Surgical Oncology, Online ahead of print.

Dow J, Krysztofiak A, Liu Y, Colon-Rios DA, Rogers FA, Glazer PM. **Vulnerability of IDH1 Mutant Cancers to Histone Deacetylase Inhibition via Orthogonal Suppression of DNA Repair.**

Molecular Cancer Research, Online ahead of print.

YaleNewHaven**Health**Smilow Cancer Hospital



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Congratulations to Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, on her appointment to serve on the steering committee of the new American Association for Cancer Research Cancer Prevention Working Group, which is dedicated to supporting cancer prevention research.



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The Wallingford, Connecticut Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 591 spent the summer months fundraising for the Smilow Cancer Hospital Oncology Social Work Fund.

Through individual giving and weekly dance events the VFW members raised over \$8500 for breast and gynecologic cancer patient assistance, and we are so grateful for their efforts!



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Smith CM, Li A, Krishnamurthy N, Lemmon MA.

Phosphatidylserine Binding Directly Regulates TIM-3 Function.

Biochemical Journal, 478(17):3331-3349.

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Funding and Award Opportunities

NCI Basic Research in Disparities, Diversity Training and Research Education Funding

 Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities Program (R01, R21, R03): for cancer researchers interested in investigating the biological/genetic contributors to cancer health disparities.

Application Deadline (R01): October 5, 2021 (R21, R03): October 16, 2021 **Read More**

Cancer Prevention-Interception Targeted Agent Discovery Program (CAP-IT) Centers (U54)

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for Cancer Prevention-Interception Targeted Agent Discovery Program (CAP-IT) Centers (U54). The overall goal of the CAP-IT Program is to establish an agile and effective network infrastructure to undertake collaborative research focusing on precision cancer prevention and interception, with the overarching goal of discovering molecularly or immunologically targeted agents designed to prevent or intercept the oncogenic process in higher-risk populations.

Application Deadline: October 7, 2021

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Cancer Prevention-Interception Targeted Agent Discovery Program (CAP-IT) Data and Resource Coordination Center (CAP-IT DRCC) (U24)

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit Applications for the Cancer Prevention-Interception Targeted Agent Discovery Program (CAP-IT) Data and Resource Coordination Center (CAP-IT DRCC) (U24). The overall goal of this FOA and the companion FOA (U54 CAP-IT Specialized Centers, RFA-CA-21-038) is to establish an agile and effective network infrastructure to undertake collaborative research focusing on precision cancer prevention and interception, with the overarching goal of discovering molecularly or immunologically targeted agents designed to prevent or intercept the oncogenic process in higher-risk populations.

Application Deadline: October 7, 2021

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Program on the Origins of Gastroesophageal Cancers (R01)

This FOA is to request applications for the Program on the Origins of

Gastroesophageal Cancers (R01). This new program will build on recent molecular classifications of gastroesophageal cancers, significant understanding of their cancer genomics, and advances in stem cell research to examine and define how these related cancers initially evolve at the cellular level.

Application Deadline: October 8, 2021

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Coordinating Center for the Program on the Origins of

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September is National Sickle Cell Awareness Month. Sickle cell disease (SCD) is an inherited, non-contagious blood disorder which deforms and hardens many red blood cells into the shape of a sickle or crescent moon. Because of this irregular shape, the cells can cause blockages throughout the body, leading to chronic pain and many serious health conditions. There is currently no cure, and nearly 2,000 infants are born with sickle cell disease annually. Sickle cell disease is common among many ethnicities, especially African Americans, and newborn and adult testing is available to determine if you have SCD.

The Pediatric Sickle Cell Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital offers specialized medical care, helping children with sickle cell disease to lead long, healthy lives. Despite newer supportive care, the average life expectancy has remained approximately 20-30 years less than the general population for men and women with sickle cell disease. Bone marrow transplants have been used for the treatment and cure of a variety of cancers, immune system diseases, and blood diseases for many years. Through The Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital, children with sickle cell disease are treated with bone marrow transplants and benefit from life-altering, improved outcomes. Results of many studies show that transplants from matched-related donors offer about an 85-90% chance of cure.



Gastroesophageal Cancers (U24)

This FOA is to request applications for the Coordinating Center, Program on the Origins of Gastroesophageal Cancers (U24). This new program will build on recent molecular classifications of gastroesophageal cancers, significant understanding of their cancer genomics, and advances in stem cell research to examine and define how these related cancers initially evolve at the cellular level.

Application Deadline: October 8, 2021

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NCI F99/K00 Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award

This award supports outstanding PhD and other Research Doctoral candidates to complete their dissertation research training (F99 phase) and transition in a timely manner to mentored, cancer-focused postdoctoral career development research positions (K00 phase).

Letter of Intent Due: October 10, 2021

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NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K08)

The purpose of this award is to prepare individuals for careers that have a significant impact on the health-related research needs of the nation.

Application Deadline: October 12, 2021

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Career Development Awards to Promote Diversity (K01, K08 and K22)

These funding opportunities are designed to enhance the diversity in the NCI-funded cancer research workforce by supporting eligible individuals from diverse backgrounds, including groups that have been shown to be nationally underrepresented in the biomedical, behavioral, social and clinical sciences.

Application Deadline: October 12, 2021

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NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K22)

The purpose of this award is to assist postdoctoral fellows or individuals in equivalent positions to transition to positions of assistant professor or equivalent and initiate a successful biomedical career as an independent research scientist.

Application Deadline: October 12, 2021

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AACR Anna D. Barker Basic Cancer Research Fellowship

This award supports postdoctoral or clinical research fellows to establish a successful career path in cancer research.

Application Deadline: October 14, 2021

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Lustgarten Foundation-AACR Career Development Award for Pancreatic Cancer Research, in honor of Ruth Bader Ginsburg

This award has been established to honor the life and legacy of Justice Ginsburg, who worked tirelessly to advance gender equality, even while battling pancreatic cancer. The intent of this program is to support the development and diversity of talent working in pancreatic cancer research.

Letter of Intent Due: October 18, 2021

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Smilow Cancer Hospital

A Comprehensive Cencer Center Designated by the National Cencer Institute

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A special thank you to Lindsay's Legacy
Foundation for their support of our patients
through their annual "Be Happy" race series!
Thank you for your amazing work in honor of
Lindsay!



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We are committed to advancing research and treatments forward for #GBM through @theNCl's new Glioblastoma Therapeutics Network with @ranjitbindra and Dr. Antonio Omuro leading the collaboration from Yale.

Join us today at Noon for Yale
Cancer Center virtual Grand
Rounds. Dr. Juan Vasquez @JcvasqV will
present "Targeting Oncometabolite-induced
DNA Repair in Cancer."

.@DrRoyHerbstYale shares encouraging progress in lung cancer w/ @NYTHealth where the 5 year survival rate in advanced lung cancer is now approaching 30% because of advances in targeted therapy over the last decade.

"The knowledge may be seemingly of no immediate consequence, but it will contribute to the collective understanding and lead to breathtaking advances."—Dr. Victor Chang



Join @Annechiangmd and Kerin

Lustgarten Foundation-AACR Career Development Award for Pancreatic Cancer Research, in Honor of John Robert Lewis

This award has been established to honor the life and legacy of Representative Lewis, who worked tirelessly to advance the civil rights of all Americans, even while battling pancreatic cancer. The intent of this program is to support the development and diversity of talent working in pancreatic cancer research.

Letter of Intent Due: October 18, 2021

Read More

AACR-AstraZeneca Career Development Award for Physician-Scientists, in Honor of José Baselga

This award has been established to honor the life and legacy of Dr. José Baselga, who was a scientific leader and supportive mentor to an entire generation of physician-scientists. Dr. Baselga's research focused on novel molecular targeted therapeutics and he played a leading role in the clinical development of multiple cancer drugs.

Letter of Intent Due: October 19, 2021

Read More

CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship to Promote Racial Diversity

CRI invites applications from candidates who identify as Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino/a American, or American Indian or Alaska Native. 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 21, 2021

Read More

Women's Health Research Pilot Project Grants: Studying Women and the Influence of Sex & Gender on Health

WHRY Pilot Project Program funds studies providing new approaches to understanding the health of women, and/or the influence of sex/gender differences on health. Studies that advance our understanding of sex or gender in addressing the coronavirus pandemic will also be reviewed for funding.

Letters of Intent Due: October 21, 2021

Read More

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

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research.

Application Deadline: October 28, 2021

Read More

Youth Enjoy Science (YES) Program (R25)

The NCI YES Program supports educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue

Adelson, MD, October 1-3 for the Oncology Clinical Pathways Congress focused on improving cancer care quality through #clinicalpathways. Claim free registration with the discount code CHIANGVIP.

.@maryam_lustberg shares 5 Things
Everyone Needs To Know About
Cancer @AuthorityMgzine "A cancer
diagnosis does not define us. A cancer
diagnosis is scary & overwhelming. Yet who
we are as individuals is not defined by a
diagnosis.."

.@JennyXiangMD presented findings at #ASCOQLTY21 showing implementation of universal prescreening streamlined research recruitment & associated w/increased clinical research enrollment at a Veterans Admin. (VA) #Cancer Center.

At #ASCOQLTY21,
@AlexanderMbewe8 presented
research results with Dr. Jane Kanowitz
showing a validated risk calculator is a quick
and helpful tool in assessing #chemotherapy
toxicity risk in older #cancer patients.

At #ASCOQLTY21, 9:45am tomorrow, @JennyXiangMD presents new research on the impact of a triggered palliative care referral intervention on healthcare use in patients w/relapsed/refractory acute myeloid leukemia.

Login bright & early
to #ASCOQLTY21 at 7AM
tomorrow. @AlexanderMbewe8 & Dr. Jane
Kanowitz present results from using a
#cancer & aging research group (CARG) tool

to drive treatment decisions in older cancer patients.

New #ASCOQLTY21 research by
Dr. Michaela Dinan shows provider
& patient factors associated w/initiation of
oral anti-cancer agent for advanced
#renalcellcarcinoma, but patient variables
impacted adherence.

further studies or careers in research.

Application Deadline: October 28, 2021

Read More

Debbie's Dream Foundation Career Development Award for Gastric Cancer Research

This award supports junior faculty to conduct gastric cancer research and to establish a successful career path in this field.

Application Deadline: October 28, 2021

Read More

Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry and Re-integration into Health-Related Research Careers

The goal of this program is to provide support for a mentored research training experience for individuals with high potential to re-enter or reintegrate into an active research career, after an interruption for family responsibilities or other qualifying circumstances.

First Available Due Date: November 1, 2021

Read More

Blavatnik Fund for Innovation at Yale

The Blavatnik Fund for Innovation at Yale, made possible by a generous grant from the Blavatnik Family Foundation, supports Yale faculty in the commercialization of applied research and technology in the life sciences. The Fund is expanding its reach beyond therapeutics and medical devices and calling for applicants working in the digital health, healthcare IT and related spaces to submit proposals for funding consideration.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2021

Read More

Radiation Oncology-Biology Integration Network (ROBIN) Centers (U54)

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for U54 Research Centers to form the Radiation Oncology-Biology Integration Network (ROBIN). The cadre of ROBIN Centers created through this FOA will establish an agile and effective national radiation oncology network infrastructure that collectively address critical hypothesis-based translational research knowledge gaps on the biological basis of responses in cancer patients who undergo radiation treatments.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2021

Read More

Acquired Resistance to Therapy Network (ARTNet; U54)

The ARTNet FOA is a new funding opportunity that builds upon the Drug Resistance and Sensitivity Network (DRSN, RFA-CA-17-009) to focus study on the mechanistic basis of acquired resistance to cancer therapies and disease recurrence.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2021

Read More

Coordinating and Data Management Center for Acquired Resistance to Therapy Network (ARTNet; U24)

The overarching goal of the ARTNet is to bridge basic, pre-clinical, and translational research along the tumor-tumor microenvironment continuum to inform new strategies that can be better translated to overcome significant challenges in acquired resistance to cancer therapies. The Coordinating

Calendar

Hematology Research Seminar Series October 1; 12:00 PM

Current and Emerging Therapies in Hemophilia Care Michael Recht, MD, PhD, MBA

Learn More

Lung Cancer Research Foundation:

Virtual Free to Breathe Walk

October 2; 11:00 AM

Learn More

Yale Cancer Answers

October 3; 7:30 PM

NPR

Melanoma and Brain Metastases

Thuy Tran, MD, PhD

Learn More

Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program

October 4; 11:00 AM

The Yale Cancer Center's Radiobiology and Genome Integrity Research Program Joseph N. Contessa, MD, PhD & Megan C. King, PhD

Learn More

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

October 5; 12:00 PM

Stage IV Breast Cancer at Diagnosis: To operate or not: Swinging the Pendulum and WHO for Brain Tumors: Changes to Diagnosis and Classification
Mehra Golshan, MD, MBA & Anita Huttner, MD

Learn More

Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology Seminar (presented as part of the Human

and Translational Immunology Program Seminar Series)

October 5; 4:00 PM

Re-activation of Transposable Elements as a Method to Enhance Anti-Cancer Immune Response

Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD

Learn More

Yale Liver Center Seminar

October 5; 5:00 PM

Genomics and Cancer Biomarkers for HCC:

the administrative, outreach, collaborative, and data management activities of the ARTNet.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2021

Read More

Cancer Research Institute Clinical and Laboratory Integration Program (CLIP) Immunotherapy

CLIP supports pre-clinical and translational research that can be directly applied to optimizing cancer immunotherapy in the clinic. CLIP grants are awarded to qualified scientists exploring clinically relevant questions aimed at improving the effectiveness of cancer immunotherapies.

Letter of Intent Due: November 1, 2021

Read More

Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma (PDAC) Stromal Reprogramming Consortium (PSRC) (U01)

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for U01 Research Projects to form the NCI-led PDAC Stromal Reprogramming Consortium (PSRC). The overarching objective of the PSRC is to develop a comprehensive understanding of PDAC tumor progression, its microenvironment (TME) as a tumor fate determinant and the reciprocal tumor-TME interactions that drive clinical outcomes.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2021

Read More

NCI Research Specialist Awards (Laboratory-based Scientist) Award (R50)

This FOA invites grant applications for the Research Specialist Award (R50) in any area of NCI-funded cancer research. This FOA is specifically for laboratory-based scientists and is designed to encourage the development of stable research career opportunities for exceptional scientists who want to continue to pursue research within the context of an existing NCI-funded basic, translational, clinical, or population science cancer research program, but not serve as independent investigators.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2021

Read More

NCI Research Specialist (Core-based Scientist) Award (R50)

This FOA invites grant applications for the Research Specialist Award (R50) in any area of NCI-funded cancer research. This FOA is specifically for core/shared resource/central scientific support scientists and is designed to encourage the development of stable research career opportunities for exceptional scientists who want to continue to pursue research within the context of an existing NCI-funded basic, translational, clinical, or population science cancer research program, but not serve as independent investigators.

Application Deadline: November 1, 2021

Read More

Melanoma Research Alliance RFPs

The MRA is pleased to announce RFPs for pre-clinical, translational, and early clinical research with the potential to produce unusually high impact, near-term advancements in melanoma prevention, detection, diagnosis, staging, and treatment.

Potential Applications in Surveillance, Diagnosis, Patient Outcomes, and Personalized Therapy Lewis R. Roberts, MB, ChB, PhD Learn More

Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital: Present and Future (and some preliminary thoughts about evolution)

October 6; 11:30 AM

Eric P. Winer, MD '83

Learn More

Smilow Shares

October 6; 7:00 PM

Breast Cancer Awareness: New Treatment Advances & Innovations Mehra Golshan, MD, MBA | Maryam

Lustberg, MD, MPH | Bohdan Pomahac, MD | Tristen Park, MD

Learn More

Pathology Grand Rounds

October 7; 12:30 PM

Intergenerational Epigenetic Inheritance of Cancer Susceptibility Bluma Lesch, MD, PhD

Learn More

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Seminar October 7; 2:30 PM

Learn More

Center for GI Cancers Weekly Seminar

October 7; 4:15 PM

Cancer Prevention and Control Program: Opportunities for Collaboration with GI

Michaela Dinan, PhD & Xiaomei Ma, PhD Learn More

Leain Wole

Yale Cancer Center Seminar October 8; 12:00 PM

Reset the Clock in Aging and Blood Cancer-A focus on Clonal Hematopoiesis and Epigenetics

Zhuoer (Zoey) Xie, MD, MS

Learn More

Yale Cancer Answers

October 10; 7:30 PM

NPR

The Role of Pathology in Cancer Angelique W. Levi, MD

Learn More

Team Science Award LOI Due: October 6, 2021

Young Investigator Award Checklist Due: November 3, 2021

Pilot Awards Due: November 3, 2021

Read More

Research Centers for Cancer Systems Biology (U54)

The NCI supports the application of systems biology approaches to cancer research through the CSBC. The CSBC includes U01 Research Projects and, through this FOA, U54 Research Centers. These multi-project Research Centers should address challenges in basic cancer biology that require a coordinated systems biology approach.

Application Deadline: November 12, 2021

Read More

Mechanisms that Impact Cancer Risk after Bariatric Surgery (R01, R21)

Through this FOA, the NCI invites applications for support of investigator-initiated studies addressing mechanisms by which bariatric surgery impacts cancer risk, and seeks to draw in talented scientists who study bariatric surgery to investigate its effects on cancer, rather than shorter term outcomes such as weight loss and diabetes.

Application Deadline: November 12, 2021

Read More

Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium: Research Units (U01)

Through this FOA, the NCI is soliciting applications for the Research Units (RUs), one of the two scientific components of the Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium (PCDC), to conduct research on early detection of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) and characterization of its precursor lesions to identify those patients who are at high risk of progression to cancer.

Application Deadline: November 15, 2021

Read More

Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium: Management and Data Coordination Unit (U24)

Through this FOA, the NCI is soliciting applications for the establishment of the Management and Data Coordination Unit (MDCU), one of the two scientific components of the Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium (PCDC).

Application Deadline: November 15, 2021

Read More

Mobile Health: Technology and Outcomes in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (R21/R33)

The overall goal of the program is to catalyze innovation through multidisciplinary research that addresses global health problems, develop an evidence base for the use of mHealth technology to improve clinical and public health outcomes, and strengthen mHealth research capacity in LMICs.

Application Deadline: November 15, 2021

Read More

Cancer Research Institute Technology Impact Award

These grants aim to encourage collaboration between technology developers and clinical cancer immunologists and to generate the proof-of-principle of a novel platform technology in bioinformatics, ex vivo or in silico modeling

Yale RNA Club
October 12; 8:45 AM

Learn More

Genetics Department Seminar Series

October 12; 11:30 AM

Learn More

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds/ Iris

Fischer Memorial Lecture

October 12; 12:00 PM

2 Sides of the Same Coin: Clinician Engagement and Patient Experience Jessica Dudley, MD

Learn More

Yale Cell Biology Seminar Series

October 12; 1:00 PM

Cytoplasmic Self-organization in Xenopus Egg Extracts

James E. Ferrell, Jr.

Learn More

Smilow Shares

October 12; 7:00 PM

Understanding Melanoma: Treatment

Advances & Patient Care

Jonathan Leventhal, MD | Thuy Tran, MD,

PhD | Kelly Olino, MD | James Clune, MD |

Jeffrey Ishizuka, MD, DPhil

Learn More

Smilow Shares Greenwich

October 12; 7:00 PM

Breast Cancer: Statistics, Screenings & Surgery

Alyssa Gillego, MD | Beverly Drucker, MD | Allison Campbell, MD, PhD

Learn More

Smilow Shares

October 13; 7:00 PM

Innovative Breast Cancer Therapies: New Systemic Therapies and Surgical Options
Maryam Lustberg, MD, MPH | Melanie
Lynch, MD | Kathleen Fenn, MD | Melissa
Mastroianni, MD | Pamela Fitzgerald, LCSW
Learn More

Pathology Grand Rounds

October 14; 12:30 PM

The International System for Reporting Serous Fluid Cytopathology Ashish Chandra, MBBS, MD

Learn More

systems, immunological or tumor profiling instrumentation, methods, reagents and assays, or other relevant technologies that can enable clinician scientists to generate deeper insights into the mechanisms of action of effective or ineffective cancer immunotherapies.

Letter of Intent Due: November 15, 2021

Read More

Understanding Oral HPV Infection, Acquisition, and Persistence in People Living with HIV (R01, R21)

The purpose of these FOAs are to solicit research to better understand the epidemiology and biology of oral HPV infection, its acquisition and persistence, in people living with HIV and elucidate the initial mechanisms related to HPV-associated oral and oropharyngeal cancers and warts in the context of HIV.

Application Deadline: November 18, 2021

Read More

A Multilevel Approach to Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials (U01)

Through this FOA, the NCI solicits applications for CUSP2CT, a program that will implement and evaluate multilevel and culturally tailored outreach and education interventions with the primary goal of increasing referral and ultimately, accrual of underrepresented racial/ethnic (R/E) minority populations, to NCI-supported clinical trials, NCI's Community Oncology Research Program, and Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trials Network.

Application Deadline: November 19, 2021

Read More

Data, Evaluation and Coordinating Center for: A Multilevel Approach to Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials (U24)

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials U24 Data, Evaluation and Coordinating Center.

Application Deadline: November 19, 2021

Read More

AACR Clinical Oncology Research (CORE) Training Fellowships

Designed for early-career clinical scientists who hold a medical degree (MD, DO, or MD/PhD) and are interested in acquiring the knowledge and skills related to clinical trial design and execution from the perspective of the pharmaceutical industry. The fellow will gain real-world experience in drug development, including clinical research, clinical trial design, and data analysis.

Application Deadline: November 30, 2021

Read More

The Hope Foundation for Cancer Research SEED Fund for SWOG Early Exploration and Development 2021

These awards may assist investigators with projects that support the following types of studies: pre-clinical data, secondary data analysis from clinical trials, pilot and feasibility studies (including early stage clinical trials), small, self-contained research projects, or development of research methodology/technology. \$50,000

Application Deadline: December 1, 2021

Read More

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Seminar October 14; 2:30 PM

Learn More

2021-2022 Microbiology Graduate

Program Seminar October 14; 4:00 PM Mark Hochstrasser, PhD

Learn More

Submissions

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

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Communications

Implementation Science for Cancer Control in People Living with HIV in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (U01)

The purpose of this FOA is to support and accelerate the integration of evidence-based cancer control interventions for PLWH by leveraging existing HIV treatment and prevention infrastructure.

Application Deadline: December 15, 2021

Read More