

DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

June 30, 2017

Announcements

YCC Hosts National Lung SPORE Conference

Yale Cancer Center is proud to be home to one of the most eminent research programs in lung cancer in the nation. Our Lung SPORE (Specialized Programs of Research Excellence) is the result of an \$11 million grant from the National Cancer Institute and unites experts from many different disciplines to harness their collective expertise to fight lung cancer. Last week, Yale Cancer Center hosted the annual Lung SPORE conference, which brought together hundreds of scientists and clinicians from across the country to discuss and share the latest in lung cancer research. Thank you to Roy Herbst, MD, PhD, Principal Investigator of our Lung SPORE, and his entire team for organizing an outstanding meeting.



U.S. News Ranks YNHCH for Cancer Services

Yale New Haven Children's Hospital (YNHCH) ranked among the best in the nation for eight of its pediatric subspecialties, including its cancer program, which ranked 28, in the 2017-18 Best Children's Hospitals

from the desk of

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

Yale
NewHaven
Health
Smilow Cancer
Hospital

Yale CANCER CENTER

A Comprehensive Cancer Center Designated
by the National Cancer Institute

Recent News

Read recent articles featuring experts from Yale Cancer Center

[News Center >>](#)

LATEST ARTICLES:

rankings, published online by *U.S. News & World Report*. "The national recognition for the care we give to our patients is a reflection of an outstanding team of physicians, nurses, APRNs, PCAs, psychologists, social workers, and child life specialists in Pediatric Hematology & Oncology. Thank you to each and every member of our team for your dedication to our patients," said Gary Kupfer, MD, Section Chief and Clinical Program Leader for Pediatric Hematology & Oncology.

Anne Doerr to Join Yale Cancer Center

I am pleased to announce that Anne Doerr will join Yale Cancer Center on July 12 as Director of Media Affairs. Anne's position will be focused on earned media, with the goal of raising our regional and national profile. She has a spectacular background in journalism and many years of successful earned media work, most recently at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. I am confident that her experience will help us to increase the awareness and exposure of the exciting research advances and outstanding patient care here at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital. Please join me in welcoming Anne to our team.

TREC Workshop

The first annual Transdisciplinary Research in Energetics and Cancer (TREC) Training Workshop completed a week of learning last week under the direction of Melinda Irwin, PhD, MPH. The TREC Training Workshop is geared to early career basic, clinical and population science researchers who are interested in energy balance and cancer research from a transdisciplinary and translational perspective. Yale Cancer Center was proud to host this event, a five-day course to train early-career researchers in energy balance and cancer training, a crucial field as the connection between obesity and cancer risk becomes more defined. Thank you to the entire team of faculty who shared their expertise with the participants!



Yale Cancer Center Celebrates Pediatric Cancer Survivors Day

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Monitoring a Cancer Tumor is Sometimes Better Than Aggressive Treatment, Study Finds

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Treatment, not screening, credited with latest breast cancer advances

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Notables

Dr. Steven Gore, Clinical Program Leader for the Hematology Program, has been elected Co-Chair of the **National Cancer Institute's National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN) Leukemia Steering Committee**. The committee is charged with increasing efficiency, development, and collaboration of clinical trials for patients with leukemia.

Development Update

Ginny and Ken Grunley Fund Lung Cancer Research

Ginny and Ken Grunley have generously committed \$1MM to support the Ginny and Ken Grunley Fund for Lung Cancer Research under the direction of Dr. Roy Herbst. Ginny and Ken, residents of Potomac, MD, have developed a close relationship with Dr. Herbst and are particularly interested in work relating to the EGFR mutation. They came to visit in March to learn more about the lung cancer research priorities of our Center and meet with several members of the research team.



Driven to Cure

Indoor Tanning Still Accessible to Young People-Despite Bans

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LATEST POSTS:

A big thank you to everyone who made this past Sunday possible - our Pirate Party was a blast! Here at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center, celebrating survivorship is something we love to do, and putting on events for pediatric survivors is always so much fun. Thanks to all of the staff and volunteers who made this event a reality and thanks to all of our families who joined us for the day!



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Congratulations to the Medical Oncology and Hematology Fellowship Class of 2017! Educating the next generation of physicians is a priority at Yale Cancer Center, and we are immensely proud of this accomplished class of fellows. We have no doubt they will go on to do amazing things in the fight against cancer. Congratulations, graduates!

After being diagnosed at the age of 19 with Hereditary leiomyomatosis and renal cell cancer (HLRCC), a rare form of kidney cancer with no known cure, Andrew Lee started Driven to Cure, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to bring awareness and research funding to find a cure for rare kidney cancer diseases, including the development of the next generation of drugs to help others. To date, Driven to Cure has raised more than \$300,000 and this year Yale Cancer Center is proud to be one of its beneficiaries. To learn more about Driven to Cure and Andrew's story, please visit [Driven to Cure](#).



Employee Profile: **Brittney Watts**

On a daily basis, Brittney Watts, RN, BSN, CMSRN a Clinical Nurse III on the inpatient Surgical Oncology Unit at Smilow, interacts with five different disease teams. She sees patients pre- and post-operatively that have undergone surgeries, which include total laryngectomies and the removal of solid tumors. The average hospital stay for patients is 5-7 days, and during that time Brittney makes sure



**Congratulations
to our Medical Oncology and
Hematology Fellowship Graduates!**

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As you're tuning into Yale Cancer Answers, make sure to stick around and listen to some survivor stories - words of wisdom from cancer survivors who share their experience and things they learned along the way.



[Read More >>](#)

Take a look at the beautiful painting created as a result of our Survivorship Day collaborative art project, sponsored by Lilly Oncology and led by members of our Integrative Medicine Program. The finished project is hanging in Smilow and is a colorful showcase of the diversity of our cancer community.

they are healing properly and that they are as comfortable as possible.

"I really enjoy what I do, and the opportunity to see patients who are at their lowest when they come to us, leave a few days later ready for a new life," said Brittney. "It is important to be there to reassure family members as well that their loved one is in good hands, and that we are closely monitoring their care."

Brittney is part of the new clinical care pathway for patients that have received free flap surgeries for head and neck cancers. She is a member of a dedicated team of nurses that cares for patients sent directly from the OR recovery room to the 15th floor of Smilow. These patients have tracheostomy tubes that make speech impossible, which can be very frustrating. Brittney commented that waking up in an environment where all of their needs are anticipated and taken care of is more comforting for them. Having lost her grandfather while in high school, and recently her father to cancer, Brittney prides herself on being a support system for every patient and their family.

Cara Henderson, RN, BSN, CMSRN, Patient Service Manager at Smilow, commented, "Brittney is an exceptional nurse whose kind and compassionate attitude makes her extremely successful in helping patients after oncologic surgery. One of Brittney's greatest qualities is that she always remains calm in stressful situations and keeps the patient and their loved ones at ease."

Funding Opportunities

Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program Awards

To address the cancer health needs of both deployed and non-deployed personnel, their dependents, retirees, and Veterans.

Idea Award with Special Focus

Preapplication Due: June 30, 2017

Translational Team Science Award

Preapplication Due: June 30, 2017

[Learn More >>](#)



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Congratulations to Alfred Lee, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, recipient of this year's Leah M. Lowenstein Award at the Yale School of Medicine Commencement Ceremonies. The award is given annually to a faculty member who "by promoting humane and egalitarian medical education, most clearly sets the example for students entering the field of medicine."



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LATEST TWEETS:

Thank you @pewhealth for honoring Nadya Dimitrova's outstanding work!

Department of Defense Lung Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for 2017

Concept Award

Letter of Intent Due: July 27

Career Development Award

Letter of Intent Due: September 13

[Learn More>>](#)

Lung Cancer Research Foundation Grant

The Lung Cancer Research Foundation has announced its funding opportunities for research projects in basic, translational, and clinical research, supportive care, and quality of care/outcomes.

Application Deadline: July 1, 2017

[Learn More>>](#)

Cooperative Agreement to Develop Targeted Agents for Use with Systemic Agents Plus Radiotherapy (U01)

This FOA invites cooperative agreement (U01) applications that propose studies to enhance pre-clinical in vitro and in vivo testing of NCI-prioritized molecularly targeted anti-cancer agents for use with radiation therapy combined with systemic chemotherapy.

Application Deadline: July 14, 2017

[Learn More>>](#)

Breast Cancer Alliance Young Investigator Award

BCA invites clinical doctors and research scientists whose primary focus is breast cancer and who are in the early stages of their careers to apply for funding for the Young Investigator Grant.

Application Deadline: July 22, 2017

[Learn More>>](#)

Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer Developmental Research Program Award

Provide support of up to \$50,000 for innovative pilot projects focused on a broad spectrum of research, and/or technology development applicable to human lung

 Speaker offers key takeaways in head and neck cancer. @YaleCancer
#hncsm

 Our fellows @YaleCancer @YNHH graduation tonight at the Union League in New Haven

 Dr. Ronald Salem presents on [@YaleMed's](#) contributions to improve the #Whipple procedure for #PancreaticCancer at [@SaintFrancisCT](#) symposium

 "Data shows that multidisciplinary #tumorboard discussions prolong patients' lives"
Dr. Strazzabosco presenting .
@SaintFrancisCT
#cancercare

 "Pink Week" raising money for #Smilow Cancer Hospital ... via @WTNH

Closer to Free

closer to free

The fund to advance cancer research and enhance patient care

Calendar of Events

July 2; 7:30PM

Yale Cancer Answers

WNPR 90.5

Caring for the Spiritual Needs of Patients

Kristen Moyer, MD and Randall Spaulding

[Read More >>](#)

July 9; 7:30PM

Yale Cancer Answers

cancer prevention, early detection and/or other population science research. Contact [Ed Kaftan](#) PRIOR to starting your application.

Application Deadline: July 24, 2017

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Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for 2017

Breakthrough Award

Deadlines for Full Applications:

Level 1 & 2 Due: June 15, 2017

Level 3 & 4 Due: August 31, 2017

Innovator Award

Deadline for Application: August 31, 2017

Distinguished Investigator Award

Deadline for Application: August 31, 2017

[Learn More>>](#)

Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for 2017

Clinical Consortium Award

LOI Due: August 24, 2017

Impact Award

LOI Due: July 7, 2017

Health Disparity Research Award

LOI Due: July 7, 2017

Idea Development Award

LOI Due: July 14, 2017

Physician Research Award

LOI Due: July 27, 2017

Early Investigator Research Award

LOI Due: July 27, 2017

Prostate Cancer Pathology Resource Network Award

LOI Due: August 24, 2017

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WNPR 90.5

Unlocking the Secrets of Cancer

Jesse Rinehart, PhD

[Read More >>](#)

Submissions

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Marketing

reneee.gaudette@yale.edu

 [Forward to a Friend](#)

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Nurse Researcher Grants

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

Discovery Grant

Application deadline: August 21, 2017

Nurse Researcher Fellowship

Application deadline: September 25, 2017

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Gilead Sciences Research Scholars Program in Hematology/Oncology

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

Application deadline: September 8, 2017

[Learn More>>](#)

Recent Publications

Racial Disparities and Sociodemographic Differences in Incidence and Survival Among Pediatric Patients in the United States With Primary Liver Cancer: A Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Population Study.

Nautsch F, Ludwig JM, Xing M, Johnson KM, Kim HS.

J Clin Gastroenterol. 2017 Jun 14.

[Read More >>](#)

Stat6 Promotes Intestinal Tumorigenesis in a Mouse Model of Adenomatous Polyposis by Expansion of MDSCs and Inhibition of Cytotoxic CD8 Response.

Jayakumar A, Bothwell ALM.

Neoplasia. 2017 Jun 24;19(8):595-605.

[Read More >>](#)

Transcriptome-wide piRNA profiling in human brains of Alzheimer's disease.

Qiu W, Guo X, Lin X, Yang Q, Zhang W, Zhang Y, Zuo L, Zhu Y, Li CR, Ma C, Luo X.

Neurobiol Aging. 2017 Jun 3;57:170-177.

[Read More >>](#)

Immune Escape in Breast Cancer During In Situ to Invasive Carcinoma Transition.

Gil Del Alcazar CR, Huh SJ, Ekram MB, Trinh A, Liu LL, Beca F, Zi X, Kwak M, Bergholtz H, Su Y, Ding L, Russnes HG, Richardson AL, Babski K, Min Hui Kim E, McDonnell C, Wagner J, Rowberry R, Freeman GJ, Dillon D, Sorlie T, Coussens LM, Garber JE, Fan R, Bobolis K, Allred DC, Jeong J, Park SY, Michor F, Polyak K.

Cancer Discov. 2017 Jun 26.

[Read More >>](#)

GRAPE: a pathway template method to characterize tissue-specific functionality from gene expression profiles.

Klein MI, Stern DF, Zhao H.

BMC Bioinformatics. 2017 Jun 26;18(1):317.

[Read More >>](#)

A high throughput assay to identify substrate-selective inhibitors of the ERK protein kinases.

Miller CJ, Muftuoglu Y, Turk BE.

Biochem Pharmacol. 2017 Jun 21.

[Read More >>](#)

DNA-PK facilitates piggyBac transposition by promoting paired-end complex formation.

Jin Y, Chen Y, Zhao S, Guan KL, Zhuang Y, Zhou W, Wu X, Xu T.

Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2017 Jun 23.

[Read More >>](#)

Base Excision Repair Variants in Cancer.

Marsden CG, Dragon JA, Wallace SS, Sweasy JB.

Methods Enzymol. 2017;591:119-157.

[Read More >>](#)

Environmental influences in the etiology of colorectal cancer: the premise of metabolomics.

Rattray NJW, Charkoftaki G, Rattray Z, Hansen JE, Vasiliou V, Johnson CH.

Curr Pharmacol Rep. 2017 Jun;3(3):114-125.

[Read More >>](#)

Cost-effectiveness analysis of consolidation with brentuximab vedotin for high-risk Hodgkin lymphoma after autologous stem cell transplantation.

Hui L, von Keudell G, Wang R, Zeidan AM, Gore SD, Ma X, Davidoff AJ, Huntington SF.

Cancer. 2017 Jun 22.

[Read More >>](#)

Protein Tyrosine Phosphatase δ mediates the Sema3A-induced cortical basal dendritic arborization through the activation of Fyn tyrosine kinase.

Nakamura F, Okada T, Shishikura M, Uetani N, Taniguchi M, Yagi T, Iwakura Y, Ohshima T, Goshima Y, Strittmatter SM.

J Neurosci. 2017 Jun 21.

[Read More >>](#)

Quantifying the genetic correlation between multiple cancer types.

Lindström S, Finucane H, Bulik-Sullivan B, Schumacher FR, Amos CI, Hung RJ, Rand K, Gruber SB, Conti D, Permuth JB, Lin HY, Goode EL, Sellers TA, Amundadottir LT, Stolzenberg-Solomon R, Klein A, Petersen G, Risch H, Wolpin B, Hsu L, Huyghe JR, Chang Claude J, Chan A, Berndt S, Eeles RA, Easton D, Haiman CA, Hunter DJ, Neale B, Price A, Kraft P.

Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev. 2017 Jun 21.

[Read More >>](#)

Associations of obesity and lifestyle with the risk and mortality of bloodstream infection in a general population: a 15 year follow up of 64,027 individuals in the HUNT Study.

Paulsen J, Askim Å, Mohus RM, Mehl A, Dewan A, Solligård E, Damås JK, Åsvold BO.

Int J Epidemiol. 2017 Jun 15.

[Read More >>](#)

Optimism, Symptom Distress, Illness Appraisal, and Coping in Patients With Advanced-

Stage Cancer Diagnoses Undergoing Chemotherapy Treatment.

Sumpio C, Jeon S, Northouse LL, Knobf MT.

Oncol Nurs Forum. 2017 May 1;44(3):384-392.

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