

DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

June 29, 2018

Announcements

Art Lemay Named VP of Network Development

In advance of Abe Lopman's upcoming retirement, Yale New Haven Health has announced Art Lemay's promotion to Vice President, Network Development for Smilow Cancer Hospital. Art will be responsible for the next phase of regional network development of Smilow Cancer Hospital, including the continued expansion of Smilow's ambulatory presence across the state and region. He will also coordinate our efforts to establish a statewide partnership to build the first Proton Beam Treatment Center in Connecticut.



A 38-year veteran of our medical center, Art has a long and distinguished list of accomplishments, including the development of the Smilow Care Center network, which is fully integrated into the Smilow Cancer Hospital and administers 60% of all chemotherapy across the clinical network. Art serves as the administrator for Radiation Oncology for Smilow, which provides services at six locations across the state. He has also been instrumental in our successful integration efforts with Trinity Health of New England, Bristol Hospital, Day Kimball, and across all of our delivery networks.

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

Yale
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Health
Smilow Cancer
Hospital

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

News Center



CROY (Cancer Research Opportunities for Youth) Summer

Tumor Profiling Continues to Improve Response

I am pleased to report that under the leadership of Dr. Janina Longtine and Adele Carroll, our tumor profiling capabilities continue to progress with new technologies and improved return time for results. Our Tumor Profiling Lab can now provide 50-gene panel results for your patients, both at the main campus and at our Care Centers, in a mean of 8 calendar days from receipt of the specimen in the lab. The 50-gene panel covers all variants in NCCN guidelines for non-small cell lung cancer, colon cancer, and melanoma. This is significant improvement over previous service times. In addition, results from the Oncomine panel, which was recently updated to version 3 in March and sequences 161 unique genes, are available in a mean of 18 days. At the same time, the volume for both sequencing services has increased over 50% over the last year.

When appropriate, please order the profiling for your patients through EPIC. If you have any questions on the Tumor Profiling Lab or testing for your patients, please contact [Dr. Longtine](#).

Hal Tara Named Chair of our Cancer Committee

The Cancer Committee at Smilow Cancer Hospital oversees the Commission on Cancer(CoC) priorities, annual report, and accreditation. Harold Tara, Jr., MD has been named the Chairman of our Cancer Committee effective this month, after having served as Vice Chair along with Dr. David Fischer for several years. I am grateful to Hal for his continued service and leadership on the committee, and to David for his continued leadership as Vice Chair. I would like to thank Dr. Rogerio Lilenbaum for his time as Chair.

Notables

Tae Kon Kim, MD, PhD, an Instructor in the Section of Hematology, received an **ASCO Conquer Cancer Foundation Career Development Award** to study *Overcoming Immune Resistance to PD1 Therapy in High Risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome with Modulating Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells using an HDAC Inhibitor, Entinostat*.

Aaron M. Ring, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Immunobiology and a member of Yale Cancer Center's

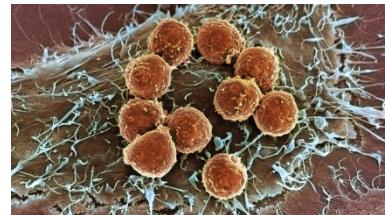
Session Kicks Off

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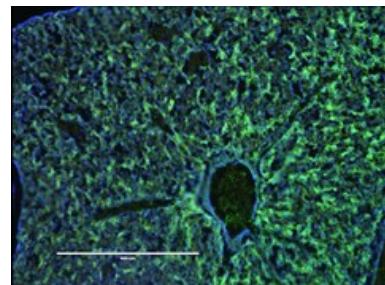
Breast Cancer Survivors Team Up for Closer to Free

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Mutation-counting blood test could predict if cutting-edge immunotherapies can beat a cancer

[Read more >>](#)



With gene editing, researchers cure blood disorder in fetal mice

[Read More >>](#)



Joseph Renzulli, MD



Joseph Brito, MD

Immunology Research Program, joins four other scientists in the 2018 class of **Pew-Stewart Scholars for Cancer Research**.

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Congratulations to **Dr. Daniel Boffa** and **Dr. Anees Chagpar**, who have both been promoted to the rank of **Professor of Surgery, Clinician-Educator**. Promotion to Professor is the highest academic rank for faculty at Yale University School of Medicine; the rank of Professor in the Clinician-Educator track reflects excellence as clinicians, playing an integral role in the department's clinical and teaching programs and participation in research.

Yimeng Gao, PhD, a Postdoctoral Associate in the laboratory of Stephanie Halene, MD, PhD, has been awarded a **James Hudson Brown-Alexander B. Coxe Fellowship**.

Stephanie Halene, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine (Hematology), has been awarded a **Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program Award** to study Fanconi Anemia in collaboration with Drs. Gary Kupfer (Pediatric Hematology/Oncology) and Grzegorz Nalepa at Indiana University. The title of the grant is *Mechanisms of Bone Marrow Failure and Leukemia Progression in Primary Human Fanconi Anemia Stem Cells in a Novel FA PDX Model*. The award will provide \$200,000/year for 2 years.

Development Update

The Lovemark Foundation's Annual ProAm Golf Tournament, held on Monday, June 25, was a huge success, raising record amounts of money in support of patients with brain tumors!

Dr. Jennifer Moliterno attended the event, hosted by PGA golfer Jamie Lovemark and his wife and co-founder, Tiva. It was a beautiful day, held at the Hudson National Golf Course with



Two Urologists Bring Their Expertise to Lawrence and Memorial Hospital

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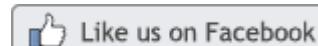


Five Ways to Lower Your Skin Cancer Risk

[Learn More >>](#)



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Latest Posts:

Free Skin Cancer Screenings in Trumbull.



Free Skin Cancer Screenings

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We are proud to report that Yale New Haven Children's Hospital is proud to be ranked among the best in the nation for nine of its pediatric specialties in the 2018 Best Children's Hospitals rankings by U.S. News & World Report, including pediatric cancer care.

a reception and a silent auction with coveted sports memorabilia, among other fantastic prizes. Participants were able to golf with PGA pros and learned from renowned coach Chris Como.

Proceeds from the event are used to support patients at Smilow Cancer Hospital with all types of brain tumors in an effort to improve the quality of our patients' lives.

Employee Profile: Margaret Lewis

In her role as a Patient Care Associate (PCA), Margaret (Maggie) Lewis has the honor of meeting with every patient cared for at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Derby, and she is often the first person they meet. Maggie works closely with patients and their families from their very first visit and throughout their care to make sure they are comfortable, and helps to manage any issues that may arise.

"Many patients come in and are very scared and don't know what to expect," said Maggie. "I try to ease their mind and serve as their point person if they have any questions during their care. Sometimes patients or family members are more comfortable discussing something with me, that I can then bring up with their physician. It's important to get to know each patient and make sure everyone is in constant communication. When a patient leaves with a smile on their face, I know I have done my job."

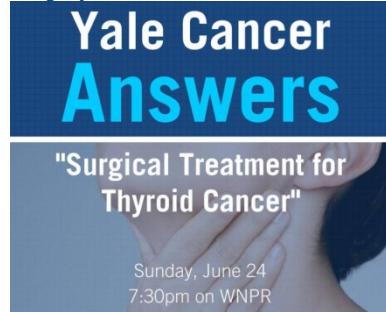
Maggie enjoys the smaller setting of the Care Center, but commented that not much would change if she were seeing patients in a larger facility; after that first visit, all patients become family. She is currently pursuing her nursing degree, and recently received a Smilow PCA Educational Grant and the 2014 Nurses Choice Award.

Susan Hanrahan, RN, Nurse Coordinator at the Derby Care



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Tonight's Yale Cancer Answers will discuss the surgical options for thyroid cancer with Dr. Courtney Gibson from Yale Surgery. Tune in to learn the latest surgical techniques, including scarless surgery, on Connecticut Public Radio.



[Read More >>](#)

Our Care Center at the Park Avenue Medical Center in Trumbull sees over 1,100 patient visits per month in medical oncology and 800 in radiation oncology. A Smilow Surgical Specialty Center and Breast Center are also available on site, as well as supportive care, integrative medicine, and pharmacy services for our patients.



Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center
at Trumbull

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Tom Jacquot was diagnosed with blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm, a rare cancer involving his skin, bone

Center, commented, "Maggie is someone who puts the patient first at all times and is very down to earth and friendly. She has the unique ability to make anyone feel comfortable and connect with anyone. She is very intuitive in her work."

Funding Opportunities

Robert E. Leet and Clara Guthrie Patterson Trust Mentored Research Award: Clinical, Health Services and Policy Research

Two-year Awards of \$90,000 (\$45,000 per year) will be awarded to applicants working in Connecticut, New Jersey and Rhode Island.

Application Deadline: July 3, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award

Designed to provide support for the next generation of exceptionally creative thinkers with "high-risk/high-reward" ideas that have the potential to significantly impact our understanding of and/or approaches to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of cancer.

Application Deadline: July 6, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Program in Innovative Therapeutics for Connecticut's Health (PITCH)

With a grant from the State of Connecticut's Bioscience Innovation Fund, this three-year, \$10 million-dollar program, provides translational research resources to generate prototype therapeutics that address unmet clinical needs. Contact francine.carland@yale.edu for more information.

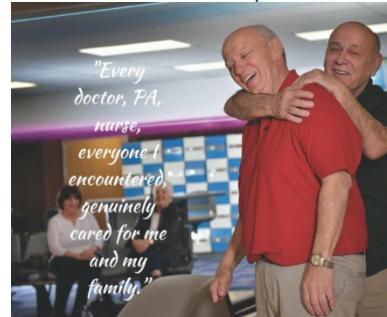
Application Deadline: July 15, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation/Van Auken Private Foundation Young Innovators Team Awards

ALCF, in collaboration with VAPF, is requesting applications from teams of young investigators that address unmet medical needs in lung cancer patient-oriented research. High-risk, high-reward, multidisciplinary, collaborative

marrow, and lymph nodes and immediately knew he needed collaborative care and physicians to treat him. This led him to The Veterans Affairs (VA) Comprehensive Cancer Center and to Smilow Cancer Hospital, where a team assembled to create a plan.



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.@CharlesFuchsMD presented our #vision for the future during Grand Rounds for the non-clinician today at #Smilow Cancer Hospital. Looking forward to working together toward exciting advances and progress in the years ahead!

#summer is here! But time out in the sun can increase your #skincancer risk. Our @YaleCancer experts recommend five ways to help protect yourself. #SunSafety#cancerprevention

Tonight's Yale Cancer Answers will discuss the surgical options for thyroid cancer with Dr. Courtney Gibson from @YaleSurgery. Tune in to learn the latest surgical techniques, including scarless surgery, on @wnpr at 7:30pm.

Learn more about Harvey Risch, MD, PhD and his study associating the use of #aspirin and decreased incidence of

research projects that are currently unfunded will be awarded \$250,000 for a period of 2-3 years (depending on the proposed research).

Application Deadline: July 15, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

YCCI Fund to Retain Clinical Scientists at Yale School of Medicine

YCCI announces a request for applications for the FRCS. The goal of this exceptional program is to retain early-career physician-scientists in research.

Application Deadline: July 16, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Administrative Supplements to Support Tool and Resource Development to Address Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Multiple Myeloma

This opportunity is a first step in addressing scientific research gaps in the field of multiple myeloma disparities research. Evaluation of this supplemental funding will help to inform future funding opportunities for multiple myeloma disparities research.

Application Deadline: July 22, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Collaborative Activities to Promote Cancer Cachexia Research

The purpose of this supplement is to support collaborative, multidisciplinary basic and translational research that addresses an important question in cancer cachexia and to expand the cadre of investigators experienced in cancer cachexia study design, model systems and data interpretation.

Application Deadline: July 30, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Biden Cancer Initiative Fierce Awards

The Biden Cancer Initiative is taking nominations for its inaugural FIERCE Awards, recognizing individuals and organizations making a transformative impact on the lives of cancer patients in five categories: prevention and early detection; reducing cancer disparities; patient navigation; survivorship; and LEAP (Leadership through Exemplary and Awesome Purpose).

#pancreaticcancer in @AACR's author profile

 YCC supports @NCCNnews new resource to help people with #livercancer, #gallbladdercancer, and #bileductcancer understand the critical decisions they make about their care!

 This #fathersday, and every day, we need to remind the men in our lives to take care of their health! Tune in to Yale Cancer Answers at 7:30pm on @wnpr to hear Dr. Michael Leapman update you on the latest screening & wellness information.

 Happy #FathersDay! Take care of the men in your life by making sure they have necessary #cancerscreenings.

Calendar

Yale Cancer Answers

July 1; 7:30PM

WNPR

Pediatric Cancer Survivorship

Nina Kadan-Lottick, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

Medical Grand Rounds

July 5; 8:30AM

LMP1094

David N Podell, MD, PhD, MACP, FACP

Immune-related Adverse Events of Oncologic Immunotherapy: Checkpoint and Checkmate

[Learn More >>](#)

Laboratory Medicine Research in Progress

July 6; 12PM

CB401

Role of RBMS-MKL1 in Acute Megakaryocytic Leukemia with the t(1;22) (P13,q13) Translocation

July 31, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Reducing Stigma to Improve HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment and Care in Low and Middle- Income Countries R21

The purpose of this FOA is to stimulate research on interventions to reduce HIV/AIDS-associated stigma and its impact on the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and on the quality of life of People Living with HIV/AIDS.

Application Deadline: August 1, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

HIV/AIDS and the Tumor Niche (R01)

The purpose of this FOA is to advance our understanding of the role of the tumor niche or microenvironment in the risks, development, progression, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer observed in individuals with an underlying HIV infection or AIDS.

Application Deadline: August 7, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

DoD Prostate Cancer Research Program Opportunities

- **Idea Development Award:** This Award is intended to support new ideas that represent innovative approaches to prostate cancer research and have the potential to make an important contribution to the PCRP mission. Pre-Application Deadline: July 6, 2018
- **Impact Award:** This Award supports research projects that have the strong potential to make a major impact on scientific and clinical prostate cancer issues and is intended for independent investigators at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent). Pre-Application Deadline: July 19, 2018
- **Physician Research Award:** This Award supports a mentored research experience to prepare physicians with clinical duties and/or responsibilities for productive careers in prostate cancer research. Pre-Application Deadline: August 16, 2018
- **Early Investigator Research Award:** This Award supports prostate cancer-focused research opportunities for individuals in the early stages of

Nadia Ayala-Lopez, PhD, MT

Understanding the Regulation of IgE to Allergens

Gowthaman Uthaman, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

YCC Seminar

July 6; 12PM

BCMM 206/208

Combination Immunotherapy for Cancer

Scott Antonia, MD, PhD

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Answers

July 8; 7:30PM

WNPR

Interventional Oncology

Kevin Kim, MD

[Learn More >>](#)

Submissions

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Communications

their careers, under the guidance of one or more designated Mentors. Pre-Application Deadline: August 16, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Investigation of the Transmission of Kaposi Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus (R01/R21)

The purpose of the FOA is to advance our understanding of the modes of transmission of Kaposi sarcoma-associated herpesvirus; the biology of the initial steps of infection; and risk factors for infection in populations living with HIV or at high risk of developing HIV.

Application Deadline: August 18, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

DoD Kidney Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for 2018

- **Concept Award:** To support highly innovative, untested, potentially groundbreaking concepts in kidney cancer. Letter of Intent Due: July 11, 2018
- **Idea Development Award:** To support new ideas that represent innovative, high-risk/high-gain approaches to kidney cancer research, and have the potential to make an important contribution to kidney cancer. Letter of Intent Due: September 5, 2018
- **Physicians Research Award:** To support a mentored research experience to prepare physicians with clinical duties and/or responsibilities for productive careers in kidney cancer research. Letter of Intent Due: September 5, 2018
- **Technology Development Award:** To support emerging technologies to aid clinical and patient outcomes. Letter of Intent Due: September 5, 2018
- **Translational Research Partnership:** To support partnerships between clinicians and laboratory scientists that accelerate ideas in kidney cancer into clinical applications. Letter of Intent Due: September 5, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP)

This FOA solicits applications from institutions/organizations to participate as "Research Bases" for the National Cancer Institute (NCI)-supported Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP). There are three funding opportunities available:

- Research Bases (UG1 Clinical Trial Required)
- Community Sites (UG1 Clinical Trial Required)
- Minority/Underserved Community Sites (UG1 Clinical Trial Required)

Application Deadline: August 31, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Elsa U. Pardee Foundation Grant

The Elsa U. Pardee Foundation funds research to investigators in United States non-profit institutions proposing research directed toward identifying new treatments or cures for cancer.

Application Deadline: August 31, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

Quality of Life and Body Image as a Function of Time from Mastectomy.

Huang J, Chagpar AB.

Ann Surg Oncol. 2018 Jun 26.

[Read More >>](#)

Should Reexcision Rates in Breast Cancer Care be a Quality Measure?

Chagpar AB, Wilke LG.

Ann Surg Oncol. 2018 Jun 26.

[Read More >>](#)

Binimetinib (MEK162) in recurrent low-grade serous ovarian cancer resistant to chemotherapy and hormonal treatment.

Han C, Bellone S, Zammataro L, Schwartz PE, Santin AD.

Gynecol Oncol Rep. 2018 May 24;25:41-44.

[Read More >>](#)

Permanent Interstitial Brachytherapy for Previously Irradiated Head and Neck Cancer.

Breen W, Kelly J, Park HS, Son Y, Sasaki C, Wilson L, Decker R, Husain ZA.

Cureus. 2018 Apr 22;10(4):e2517.

[Read More >>](#)

Inhibition of BET bromodomain proteins with GS-5829 and

GS-626510 in Uterine Serous Carcinoma, a biologically aggressive variant of Endometrial Cancer.

Bonazzoli E, Predolini F, Cocco E, Bellone S, Altwerger G, Menderes G, Zammataro L, Bianchi A, Pettinella F, Riccio F, Han C, Yadav G, Lopez S, Manzano A, Manara P, Buza N, Hui P, Wong S, Litkouhi B, Ratner E, Silasi DA, Huang GS, Azodi M, Schwartz PE, Schlessinger J, Santin AD.

Clin Cancer Res. 2018 Jun 25.

[Read More >>](#)

Collateral Damage: Insulin-Dependent Diabetes Induced With Checkpoint Inhibitors.

Stamatouli AM, Quandt Z, Perdigoto AL, Clark PL, Kluger H, Weiss SA, Gettinger S, Sznol M, Young A, Rushakoff R, Lee J, Bluestone JA, Anderson M, Herold KC.

Diabetes. 2018 Jun 24.

[Read More >>](#)

Functional trajectories before and after a new cancer diagnosis among community-dwelling older adults.

Presley CJ, Han L, Leo-Summers L, Hurria A, Gross CP, Davidoff AJ, Allore HG, Gill TM.

J Geriatr Oncol. 2018 Jun 21.

[Read More >>](#)

Genomics of Peritoneal Malignancies.

Karunasena E, Sham J, McMahon KW, Ahuja N.

Surg Oncol Clin N Am. 2018 Jul;27(3):463-475.

[Read More >>](#)

Hypoxia Promotes Resistance to EGFR Inhibition in NSCLC Cells via the Histone Demethylases, LSD1 and PLU-1.

Lu Y, Liu Y, Oeck S, Glazer PM.

Mol Cancer Res. 2018 Jun 22.

[Read More >>](#)