

DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

March 31, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

As clinicians and scientists, we are particularly attuned to change. We lean on it as a sign of worsening disease, or hopefully, improvement. We are constantly monitoring what is going on with our patients, with our experiments, and with the world at large. On a more personal level, however, we are sometimes less quick to recognize changes in our own well-being, and this can affect us both at and outside of work.

There has been a growing realization as early as the 1990s that medicine's culture was morphing, pressured by evolving demographics that included more two-career households, heightened patient expectations, and a growing emphasis on the finances of healthcare. Practicing medicine has not become easier over the past 30 years, but for many of us the challenges have been offset by the satisfaction and joy that has come from the dramatic advances in cancer therapeutics. We can now do so much more for our patients than was the case in the past. In the research setting, professional life has also been complicated by the tightening of research funding—it has become harder and harder to be a researcher.

Virtually all healthcare institutions recognize that they need to focus on the “wellness” of their clinicians and staff. Burnout and work frustrations not only affect clinicians themselves; these factors also affect patients. Over the years, I have been struck by the extent to which our patients pick up on subtle cues from us. They notice our moods, our frustrations, and our joys. In an effort to help both clinicians and patients, many healthcare institutions have launched programs focused on clinician wellness. The most successful efforts focus on ways to allow clinicians to practice at the top of their license and to spend more time in face-to-face interactions with patients. We, too, are focused on these efforts.

When the pandemic arrived in 2020, work on clinician well-being and most everything else was shelved to focus on a worldwide emergency. The somewhat worn clinical culture pulled together quickly, creatively, and courageously, proving itself resilient and selfless in the face of the most serious threat in recent medical history. The sense of purpose and unity was powerful, but it didn't last. And as the pandemic wore on, however, there was a new slate of resignations from physicians, nurses, and other professions who wanted something different from their lives.

As many of you know, I believe we have a strong and remarkably collaborative work force, including both clinicians and researchers. People

who choose to work with patients who have cancer and conduct cancer-related research are a special bunch. I also believe that there are always

Eric P. Winer, MD

Director, Yale Cancer Center

Physician-in-Chief, Smilow Cancer Network

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New Treatments can be Tough. A CT
Hospital is Changing that.**



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related research are a special bunch. I also believe that there are always improvements that can be made in our work environment and our overall culture. Very good can become great, and great can become exceptional. In the months and years ahead, we will be spending time thinking about what we can do to enhance professional fulfillment and improve the patient experience for those individuals who seek our care. We will talk about what we can do to take better care of ourselves and achieve higher levels of professional fulfillment. And we will discuss how we can take better care of each other. In some cases, we will focus on how small changes in our standard operating procedures can have major benefits in terms of clinician wellness.

YCC and Smilow are incredible places to be a clinician, conduct research, AND receive care. We are going to work on making the system even better. With the help of many of you, we will be reaching out in the months ahead to talk about how we can ensure that everyone who comes to work at YCC and Smilow feels truly delighted to be here. Stay tuned.

Eric

Announcements

Patricia M. LoRusso, DO, PhD (hc), Elected as American Association for Cancer Research President-Elect for 2023-2024

We are proud to announce Patricia M. LoRusso, DO, PhD (hc), will become President-Elect of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) on Monday, April 17, during the AACR's Annual Business Meeting of Members at the AACR Annual Meeting 2023 in Orlando, Florida. Dr. LoRusso will assume the Presidency in April 2024 at the AACR Annual Meeting in San Diego, California.

As the AACR's next President-Elect, Dr. LoRusso will work with the Officers and Directors of the AACR Board and the AACR membership at large, which includes more than 54,000 members in 130 countries, to further the AACR's mission to prevent and cure all cancers through research, education, communication, collaboration, science policy and advocacy, and funding for cancer research.

"I am extremely honored to have the opportunity to promote the AACR's

mission and advocate for the support of cancer research on behalf of all AACR members," said Dr. LoRusso. "We are facing both exciting and challenging times in cancer research and cancer care delivery. It is critical for



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Early-Onset Cancer Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital



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clinical research to keep pace with the unparalleled scientific discoveries that we are achieving if we are to reduce the suffering and mortality from cancer. Moreover, we must ensure that all patients have access to clinical trials. By bringing scientific discoveries into clinical trials and expanding the reach of trials to all populations, we will change the face of cancer. As AACR President, I look forward to championing the work of scientists, clinical trialists, clinicians, and patient advocates—all with an eye to improving the care we provide patients with cancer.”

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A Celebration of Life

Please join colleagues, friends, and family for a Celebration of Life in memory of Dr. Thomas Duffy on Wednesday, May 24 at 2:00pm in the Yale Medical Historical Library. A reception will follow in the Rose Garden.

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Yale Ventures

Please join the Yale Cancer Center Executive Committee for a presentation from Josh Geballe, MBA, Senior Associate Vice Provost for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Yale University and Managing Director of Yale Ventures, on Tuesday, April 4 at 2pm in Brady Auditorium or via Zoom. Josh will discuss the services Yale Ventures offers, including providing support to startups and training in entrepreneurship and innovation.

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Notables

Bohdan Pomahac, MD, Chief of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and a pioneer in the field of plastic and reconstructive surgery, was recently appointed the **Frank F. Kanthak Professor of Surgery (Plastics)**. Dr. Pomahac’s clinical work includes microvascular tissue transfer, particularly in breast reconstruction, following treatment for breast cancer as well as facial reconstruction and esthetic surgery. He is an active leader in facial transplantation. His team performed the first three full-face transplant procedures in the United States, and the first successful bilateral upper extremity transplantation in the Northeast.

D. S. Fahmeed Hyder, PhD, Professor of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging and of Biomedical Engineering and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Radiobiology and Genome Integrity Research Program, has been named **Head of Trumbull College at Yale University**. Dr. Hyder’s research focuses on using brain mapping to identify degeneration and cancer. He earned his doctoral degree in biophysical chemistry from Yale in 1995 and has been a faculty member since 1999.

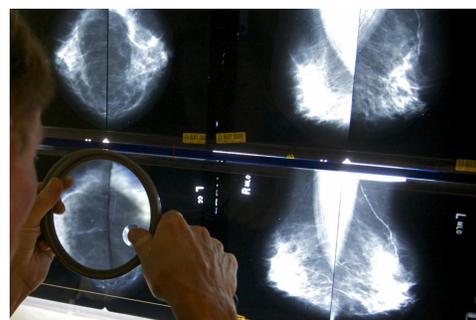
Dhanpat Jain, MD, Professor of Pathology and of Medicine (Digestive Diseases) and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Genomics, Genetics, and Epigenetics Research Program, was recently recognized by the National Cancer Institute for lending his subject matter expertise to the **Cancer**

Pathology Coding Histology and Registration Terminology (Cancer PathCHART). Dr. Jain contributed to reviewing histologies of the anus, appendix, colon and rectum, esophagus, small intestine, and stomach. Cancer PathCHART is a collaboration between the National Cancer Institute, College of American Pathologists, American Joint Commission on Cancer,



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[Nyberg- Local Non-profit Supports Underserved Single Mothers with Metastatic Breast Cancer](#)



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World Health Organization, and seven other organizations that is aimed at aligning standards for public health cancer data with medical practice.

Akiko Iwasaki, PhD, Sterling Professor of Immunobiology and Professor of Dermatology and of Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology and of Epidemiology (Microbial Diseases) and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, has been named to **the STATUS List 2023** compiled by the medical and science news publication *STAT*.

Gordon Sze, MD, Professor Emeritus of Radiology & Biomedical Imaging, has been awarded the **American Society of Neuroradiology's (ASNR's) 2023 Gold Medal** for his services in the fields of neuroimaging research and education. Dr. Sze was section chief at Yale for 30 years and is a past president of both ASNR and the American Society for Spine Radiology.

Our Palliative Care Program presented research and clinical advances at **the 2023 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine/Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association Annual Assembly** in Montreal last week. The following abstracts were presented:

Assessment in HPM Fellowship Training: Updates from the Assessment Workgroup, **Laura Morrison**

A Comparison between In-Person and Virtual OSCE on Advanced Communication Skills for Senior Medical Students, **Alex Choi** and **Laura Morrison**

Dying in the Hospital: a Quality Improvement Project to Increase Inpatient Hospice Utilization, **Brett Prestia** and **Dmitry Kozhevnikov**

Ventricular Assist Device and Palliative Care Team Preferences for Palliative Care's Involvement in Patients Undergoing LVAD Evaluation, **Bryan Terry**, **Shelli Feder**, **Michael Beasley**, **Laura Morrison**

Delivery characteristics for facilities with high-reach specialist palliative care for persons with advanced heart failure: What matters?, **Shelli L. Feder**, **Ling Han**, **Erica Abel**, **Yan Zhan**

To Create or Not To Create: How to Establish a System-Wide Proportionate Palliative Sedation Guideline through Comprehensive Interdisciplinary Collaboration, **Trinh Bui**, **Jaya Gupta**, **Leah Tenenbaum**, **Alex Choi** and **Elizabeth Prsic**

Leading for Well-Being, Kristin Edwards, Terence Bostic, and Katy Hyman
The Conundrum of High-Flow Oxygen on Hospital Discharge to Home Hospice, **Brett Prestia**

Bridging the Gap from Caring For to Caring About: The Role of Art Therapy to Enhance Palliative Care of an Incarcerated Patient Dying in the Hospital, **Julie Palmer-Hoffman** and **Elizabeth Ferguson**

More Than Just Meds: A Pharmacist-APRN Collaboration to Optimize Care of the "Difficult Patient" on a Palliative Care Consult Service, **Julie Palmer-Hoffman**, **Christina Holt**, **Kelly Cronin**, **Trinh Bui**

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing in Complicated Grief and Bereavement, **Kristin Edwards**, **Kim Wills-Rinaldi**

Bystander Empowerment Workshop: How to Respond to Microaggression in Clinical Environments, **Laura Morrison** and **Jennifer Kapo**

Oncology Hospitalists: Hospice Utilization on an Inpatient Medical Oncology Service, **Elizabeth Prsic**

The **Genetics, Genomics, and Epigenetics Research Program** welcomes **Yannick Jacob, PhD**, Associate Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology. Dr. Jacob brings expertise on



In recognition of National Doctors' Day, we would like to take a moment to give a huge thank you to all of our doctors at Smilow. Our healthcare professionals are experts in their respective fields, critical thinkers who never stop innovating, and above all else, dedicated to their patients. Smilow stands as a center of cancer treatment and research innovation thanks to the expertise and commitment of our doctors and our entire team. Thank you for all that you do!

On National Doctors' Day
your dedication continues
to inspire us.

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Meet Jonathan Leventhal, MD, onco-dermatologist at Smilow Cancer Hospital. Dr. Leventhal cares for patients undergoing cancer treatment who experience itchy or painful rashes, as well as hair and nail changes that can result from either their disease or treatment, including chemotherapy, immunotherapy, radiation, or stem cell transplantation.

A recent patient of Dr. Leventhal shared, "Dr. Leventhal is a superstar. He is a great communicator to the patient (me) and to his staff. He is warm, friendly, and inspires a sense of confidence."



Developmental Biology. Dr. Jacob brings expertise on histone variants, reader proteins, and genome instability to Yale Cancer Center and is currently focusing his research on diffuse midline glioma.



Onco-Dermatologist

Dr. Leventhal is a superstar. He is a great communicator to the patient (me) and to his staff. He is warm, friendly, and inspires a sense of confidence.

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Yale Innovation Summit

Interested in expanding the impact of your innovation or startup? Gain exposure to 2,000 founders, VCs, and industry attendees by attending the Yale Innovation Summit May 31 and June 1.

80 submissions will be selected for ePoster presentations, 50+ submissions will be selected to pitch live for a chance at \$200K in cash prizes, and all eligible submissions will be featured in the 2023 Yale Innovation Virtual Innovator Showcase. There is benefit in simply submitting your idea! The deadline to submit is midnight on April 16.

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Employee Profile: Mario Lupone, BSN, OCN, CMSRN

The Phase I Clinical Trial Infusion Center offers patients hope and the ability to participate in research with clinical impact – research that will advance new drugs, potentially leading to FDA approval.

Mario Lupone is one of the dedicated registered nurses within the Phase I Infusion Center. When patients arrive, he leads them through a

lengthy screening process starting with a blood draw and an assessment by an oncologist, both to determine if the patient can participate in treatment that day. He reviews the protocols, several more safety checks are made, and once the pharmacy produces the infusion mixture, Mario gets the patient prepared for their infusion. He generally cares for 2-4 patients per day, with

patients at times staying on-site for nearly 12 hours, which includes time for post-infusion observation.

“When you work in oncology, much of your interaction with patients is all about time – ‘how much time will this give me,’ ‘how much time before I’m feeling better,’ ‘how much time,’” says Mario. “Time is a gift. With everyone that comes through the infusion center, I see the selflessness with patients. Some know that by participating in an early phase trial, it will probably not



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#earlydetectionsaveslives #getscreened #colorectalcanerawarenessmonth



MYTH

If you are not experiencing symptoms, you are not at risk for colon polyps or colon cancer.

FACT

Even if you don't have symptoms, you may still be at risk, especially if you have a first-degree relative who had colon polyps or colon cancer younger than 60.

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As a certified genetic counselor at Yale Cancer Center, Claire Healy, MS, CGC, says, “It’s important for people to understand that most cancers are not caused by a hereditary predisposition to cancer. In fact, only 5-10% of all cancer is explained by a hereditary cancer predisposition syndrome.”

Claire shared insightful information on genetic testing and its role with cancer. With any concern about a hereditary predisposition to tumors or cancer, she recommends a conversation should first be had with a healthcare provider.

Genetic Counseling for Cancer



As a genetic counselor working in hereditary cancer genetics, it is my privilege to counsel patients who have a personal and/or family history of cancer. It's my goal to ensure my patients have a complete understanding of their risks for a hereditary cancer syndrome and feel empowered to make decisions about genetic testing and cancer screening and prevention that meet their personal healthcare goals.

cure them, but they arrive here to help people in the future.”

Before arriving at the Phase I Infusion Center two years ago, Mario spent seven years as an RN on NP 12, an inpatient floor at Smilow Cancer Hospital. As the father of two young kids, shifting to an outpatient setting provided a better lifestyle for his family.

Mario is also in his third year participating in nursing professional governance and its oncology cluster, an opportunity he explored to work on projects to make the lives of nurses easier. He will be presenting a project at the ONS Congress at the end of April. He also is a 10-year veteran of the Closer to Free Ride, riding for Team Live Positive.

Kelli-Ann Mancini, MSN, RN, OCN, Nursing Professional Development Specialist shares, “Mario has demonstrated a strong ability to maintain quality and safe care for his patients. He helps them navigate complex treatment protocols while managing potential symptoms and side effects. Aside from his strong knowledge base in clinical care, he has consistently demonstrated a level of compassion that one cannot be taught. Mario is able to read a room well and offer just what the patient needs: laughter or an ear to listen. You cannot teach the qualities Mario holds which make him an amazing oncology nurse.”

“Mario has contributed to the patient care continuum tremendously in his endeavors on NP 12 and Phase I,” says Bethany Larkin, MSHA, RN-BC, OCN, CT, Assistant Patient Services Manager, Women’s Oncology Services, Solid Tumor Infusion & Phase I. “Mario positively impacts the lives of his patients through his keen clinical acumen, inherent compassion, and infusion of humor within his interactions. Furthermore, Mario strives to positively impact nursing practice through his involvement and contributions in Nursing Shared Governance.”

Recent Publications

Bell, JC, Dombrowski, CC, Plank, JL, Jensen, RB, Kowalczykowski, SC. **BRCA2 chaperones RAD51 to single molecules of RPA-coated ssDNA.** *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 120(14), e2221971120.

[Read More](#)

Qu H, Li X, Chen F, Zhang M, Lu X, Gu Y, Lv M, Lu C. **LncRNA PVT1 Influences breast cancer cells glycolysis through sponging miR-145-5p.**

Genes Genomics. 2023 Mar 20. Epub ahead of print.

[Read More](#)

Anampa-Guzmán A, Contreras-Chavez P, Lustberg MB, Nekhlyudov L. **Online description of services provided in adult survivorship programs across U.S. accredited cancer centers.**

Journal of Cancer Survivorship. 2023 Mar 18. Epub ahead of print.

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Lu L, Ma W, Johnson CH, Khan SA, Irwin ML, Pusztai L. **In silico designed mRNA vaccines targeting CA-125 neoantigen in breast and ovarian cancer.**

Vaccine. 2023 Mar 17.

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Claire Healy, MS, CGC
Co-Manager, Genetic Counselor

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The American Cancer Society has awarded a four-year grant to Shi-Yi Wang, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Epidemiology (Chronic Diseases) and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, Cary Gross, MD, Professor of Medicine (General Medicine) and Epidemiology (Chronic Diseases), Director of Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Outcomes, Public Policy and Effectiveness Research Center (COPPER), and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, and Anne Chiang, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), Associate Cancer Center Director for Clinical Initiatives, and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Developmental Therapeutics Research Program.

Their research proposal seeks to determine which treatment sequences produce the best results for people with advanced cancer while examining the cost of these treatments. Congratulations to Drs. Wang, Gross, and Chiang!

Congratulations!



The American Cancer Society has awarded a four-year grant to Shi-Yi Wang, MD, PhD, Cary Gross, MD, and Anne Chiang, MD, PhD

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Lung cancer is the most lethal form of cancer, killing 150,000 Americans and 1.8 million people worldwide in 2022. The cancer is often diagnosed late when survival is less likely. Yet these mortality figures could be significantly lowered by using a simple preventative tool—lung cancer screening—that could detect the disease in its early phase.

Shroff RT, Goodman KA, Mehnert JM, Vose JM, Moran SE, Yessaian JL, Baldo L, Alexander BM, Highsmith QB, Mills JM, Kunz PL.

Where Are All the Women in Industry Advisory Boards?

Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2023 Mar 20.

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Ko AH, Kim KP, Siveke JT, Lopez CD, Lacy J, O'Reilly EM, Macarulla T, Manji GA, Lee J, Ajani J, Alsina Maqueda M, Rha SY, Lau J, Al-Sakaff N, Allen S, Lu D, Shemesh CS, Gan X, Cha E, Oh DY.

Atezolizumab Plus PEGPH20 Versus Chemotherapy in Advanced Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma and Gastric Cancer: MORPHEUS Phase Ib/II Umbrella Randomized Study Platform.

Oncologist. 2023 Mar 20.

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Taghi Khani A, Kumar A, Sanchez Ortiz A, Radecki KC, Aramburo S, Lee SJ, Hu Z, Damirchi B, Lorenson MY, Wu X, Gu Z, Stohl W, Sanz I, Meffre E, Müschen M, Forman SJ, Koff JL, Walker AM, Swaminathan S.

Isoform-specific knockdown of long and intermediate prolactin receptors interferes with evolution of B-cell neoplasms.

Communications Biology. 2023 Mar 20.

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Choi Y, Pollack S.

Significant Association of Estrogen Receptor- β Isoforms and Coactivators in Breast Cancer Subtypes.

Current Issues in Molecular Biology. 2023 Mar 17.

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Weiss A, Martínez-Sáez O, Waks AG, Laws A, McGrath M, Tarantino P, Portnow L, Winer E, Rey M, Tapia M, Prat A, Partridge AH, Tolaney SM, Cejalvo JM, Mittendorf EA, King TA.

Nodal positivity and systemic therapy among patients with clinical T1-T2N0 human epidermal growth factor receptor-positive breast cancer: Results from two international cohorts.

Cancer. 2023 Mar 23.

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Bauman JE, Saba NF, Roe D, Bauman JR, Kaczmar J, Bhatia A, Muzaffar J, Julian R, Wang S, Bearely S, Baker A, Steuer C, Giri A, Burtness B, Centuori S, Caulin C, Klein R, Saboda K, Obara S, Chung CH.

Randomized Phase II Trial of Ficlatusumab With or Without Cetuximab in Pan-Refractory, Recurrent/Metastatic Head and Neck Cancer.

Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2023 Mar 28.

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Gounder MM, Bauer TM, Schwartz GK, Weise AM, LoRusso P, Kumar P, Tao B, Hong Y, Patel P, Lu Y, Lesegretain A, Tirunagaru VG, Xu F, Doebele RC, Hong DS.

A First-in-Human Phase I Study of Milademetan, an MDM2 Inhibitor, in Patients With Advanced Liposarcoma, Solid Tumors, or Lymphomas.

Journal of Clinical Oncology. 2023 Mar 20.

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O'Neil DS, Ayeni OA, Farrow HA, Chen WC, Demetriou G, Buccimazza I, Čačala S, Stopforth LW, Joffe M, Antoni MH, Lopes G, Pumpalova YS, Mapanga W, Jacobson JS, Crew KD, Neugut AI, Ruff P, Cubasch H.

The Impact of HIV Infection on Neoadjuvant and Adjuvant Chemotherapy Relative Dose Intensity in South African Patients with Breast Cancer

Oncologist. 2023;oyad056.

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Madison AA, Renna M, Andridge R, Peng J, ShROUT MR, Sheridan J, Lustberg M, Ramaswamy B, Wesolowski R, Williams NO, Noonan AM, Reinhardt BE, Steyer DG, Charrier MA, Maloney WB, Kisselot-Cleaver JK,



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Recently on Yale Cancer Answers, Dr. Harry Aslanian discussed the use of advanced endoscopy to diagnose early-stage esophageal cancers. Listen on Connecticut Public Radio or download our podcast from iTunes.

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Dr. Joseph Brito, III, Assistant Professor of Urology, cares for patients with general urologic conditions, as well as prostate, bladder, and kidney cancers. He participated in a Q&A in recognition of Kidney Cancer Awareness Month, and talked about the advancements in therapies and surgical options for patients with kidney cancer.

Kidney Cancer Awareness Month



Joseph Brito III, MD
Assistant Professor of Urology

“For smaller renal masses, we are seeing an increased use of renal mass biopsy and active surveillance strategies. Biopsy can better characterize lesions prior to intervention. In some cases, this can prevent the need for surgery and make patients and providers more comfortable with surveillance.”

Reinbolt RE, Stover DG, Cheriari MA, Malarkey WB, Klecbit-Graser JK.
Conflicts hurt: social stress predicts elevated pain and sadness after mild inflammatory increases.

Pain. 2023 Mar 22.

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Hohenschurz-Schmidt DJ, Cherkin D, Rice ASC, Dworkin RH, Turk DC, McDermott MP, Bair MJ, DeBar LL, Edwards RR, Farrar JT, Kerns RD, Markman JD, Rowbotham MC, Sherman KJ, Wasan AD, Cowan P, Desjardins P, Ferguson M, Freeman R, Gewandter JS, Gilron I, Grol-Prokopczyk H, Hertz SH, Iyengar S, Kamp C, Karp BI, Kleykamp BA, Loeser JD, Mackey S, Malamut R, McNicol E, Patel KV, Sandbrink F, Schmader K, Simon L, Steiner DJ, Veasley C, Vollert J.

Research objectives and general considerations for pragmatic clinical trials of pain treatments: IMMPACT statement.

Pain. 2023 Mar 22.

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Funding and Award Opportunities

HESI THRIVE Grant

A proud partner of the **Biden Cancer Initiative**, THRIVE provides seed grants for clinical and translational research and technology-based solutions that enhance our ability to predict when and how adverse effects may occur in patients who have received cancer treatment. THRIVE also supports the development of approaches to avoid or lessen these effects.

Letters of Intent Due: April 10, 2023

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2023 Leslie H. Warner Postdoctoral Fellowships for Cancer Research

The Fellowships will support early-stage promising trainees that are conducting innovative basic, translational, clinical, or population-based cancer research with a Yale Cancer Center member. Relevance of proposed research to our catchment area priorities is also encouraged. Candidates may have up to one year of postdoctoral experience from the time of application.

Internal Submission Deadline: April 10, 2023

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2024 Pew-Steward Scholars for Cancer Research

The Pew-Steward Scholars for Cancer Research supports assistant professors of outstanding promise in science relevant to the advancement of a cure for cancer. For the 2024 award, one nomination will be invited from Yale University.

Internal Submission Deadline: April 10, 2023

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NCCN, Fight CRC, and Pfizer Quality Improvement Initiative: Optimizing

Biomarker-Directed Therapy in Metastatic Colorectal Cancer

NCCN[®] is pleased to announce a collaboration with Fight Colorectal Cancer (Fight CRC) and Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) to offer a new grant opportunity seeking proposals for quality improvement initiatives focused on optimizing biomarker-directed therapy in metastatic colorectal cancer.

Application Deadline: April 10, 2023

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Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) 2023 Grant Opportunities

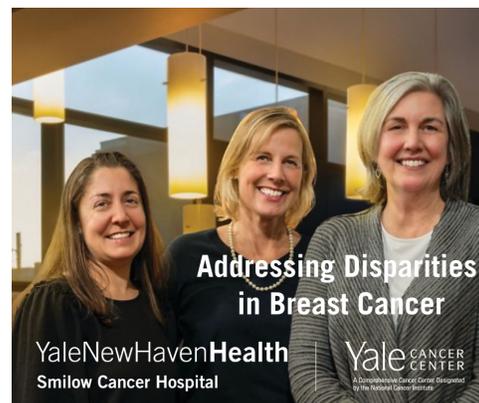
Reach Grant: the purpose of the Reach Grant is to advance ALSF's mission to find cures and better treatments for childhood cancers by providing support to move hypothesis-driven research into the clinic.

Application Deadline: April 11, 2023

R Accelerated Grant: this grant provides funding to scientists who are within

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A new grant from the Breast Cancer Research Foundation will further analyze racial and ethnic disparities in breast cancer. The study will focus on Black and Latina women and build on previous research linking breast cancer and lifestyle factors, such as obesity, and how outcomes can be improved through an intervention program of weight loss, exercise, and dietary changes.



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Meet Noffar Bar, MD, a hematologist at Smilow Cancer Hospital who cares for patients with multiple myeloma. Recently, a patient of Dr. Bar shared, "Dr. Bar is nothing short of amazing. I completely trust her and appreciate her treatment direction."



their first 10 years of faculty appointment and focused on research in pediatric oncology that support ALSF's mission to find cures and better treatments for childhood cancers.

Application Deadline: May 11, 2023

'A' Award Grant: the 'A' Award is designed for the early career scientist who wants to establish a career in pediatric oncology research and does not have independent NIH funding.

Application Deadline: May 12, 2023

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SITC Fellowships

The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer's (SITC) Fellowships program was established through the Forward Fund to support the development of early career scientists in the field to cultivate the next generation of cancer immunotherapy experts.

- **SITC-Bristol Myers Squibb Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Fellowship:** this cancer immunotherapy translational fellowship aims to support an MD, PhD, or combined MD/PhD individual with a vested interest in furthering the research and translation of cancer immunotherapy.
- **SITC-AstraZeneca Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer Clinical Fellowship:** this clinical fellowship supports an MD or combined MD/PhD degree with a vested interest in furthering the research and translation of immunotherapeutic approaches for the treatment of patients with lung cancer.
- **SITC-Genentech Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship:** this fellowship supports the development of a female immunotherapy expert who has an MD, a PhD or combined MD/PhD with a vested interest in furthering research in cancer immunotherapy. Priority will be given to female applicants who self-identify ethnic minority status according to the NIH's guidance on underrepresented populations. U.S.-based applicants only.
- **SITC-Merck Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship:** this clinical fellowship supports an MD or combined MD/PhD with a vested interest in furthering the research and translation of cancer immunotherapy.
- **SITC Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Fellowship:** this fellowship supports clinical or translational research in cancer immunotherapy and will be awarded to an MD, PhD or combined MD/PhD who self-identifies ethnic minority status according to the NIH's guidance on underrepresented populations.
- **SITC-Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals Adverse Events in Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship:** this fellowship provides support to an individual with an MD (or equivalent) or combined MD/PhD degree with a vested interest in furthering the research and translation of adverse events in cancer immunotherapy.

Application Deadlines: April 17, 2023

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Diversity Enhancement Program in Oncology at Yale Cancer Center

The Diversity Enhancement Program in Oncology is an initiative established

by the Section of Medical Oncology at YCC. The Program is designed to foster underrepresented in medicine (URiM) trainees' interest in careers in hematology/medical oncology (heme/onc) and to build a pipeline to bring URiM candidates to the YCC Heme/Onc Fellowship Program and YCC-Advanced T32 Training Program for Physician-Scientists.

The Diversity Enhancement Program in Oncology supports 2 URiM medical students or residents to spend an 8-week oncology rotation at Yale in summer 2023. The rotation will include an oncology clinical experience in conjunction with a clinical or translational research project. The selected medical student(s) or resident(s) will be mentored by YCC faculty and co-mentored by Heme/Onc T32 Fellows. The Section of Medical Oncology at YCC will cover the expenses including living, transportation, and research for up to \$5,000 per person.

Application Deadline: April 19, 2023

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As a #gastroenterologist, Dr. Thiruvengadam Muniraj

@ThiruMunirajMD, says thanks to tech innovations that blend #surgery + #endoscopy, excellent outcomes in#GI can be provided in a minimally-invasive way.



Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD, Director of @Yale_CIO, Co-Director of the Yale Skin Cancer SPORE, & a member of our Cancer Immunology Research Program, was recently appointed the Anthony N. Brady Professor of Dermatology, Pathology, and Immunobiology



On #NationalDoctorsDay, we extend a huge thank you to all of our doctors @SmilowCancer. They are experts in their respective fields, critical thinkers who never stop innovating, and above all else, dedicated to their patients. Thank you for all that you do!



Our Genetics, Genomics, and Epigenetics Program welcomes Dr. Salil Garg @garg_lab, as Assistant Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology.



Congratulations to Dr. Susan Baserga @SusanBaserga, and Dr. Mark Lemmon, named new Fellows of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology



Drs. Shi-Yi Wang, Anne Chiang @Annechiangmd, + Cary Gross @cpgYALE received a 4-year #grant from @AmericanCancer for their research proposal on treatment sequences producing the best results for ppl w/advanced #cancer and the associated cost.



Our #GrandRounds today features Manali I. Patel, MD, MPH, MS, @manalipatelmd, presenting "Redesigning Supportive Cancer Care Delivery -- Aligning Goals."



Congratulations to Yuval Kluger, PhD, a member of Yale Cancer

Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer Career Enhancement Program (CEP)
The CEP of the Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer has been established to educate the next generation of investigators committed to translational research in lung cancer. The CEP will provide support of up to \$50,000 to promising junior investigators and/or establish investigators who have not previously conducted lung cancer focused research.
Letters of Intent Due: April 21, 2023
Read More

Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer Developmental Research Program (DRP) Award
The DRP of the Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer provides seed money to investigators to support studies with a strong translational component that have the potential to evolve into, or be incorporated as, a full Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer project. The purpose is also to generate preliminary data or evidence of collaboration for new NCI grant applications.
Letters of Due: April 21, 2023
Read More

Biomedical Knowledgebase (U24)
This FOA is designed to support biomedical knowledge bases. Biomedical knowledge bases under this announcement should have the primary function to extract, accumulate, organize, annotate, and link growing bodies of information related to core datasets.
Application Deadline: May 8, 2023
Read More

Biomedical Data Repository (U24)
This FOA is designed to support biomedical data repositories. Biomedical data repositories under this announcement should have the primary function to ingest, archive, preserve, manage, distribute, and make accessible the data related to a particular system or systems.
Application Deadline: May 8, 2023
Read More

NCCN Pfizer Investigator-Sponsored Research Project to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Elranatamab in the Treatment of Multiple Myeloma
NCCN® is pleased to announce a collaboration with Pfizer Global Medical Grants to offer a new grant opportunity. They are seeking LOI for investigator-initiated research to support clinical research studies to further evaluate the effectiveness of elranatamab in the treatment of Multiple Myeloma.
Letters of Intent Due: May 10, 2023
Read More

Robert A. Winn Diversity in Clinical Trials Award Program
The goal of the Robert A. Winn Career Development Award (Winn CDA) is to increase the diversity of patients enrolled in clinical trials, and ultimately to enhance the development of therapeutics for all populations.
Application Deadline: May 12, 2023
Read More

Yale Center for Gastrointestinal Cancers: 2023-2024 Seed Grant Program
This intramural seed grant program of the Center for Gastrointestinal Cancers (CGIC) is designed to spur team-based basic, translational, clinical, or population health research in GI cancers by providing pilot funding to support new or existing projects in early stages. Funds are intended to be used to formalize collaborations and acquire preliminary data that allow for competitive submissions for extramural funding, including multi-PI R01 and program project grants. Two (2) projects will be funded for academic year 2023-2024.
Internal Submission Deadline: May 15, 2023
Read More

NCCN, Pfizer and Myovant RFP: Combination Therapy with Relugolix in

PHD, a member of Yale Cancer Center's Genomics, Genetics & Epigenetics Research Program. Dr. Kluger was recently appointed the Anthony N. Brady Professor of Pathology.

 Tonight at 7:30pm on Yale Cancer Answers, Dr. Harry Aslanian discusses the use of advanced endoscopy to diagnose early-stage esophageal cancers. Listen live on @wnpr or download our podcast from iTunes.

 Lung cancer killed 150K Americans and 1.8M people worldwide in '22. Often diagnosed late when survival is less likely, #lungcancer screening could significantly lower mortality figures through early detection.

 In recognition of #KidneyCancerAwareness Month, Dr. Joseph Brito III talked about the advancements in therapies and surgical options for patients with #kidneycancer in this Q&A: <http://bit.ly/40wuf46>

 Dr. Elizabeth Prsic @ElizabethPrsic will present "Oncology Hospitalists: Hospice Utilization on an Inpatient Medical Oncology Service", today at 11:30am at @AAHPM Annual Assembly in Montreal.

 Saturday, March 25 at 10am, Dr. Laura Morrison @lojomo22 & Dr. Jennifer Kapo will present in a @AAHPM Bystander Empowerment Workshop: "How to Respond to Microaggression in Clinical Environments."

 "Having a dense breast law allows us to add additional tests to #mammography to find cancers that we don't see on mammography," said Dr. John Lewin @lewinjz, Division Chief of Breast Imaging @SmilowCancer.

Calendar

Endocrinology Clinical Dilemma

March 31; 12:00 PM

BCMM 206/208

Oyunbileg Magvanjav, Clinical Fellow

Learn More

the Treatment of Advanced Prostate Cancer

NCCN[®] is pleased to announce a collaboration with Pfizer Global Medical Grants and Myovant Sciences to offer a new grant opportunity. They are seeking proposals for investigator-initiated research to support clinical research studies to further evaluate the effectiveness of relugolix in combination with other therapies for the treatment of advanced prostate cancer.

Application Deadline: May 22, 2023

[Read More](#)

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

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

Full applications Due: Friday May 26, 2023

[Submit here](#)

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

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

Full applications Due: Friday May 26, 2023

[Submit here](#)

DoD Ovarian Cancer Research Program

The Ovarian Cancer Research Program (OCRP) is currently accepting applications for five award mechanisms.

- **Investigator-Initiated Research Award:** supports high-impact research that addresses a critical need and has the potential to make an important contribution to ovarian cancer or patient/survivor care. **Pre-proposal due:** April 17, 2023
- **Ovarian Cancer Academy Award- Early-Career Investigator:** supports the addition of new Early-Career Investigators (ECIs) to the unique, interactive virtual academy that provides intensive mentoring, national networking, collaborations, and a peer group for junior faculty. **Pre-proposal due:** April 17, 2023
- **Pilot Award:** supports innovative, high-risk/high-reward research in ovarian cancer that could ultimately lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will drive the field forward. **Pre-proposal due:** April 17, 2023
- **Clinical Trial Award:** supports rapid implementation of clinical trials with the potential to have a significant impact on ovarian cancer. **Pre-proposal due:** May 26, 2023
- **Clinical Translational Research Award:** supports correlative studies that address translational research in high-impact or unmet needs in ovarian cancer and have a clinical emphasis. **Pre-proposal due:** May 26, 2023

[Read More](#)

Addressing the Primary Care Needs of Cancer Survivors (U01)

The purpose of this FOA is to support the development and testing of primary care practice (PCP)- and health system-level interventions and strategies to promote high quality care for adult cancer survivors during and/or after cancer treatment. The overall goal of this opportunity is to support high quality care for cancer survivors that integrates primary care from the point of diagnosis forward.

Application Deadline: July 24, 2023

[Read More](#)

Scientific Symposium

April 1; 8:00 AM

Edward P. Evans Hall, Beinecke Terrace

Bernard Lytton Celebration of Life Scientific Symposium

Mark Saltzman, PhD | William J. Catalona, MD | John A. Libertino, MD |

Michael S. Leapman, MD, MHS | Robert M.

Weiss, MD, FACS, FAAP | Darryl T. Martin,

PhD | Vito Imbasciani, PhD | Patrick C.

Walsh, MD

[Learn More](#)

Yale Cancer Answers

April 2; 7:30 PM

Ablation/Focal Therapy in the Treatment of Prostate Cancer

Preston C. Sprenkle, MD

[Learn More](#)

Genetics Thesis Seminar

April 3; 10:00 AM

The Anlyan Center

CpG Island Turnover Predicts Evolutionary Change in Enhancer Activity

Acadia Kocher

[Learn More](#)

Genetics Clinical Grand Rounds

April 4; 10:15 AM

Identification of Incidental Germline Mutations By Liquid Biopsy Testing

Karina Brierley, CGC, MS

[Learn More](#)

Genetics Seminar Series

April 4; 11:30 AM

The Anlyan Center, N107

Renewal and plasticity in oral and gastrointestinal epithelia

Ophir Klein, MD, PhD

[Learn More](#)

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

April 4; 12:00 PM

55 Park Street Auditorium

Peritoneal Surface Malignancies: Novel therapeutics and insights

Kiran Turaga, MD, MPH

[Learn More](#)

YCC Executive Committee Meeting

April 4; 2:00PM

Yale Ventures

Josh Geballe, MBA

[Learn More](#)

Smilow Shares with Primary Care on Palliative Care

April 4; 5:00 PM

Richard Bain | Kristin Edwards, MD | Elizabeth Horn Prsic, MD | Aleksandra Rosinski

[Learn More](#)

Yale Liver Center Research Seminar

April 4; 5:00 PM

Assessing clinical effectiveness for treating liver diseases at the Food and Drug Administration: translating law into medical therapy

Frank Anania, MD

[Learn More](#)

Joint CSEI and BME Seminar

April 5; 12:00 PM

Hope Memorial Building, Hope 216

Understanding and Engineering Control Circuits of the Immune System

Hao Yuan Kueh, PhD

[Learn More](#)

Center of Molecular and Cellular Oncology Seminar

April 6; 1:00 PM

Lecture Hall 157, 300 George Street

Aberrantly spliced surface proteoforms with new roles in immunotherapy

Andrei Thomas-Tikhonenko, PhD

[Learn More](#)

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar

April 6; 2:30 PM

Alexandra McClellan, MS, CGC

[Learn More](#)

MB&B Special Seminar

April 6; 4:00 PM

Bass Center

The Membrane Phase Transition Drives Responsive Assembly of Signaling Domains at the Plasma Membrane

Sarah Veatch, Professor of Biophysics

[Learn More](#)

Center for GI Cancers Seminar Series 2022-2023

April 6; 4:15 PM

Bart J. Rose, M.D., MAS, FACS

[Learn More](#)

[Learn More](#)

The Wilton Playshop presents Head and Neck Cancer Awareness with Free Screenings

April 8; 3:00 PM

The Wilton Playshop

Saral Mehra, MD, MBA, FACS

[Learn More](#)

Yale Cancer Answers

April 9; 7:30PM

Targeted and Immunotherapy Approaches to the Treatment of NSCLC

Michael Grant, MD

[Learn More](#)

MB&B Seminar

April 10; 4:00 PM

Hope Memorial Building

Functional Flexibility of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins in Mediating Tardigrade Desiccation Tolerance

Thomas Boothby,

[Learn More](#)

Genetics RIP

April 12; 12:00 PM

Sterling Hall of Medicine, I-Wing

Yasmeen Ajaj | Eleanor Zagoren

[Learn More](#)

Neuroendocrine Series

April 12; 4:00 PM

Fitkin Memorial Pavilion

The Pituitary Pharmacopeia

Robert Weingold, Clinical Fellow

[Learn More](#)

Pharmacology Seminar Series presents

April 13; 12:30 PM

Brady Memorial Laboratory

Glycoproteomic landscape and structural dynamics of TIM family immune checkpoints enabled by mucinase SmE

Stacy Malaker, Assistant Professor

[Learn More](#)

Smilow Cares

April 13; 6:00 PM

Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center at Trumbull

Spring Cancer Survivors Education Series

Hanna Caridad, MS, RD-CDN

[Learn More](#)



Share your news!

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

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Communications

Yale Cancer Center | 333 Cedar Street, New Haven, CT 06520

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