My name is Mandar Mazumdar, a medical oncologist at Smilow Cancer Hospital, scientific director of the Center for Gastrointestinal Cancers at the Yale Cancer Center and a cancer biologist in the Department of Genetics at Yale University. I treat patients admitted to the medical oncology service at Smilow Cancer Hospital and have a special clinical focus in pancreatic cancer. Pancreatic cancer remains one of the
greatest challenges we have in cancer care.

Although we’ve improved outcomes in a variety of cancers due to the development of new chemotherapies and new targeted therapies that go after specific mutations within tumors and new therapies that target cancer through harnessing the immune system.

outcomes and pancreatic cancer have only modestly improved over the last four decades, I’ve chosen to invest a large bulk of a large bulk of my career. In trying to meet this challenge and have developed a team here at Yale called the Yale Pancreatic Cancer Collaborative.
clinicians and researchers at various disciplines across Yale and is poised to make dramatic discoveries in basic biology of pancreatic cancer, which will translate to improved therapies for our patients. Our lab studies the basic biology of KRAS, which is mutated in more than 90% of pancreatic cancers, and our work is uncovering new ways of targeting pancreatic cancers that harbor care as mutations, and also to identify drug combinations that can be used effectively. With new care as inhibitors
that are entering the clinic.

Our labs also interested in understanding the links between obesity and pancreatic cancer. Since obesity is a major risk factor for the disease, when I see patients at Smilow Cancer Hospital on the inpatient service with pancreatic cancer or other solid tumors, I’m reminded of the challenges that our patients face. And when it reinvigorates me to get back into the lab and work even harder to identify new ways of helping those patients through new approaches for treatment or prevention.