September 7, 2018

Announcements

Yale Cancer Center Re-designated

I am extremely proud to announce that Yale Cancer Center has received our official notification from the National Cancer Institute renewing our center as a Comprehensive Cancer Center and approving an additional five years of our Cancer Center Support Grant. Based on the outstanding score on our application, we received a 74% increase in funding compared to the previous funding period, with nearly $26 million in support over the next five years. I am honored to share this wonderful news and accomplishment with you, and thankful for all of your support throughout the application process and site visit.

Yale Cancer Center was founded in 1974 as one of the inaugural five comprehensive cancer centers in the nation and has a rich history of cancer research and patient care. Our site visit team summarized our placement well, “YCC discoveries have been paradigm-shifting and practice-changing ... with every confidence that YCC will continue on a positive trajectory.” I appreciate all you do to support the mission of Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital and look forward to working together over the next five years of our CCSG to continue to reach our goals for the cancer enterprise.
Flu Vaccination
As we enter the flu season, I would like to remind everyone about the absolute vital importance of flu vaccination for all staff. Across Smilow Cancer Hospital and our Care Centers, we provide care for many patients with complex medical issues. Minimizing our patients’ exposure to the influenza virus is a vital part of the comprehensive care that we provide.

Yale New Haven Health requires all employees and attending physicians to receive the influenza vaccination annually to protect our patients from influenza. Additionally, Yale University strongly recommends that all of its physicians and staff receive the flu vaccination. I urge all of us within the cancer community to obtain the flu vaccine. Our patients depend upon us to do everything possible to reduce their risk of complications. Thank you in advance for your attention to this.

Tobacco Treatment in our Care Centers
The Tobacco Treatment Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital is now offering counseling and smoking cessation services in our Care Centers. Margaret Antenucci, APRN, has started rotating time on Wednesdays in Trumbull to offer services to patients of the Fairfield and Trumbull Care Centers. In addition, Margaret provides care to patients in Torrington and Waterford remotely through our Telehealth program, which offers care through video visits. The Tobacco Treatment Program will continue to expand to additional locations in the coming months. Please consider referring your patients for smoking cessation services. For more information, contact Lisa Fucito, MD, Tobacco Treatment Program Director.

News Center
Forum: Why Closer to Free is more than a bike ride
Read More >>
Making progress for patients: Smilow fights cancer on multiple fronts
Read More >>
The latest research in brain cancer
Read more >>
The Yale Cancer Biology Training Program (CBTP) recently celebrated the graduation of its founding class of trainees. Congratulations to this year's inaugural graduates: Jennifer Garbarino (Ranjit Bindra Laboratory; clinical co-mentor Barbara Burtness); Alexandra Kulhmann (Susan Kaech laboratory; clinical co-mentor Scott Gettinger); Courtney Smith (Mark Lemmon laboratory; clinical co-mentors Madhav Dhodapkar, Stephanie Halene); Jacqueline Starrett (Katerina Politi laboratory; clinical co-mentor Sarah Goldberg); and Joshua Sheetz (Mark Lemmon laboratory; clinical co-mentor Wendell Yarbrough).

The CBTP provides comprehensive cancer training to add depth and clinical exposure to prepare predoctoral and postdoctoral PhD trainees to lead translational research. In addition to their pathfinding laboratory cancer research, these trainees have completed a rigorous series of courses that augment standard PhD training. They have also benefited from mentoring by Yale Cancer Center clinical co-mentors. We thank the many other faculty course leaders, clinical mentors, and teachers who contribute to this program.

The CBTP is supported by T32 CA193200 from the National Cancer Institute (Peter Glazer and David Stern, PI's); by Yale Cancer Center, and by Yale School of Medicine. The CBTP is directed by David Stern, registrar is Karen D'Angelo.
Liver, Pancreas and Biliary Symposium

Please join St. Francis Hospital, Yale Cancer Center, and Smilow Cancer Hospital for the 2nd Annual Liver, Pancreas and Biliary CME Symposium on Friday, September 14 at the Connecticut Convention Center. This program is free of charge, hosted by Oncology Services at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

Learn More >>

Notables

The Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer recently awarded their Career Enhancement and Developmental Research Awards. The following investigators were awarded funding to support their projects:

Career Enhancement Program:

Brett Bade, PhD: Implementing a physical activity program in patients with non-small cell lung cancer

Asha Jayakumar, PhD: Role of Ripk3 inhibition in MDSCs in non-small cell lung cancer

Latest Posts:

Our friends at Smilow Rocks have been hard at work creating wonderful rocks for our patients. These rocks uplift patients, staff, and families by sharing a little reminder of joy and gratitude.

Read More >>

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month! Attend our next Prostate Cancer Support group on September 5th at 12pm. To learn more, please call (203) 200-6358.

Free two-part prostate cancer screenings will also be held in Greenwich on September 6th, 11th and 13th. To register or for more information, please call (203) 863-4444

Yale Cancer Center scientists have filled in a key gap in understanding the unusual route by which the Human papillomavirus (HPV) infects cells. Their findings, published in the journal Cell, may eventually help to
Mandar Muzumdar, MD: Molecular determinants of lung adenocarcinoma progression

Developmental Research Program:  
Lauren Baldassarre, MD: Advanced Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging for Detection of Subclinical and Clinical Cardio-Toxicity Associated with Inhibition of the Programmed Cell Death Protein-1 Pathway in the Treatment of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer  
Brinda Emu, MD: Immune composition and genomic landscape of non-small cell lung cancer from HIV-infected subjects  
Aaron Ring, MD, PhD: Profiling functional antibody responses to checkpoint immunotherapy in lung cancer  
David Calderwood, PhD: Development of TLK2 kinase inhibitors to treat KRAS-driven lung cancer  
Andrew Xiao, PhD: A novel epigenetic mechanism in lung cancer resistance

The Connecticut Brain Tumor Alliance will honor Joseph Piepmeier, MD with their Lifetime Achievement award during their annual Path of Hope event on Saturday, September 29. Jennifer Moliterno, MD will serve as Honorary Chair of the event.

Nancy Carrasco, PhD, has been appointed the C.N.H. Long Professor of Cellular and Molecular Physiology. Dr. Carrasco is a leader in the study of cell membrane transporters and is a member of Yale Cancer Center's Genomics, Genetics and Epigenetics Research Program.

Development Update

Yale Discovery Fund Gift  
The Chenevert Family Foundation, chaired by Louis Chenevert, has committed an additional $450,000 to the Yale Cancer Center.

Sun Safe Tips

1. Wear Sunscreen  
2. Wear Sunglasses

3. Wear a hat  
4. Find Shade

Happy Labor Day from Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital. We wish you a fun, safe and relaxing holiday! A special thanks to all of our physicians, nurses, and caregivers who are working today to care for our patients. We are grateful for each of you!
Center Discovery Fund, which funds high-risk, high-reward cancer research projects. The funding from the Chenevert Family will support a research project proposed by Sidi Chen, PhD, Assistant Professor of Genetics and a member of the Cancer Biology Institute.

Employee Profile: Diane Eannotti

Diane Eannotti, RN, is a Clinical Research Nurse at our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center locations in Fairfield and Trumbull where she oversees patient care for patients who are participating in clinical trials. Once a patient is found to be a candidate for a trial, she reviews the enrollment process with them, stays with them through treatment when constant monitoring for needs and safety assessments are vital, and continues with them through to the end of treatment. Whether the trial has ended or the patient had to withdraw, Diane also manages the transition to another trial, a different therapy selection, or she helps the family navigate to their next stages of care.

tree, and the gastrointestinal tract. Our team has expertise in endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) with fine needle aspiration (FNA) for the diagnosis and staging of cancers of the esophagus, rectum, and pancreas as well as Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio Pancreatoscopy (ERCP) for diagnosis and treatment of biliary and pancreatic issues, including stones, strictures, and cancer. Our multidisciplinary approach helps to manage our patients' individualized needs and expedites their path to treatment.

Congratulations to Eileen Holt, RN, recipient of a Daisy Award for Extraordinary Nurses last week. Eileen works at our Smilow Radiation Oncology office in Hamden. The award presentation was attended by Eileen’s co-workers and family members and a patient’s family who nominated her for the extraordinary care she provided to their loved one and their entire family!
The Fairfield and Trumbull Care Center locations have the highest patient populations enrolled on clinical trials in the state, and the portfolio of clinical trials is always growing. For Diane, this is exciting, "It is rewarding to see the access to novel therapies become more prevalent across our care centers - which is not widely known. Yale is a clinical research leader, and to see the exposure of Phase 2 clinical trials for our patients - and a promising future for offering Phase 1 trials, it only benefits our patients."

Diane has been a Clinical Research Nurse for 15 years, and during that time, she has seen the leaps forward in medicine. She can recall 10 years ago, when 8-10 trials would be available in oncology research, and now, our portfolio is much more robust, with new trials opening every week - some with updates happening on a daily basis. It is a field filled with advancements, and when she can see early phase drugs have success and become FDA-approved, it's even more gratifying.

#OOTB Thanks: Erica Carbone
YCC #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Erica Carbone, a Regulatory Assistant in the Clinical Trials Office at Yale Cancer Center. When her colleague needed to go out on leave recently, Erica stepped right in as the regulatory assistant for the GU and Endocrine/Sarcoma portfolios. While still managing her normal responsibilities as a Regulatory Assistant supporting the GI portfolio, Erica also made sure that all regulatory submissions and immediate needs of these DARTs were done in a timely manner and in a seamless fashion. Her hard work and dedication is truly commendable. Thank you,

Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter

Follow us on twitter
Erica!

Yale Cancer Center's #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS program is a staff recognition initiative to show appreciation to employees who have exemplified above-and-beyond effort or an outstanding contribution to the team. All nominations should be submitted to the Director's Office c/o Anna Raso.

Funding Opportunities

DoD Breast Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities

Applications to the FY18 BCRP are being solicited for the DHA. The BCRP supports innovative, high-impact research focused on ending breast cancer.

- **Breakthrough Award Level 3 & 4**: Supports promising research that has the potential to lead to or make breakthroughs in breast cancer. Preproposal Due: September 14, 2018
- **Breakthrough Award Level 1 & 2**: Supports promising research that has the potential to lead to or make breakthroughs in breast cancer. LOI Due: November 1, 2018

Learn More >>

We're proud to announce that Cancers of the Head and Neck, a journal edited by Yale Cancer Center's Dr. Barbara Burtness, is included in the Precision Oncology series.

Our 2018 @CTFRide ride is this Saturday. Read in today's @nhregisterwhy we think it's important you should join us!

Please support us this Saturday for what will be a great event for our hospital and patients!

September is prostate cancer awareness month! Join us at noon on 9/5 for our #prostatecancer support group and on 9/6, 9/11, and 9/13 for a free two-part prostate cancer screening in Greenwich.

Today's Yale Cancer Answers will feature an interview with @ranjitbindrahighlighting his research discovering new uses and treatment options using PARP inhibitors for #CancerTreatment.

Read about us including @CharlesFuchsMD@DrRoyHerbstYalein @nh register as part of their Top 50 stories that put #NewHaven on the map!

Dr. Jennifer Moliterno was interviewed live on @GMCT@jocelynmaminta about the late senator#JohnMcCain#braincancer. She also talked about the signs and symptoms of the disease and breakthroughs in#PatientCare.

Smilow Cancer Hospital is one of the few hospitals in the country with a specialized program to care for patients with cancers of the eye. Tune in to listen to Dr. Renelle Lim, director of our ocular oncology program, discuss diagnosis and treatment options @wnpr 7:30pm.

Please join our Center for Immuno-Oncology for a day-long Dean's Symposium on October 4th at @YaleMed. Agenda >> https://bit.ly/2BBVtjl
Prostate Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities

The mission of the PCRP is to fund research that will lead to the elimination of death from prostate cancer and enhance the well-being of Service members, Veterans, and all men experiencing the impact of the disease.

- Health Disparity Research Award - Letter of Intent Due: September 20, 2018
- Health Disparity Scholar Award - Letter of Intent Due: September 20, 2018

Learn More >>

2019 Szent-Gyorgyi Prize for Progress in Cancer Research

The Prize was established to honor an outstanding researcher whose scientific achievements have expanded our understanding of cancer and cancer causation. Nominations may be made by individuals from the research community, industry, government, or other organizations who are sufficiently familiar with the research accomplishments and contributions of the nominee. Internal Application Deadline: September 20, 2018

Sponsor Nomination Deadline: September 30, 2018
Learn More >>

Cancer Research Education Grants Program to Promote Diversity - Research Experiences (R25)

The over-arching goal of this NCI R25 program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the nation's biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research workforce. Application Deadline: September 25, 2018
Learn More >>

Calendar

Surgery Grand Rounds
September 7; 7:30AM
FMP 1094
State of the Department
Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA
Learn More >>

Hematology Research Seminar Series
September 7; 12PM
Brady Auditorium
Learning about treatment effects from administrative data: promises and traps
Adam Olszewski, MD
Learn More >>

5th Annual Symposium on Academic Interventional Radiology
September 7; 5:30PM
Washington, DC
Kevin Kim, MD
Learn More >>

Closer to Free Bike Ride
September 8; 5:30AM
Yale Bowl
Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Answers
September 9; 7:30PM
WNPR
Advances and Clinical Trials for Sarcomas
Hari Deshpande, MD
Learn More >>

Smilow Screening & Prevention Program Informational Table
September 10; 11AM
Cancer Research Education Grants
Program to Promote Diversity - Courses for Skills Development (R25)
The over-arching goal of this NCI R25 program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the nation's biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research workforce.
**Application Deadline:** September 25, 2018
Learn More >>

Secondary Analysis and Integration of Existing Data to Elucidate the Genetic Architecture of Cancer Risk and Related Outcomes (R01)
This FOA encourages applications that propose to conduct secondary data analysis and integration of existing datasets and database resources, with the ultimate aim to elucidate the genetic architecture of cancer risk and related outcomes.
**Application Deadline:** October 5, 2018
Learn More >>

Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortia (RDCRC) for Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (U54 Clinical Trials Optional)
The purpose of this FOA is to invite new and renewal applications for the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortia (RDCRC) that comprise the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN). The RDCRCs are intended to advance the diagnosis, management, and treatment of rare diseases with a focus on clinical trial readiness.
**Application Deadline:** October 9, 2018
Learn More >>

Administrative Supplements for Research on Dietary Supplements
This FOA announces the availability of administrative supplements to support research in which the supplemental funding would investigate the role of dietary supplements and/or their ingredients in health maintenance and disease prevention.
**Application Deadline:** October 15, 2018
Learn More >>

SCSU Campus
SCSU Self Care Fair
Learn More >>

Epigenetics Interest Group Seminar
September 10; 12PM
BCMM 206/208
Investigation of Long Noncoding RNAs in Tumorigenesis
Nadya Dimitrova, PhD
Learn More >>

YCC Grand Rounds
September 11; 12PM
Park Street Auditorium
Receptor Modulation as a Therapeutic Handle
Daryl E Klein, MD, PhD
Targeting the OST: Small molecule and sweet science
Joseph N Contessa, MD, PhD
Learn More >>

SCH/YCC Two-Part Free Prostate Cancer Screening
September 11; 5PM
Greenwich Hospital
Learn More >>

SCH/YCC Two-Part Free Prostate Cancer Screening
September 13; 5PM
Greenwich Hospital
Learn More >>

Pathology Research in Progress Talks
September 11; 9AM
TAC N107
Learn More >>

2nd Annual Liver, Pancreas, & Biliary Symposium
September 14; 8AM
CT Convention Center
James J Farrell, MBChB, Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA, and Jill Lacy, MD
Learn More >>
Administrative Supplements for Validation Studies of Analytical Methods for Dietary Supplement Constituents

This FOA builds on existing NIH awards to support the performance and publication of formal single-laboratory validation studies of quantitative analytical methods.

**Application Deadline:** October 15, 2018
[Learn More >]

NCI RFI: Input on Development of an NCI Cancer Biomarker Data Aggregator

The NCI is soliciting suggestions and opinions regarding the scope, use cases, clinical needs, and priority areas that the pilot CBAG should focus on to accelerate the development of biomarkers and tests for risk assessment and early detection of cancer.

**Submission Deadline:** October 20, 2018
[Learn More >]

Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS): Basic Mechanisms of Health Effects (R01/R21)

The purpose of this FOA is to support basic research examining how Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) aerosols affect normal and disease states relevant to human cells, tissues and organs.

**Application Deadline:** October 24, 2018
R01 [Learn More >]
R21 [Learn More >]


The purpose of this FOA is to support studies on electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) that examine population-based, clinical and applied prevention of disease, including etiology of use, epidemiology of use, potential risks, benefits and impacts on other tobacco use behavior among different populations.

**Application Deadline:** October 24, 2018
R01 [Learn More >]
R21 [Learn More >]

Digestive Diseases GI Core Curriculum Lecture Series

**September 14; 1PM**
TAC S-247
*Familial Colonic Disease*
Xavier Llor, MD, PhD
[Learn More >]

Yale Cancer Answers

**September 16; 7:30PM**
WNPR
*Urologic Health and Advances in Urologic Cancers*
Joseph Brito, III, MD
[Learn More >]

Pathology Research in Progress Talks

**September 18; 9AM**
TAC N107
Diane S Krause, MD, PhD
[Learn More >]

YCC Grand Rounds

**September 18; 12PM**
Park Street Auditorium
Abhijit Patel, MD, PhD
*Circulating Tumor DNA as an Immunotherapy Biomarker*
Ranjit Bindra, MD, PhD
*DIPG-associated PPM1D mutations drive a new form of CIMP and confer exquisite NAMPT inhibitor synthetic lethality*
[Learn More >]

Pathology Grand Rounds

**September 20; 12:30PM**
LMP1094
*Epigenetic Genome Control by RNA-Based Mechanisms*
Shivinder Grewal, PhD
[Learn More >]

Smilow Screening & Prevention Informational Table

**September 21; 9:30AM**
Tobacco Use and HIV in Low and Middle Income Countries (R01)

The purpose of this FOA is to encourage research focused on tobacco use and HIV infection in low and middle income countries.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2018

Learn More >>

NCI Outstanding Investigator Award (R35 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

This FOA invites grant applications for the Outstanding Investigator Award (R35) in any area of cancer research.

**Application Deadline:** November 2, 2018

Learn More >>

YCC K12 Calabresi Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) Scholar Awards

We are pleased to solicit applications for the Yale Cancer Center K12 Calabresi Immuno-Oncology Training Program (IOTP) Scholar Awards for junior faculty to enhance research skills beyond the training provided during graduate and postgraduate training. Successful applicants are required to demonstrate a strong commitment to a career in cancer immunology. The two-year IOTP curriculum includes didactic and practical training in basic, translational and clinical aspects of cancer immunology research. The program also includes a required research component (either clinical or bench research, or a combination thereof). Applicants are required to identify a mentor and a provide a research and mentorship proposal.

**Application Deadline:** December 1, 2018

Learn More >>

Instructions to Apply >>
Recent Publications

Increased epigenetic age in normal breast tissue from luminal breast cancer patients.
Read More >>

A framework to rank genomic alterations as targets for cancer precision medicine: the ESMO Scale for Clinical Actionability of molecular Targets (ESCAT).
Read More >>

Long-Term Survival of De Novo Stage IV Human Epidermal Growth Receptor 2 (HER2) Positive Breast Cancers Treated with HER2-Targeted Therapy.
Read More >>

Breast cancer patients with brain metastasis undergoing GKRS.
Abu-Khalaf M, Muralikrishnan S, Hatzis C, Canchi D, Yu JB, Chiang V.
Read More >>
Ki67 reproducibility using digital image analysis: an inter-platform and inter-operator study.
Acs B, Pelekanou V, Bai Y, Martinez-Morilla S, Toki M, Leung SCY, Nielsen TO, Rimm DL.
Lab Invest. 2018 Sep 4.
[Read More >>]

Leapman MS, Nguyen HG, Cowan JE, Xue L, Stohr B, Simko J, Cooperberg MR, Carroll PR.
Eur Urol. 2018 Sep 1.
[Read More >>]

The N-Terminal GTPase Domain of p190RhoGAP Proteins Is a PseudoGTPase.
Stiegler AL, Boggon TJ.
[Read More >>]

A spatiotemporal back-calculation approach to estimate cancer incidence measures.
Nautiyal N, Holford TR.
[Read More >>]

A Pilot Clinical Trial of Smoking Cessation Services Implemented in the Workplace for Service Industry Employees.
Bold KW, Kimmel L, Hanrahan TH, Romano D, Rojewski AM, Krishnan-Sarin S, Fucito LM, O'Malley SS.
[Read More >>]
Adjuvant Chemotherapy Is Associated With Improved Survival for Late-Stage Salivary Squamous Cell Carcinoma.
Read More >>

HPV status in unknown primary head and neck cancer: Prognosis and treatment outcomes.
Read More >>

Impact of intensity modulated radiation therapy on survival in anal cancer.
Read More >>

Sesterterpenoid and Steroid Metabolites from a Deep-Water Alaska Sponge Inhibit Wnt/β-Catenin Signaling in Colon Cancer Cells.
Park HB, Tuan NQ, Oh J, Son Y, Hamann MT, Stone R, Kelly M, Oh S, Na M. Mar Drugs. 2018 Aug 27;16(9).
Read More >>

An international multicenter study to evaluate reproducibility of automated scoring for assessment of Ki67 in breast cancer.
Ruan J, Srinivasan M, Virk S, Wu Y, Yang H, Hayes DF, Nielsen TO, Dowsett M.
Read More >>

Investigating Tumor-Associated Tertiary Lymphoid Structures in Murine Lung Adenocarcinoma.
Connolly KA, Nader M, Joshi N.
Read More >>

Clonal Evolution Analysis of Paired Anaplastic and Well-Differentiated Thyroid Carcinomas Reveals Shared Common Ancestor.
Read More >>

Targeting Cyclin-Dependent Kinases for Treatment of Gynecologic Cancers.
Lin ZP, Zhu YL, Ratner ES.
Front Oncol. 2018 Aug 8;8:303.
Read More >>