

June 10, 2016

Announcements

Hematology Inpatient Unit Named for Tom Duffy

Last week, it was an honor to dedicate the Duffy Hematology Firm at Yale New Haven Hospital. Thomas P. Duffy, MD is highly respected for his dedication and care of his patients, his incredible regard and talent for teaching our housestaff and fellows, and his mentorship at Yale Cancer Center and Yale New Haven Hospital throughout his 40 year career here. Please join me in congratulating Tom on the well-deserved honor of the Duffy Hematology Firm.

Justin Blasberg Joins Thoracic Surgery

Dr. Justin Blasberg has been appointed an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Yale School of Medicine and is a member of the Thoracic Oncology program at Smilow Cancer Hospital. His practice includes minimally invasive and open management for diseases of the esophagus, lung, mediastinum, chest wall, thoracic outlet, and diaphragm. In addition, he has a particular interest in benign and malignant diseases of the trachea, as well as complex lung resections requiring bronchoplasty. Dr. Blasberg received his undergraduate degree from Binghamton University, his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and a master's degree in science from University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.



from the desk of

Peter G. Schulam, MD, PhD

Director, Yale Cancer Center
and Physician-in-Chief,
Smilow Cancer Hospital (Interim)

Yale NewHaven Health

Smilow Cancer Hospital

Yale CANCER CENTER

A Comprehensive Cancer Center Designated
by the National Cancer Institute

Recent News

Read recent articles featuring experts
from Yale Cancer Center

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LATEST ARTICLES:

Development Update

Mary McNiff presented Dr. Harriet Kluger with \$26,000 from the Jim McNiff Annual Golf Tournament in support of renal cell cancer research at Yale Cancer Center.



Over 100 guests attended the May 16th event. At Yale Cancer Center we are grateful for the continued generosity of the McNiff family, friends, and sponsors, which will help us to pursue new research and treatment options for cancer.

Notables

Valentina Greco, PhD, a member of Yale Cancer Center's Signal Transduction Research Program, has been awarded the **American Society for Cell Biology Early Career Life Scientist Award**. The award supports an outstanding cell biologist who has served as an independent investigator for no more than seven years.

Lisa Shomsky, MBA, RN, CNML has been appointed as the inaugural **Clinical Program Director, Smilow at Bridgeport**. In this role, Lisa will be responsible for oversight of all Oncology clinical operations and cancer program oversight at the Park Avenue Medical center and Fairfield site, with the ultimate goal of integration of all clinical services to support our patients with cancer.

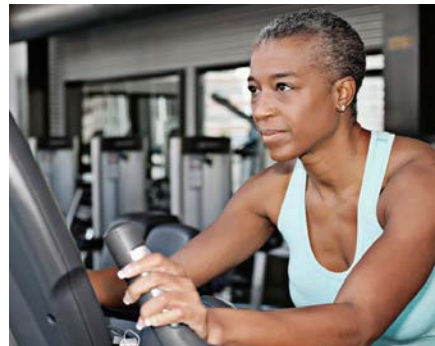
The Yale Palliative Care Program was well represented at the recent Yale 2016 Medical Education Day Festivities with three posters. The first two posters listed below won the top awards for the Education Research category.

1. Ashwini Bapat, MD, Matthew S. Ellman, MD, Kristin M. Rake, MD, Laura J. Morrison, MD. "Palliative Care Teaching in the Yale Internal Medicine Curriculum: How Are We Doing?"
2. Kristen Rake, MD, MTS, Laura J. Morrison, MD, John Encandela, PhD, Tracie Addy, PhD, MPhil, Renae James, BA, Ashwini Bapat, MD, Matthew Ellman, MD. "A New



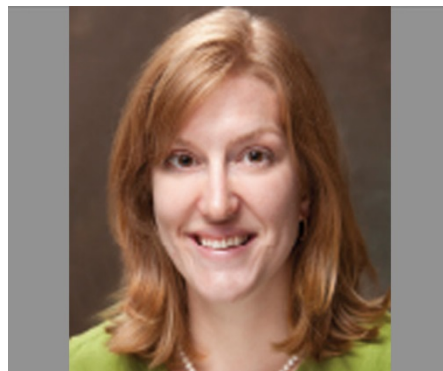
Yale Cancer Center researchers win Sokoloff Family-Melanoma Research Alliance team science award

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Trial to investigate link between weight, fitness and cancer recurrence

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Competency-Based Instrument to Assess Resident Knowledge and Self-Efficacy in Palliative Care."

3. Susan Varga, MD, Katja Goldflam, MD, Karen Jubanyik, MD, Laura Morrison, MD.
"Development of a Palliative Care Curriculum for Yale Emergency Medicine Residents: A Novel Approach."

Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Associate Director for Translational Research and Chief of Medical Oncology presented on **The Master Protocol in Oncology: Lessons Learned**, at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute workshop on Enhancing Treatments for Pulmonary Vascular Diseases earlier this week in Chicago.

Employee Profile: Wade Fowler

Wade Fowler's role as a Patient Care Assistant (PCA) on Smilow NP7 is to perform vitals on patients with hematological malignancies before they receive chemotherapy, or more often, blood transfusions. Having been in this role for 9 years, and previously working on the hematology inpatient unit, he has come to know this patient population well and the challenges they face.



"This patient population has very weakened immune systems and are more susceptible to illnesses that most of us think of as merely inconveniences," said Wade. "Therefore, one of my main focuses is keeping the equipment clean between patients and making sure patients are safe. I do not want any of my patients getting sick because something wasn't cleaned thoroughly."

Wade sees some patients on a daily basis for months at a time and has met many inspiring people, and has also experienced the loss of some. He commented that it is a difficult patient population in that sense, but that you have two choices, to laugh your way through it all or cry, and he chooses to laugh and help patients to laugh with him. He often does card tricks and other

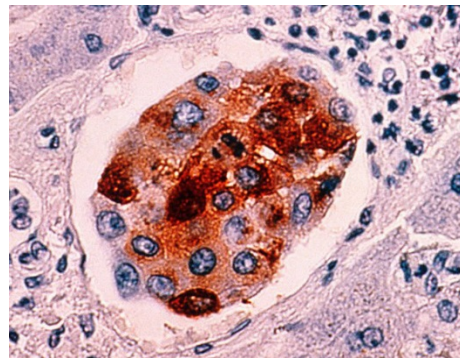
Physician-Researcher Carolyn Jean Presley, MD, Envisions Enhancing Geriatric Oncology

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Encouraging statistics cited on Cancer Survivors Day

[Read More >>](#)



Precision medicine the theme at world's biggest cancer conference

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magic tricks for patients to distract them from what they are going through, if only for a little while. His attitude has a lot to do with his strong faith and wanting to be a light in their darkness, instead of just, 'doing his job.'

Karen Reyes-Benzi, RN, an infusion nurse on NP 7, commented, "Patients are nervous when they come in, whether they have been here before or not, and Wade is the first person they see. He is a friendly face that puts people at ease. He uses humor to distract patients and always makes sure they have everything they need and are comfortable. He truly is the face of hospitality."

Funding & Award Opportunities

All current funding opportunities are archived on the Yale Cancer Center website, and searchable by topic, funding agency, and due date. Please check the site often for new opportunities.

[Learn More >>](#)

NCCN: Phase I/II Clinical Trials and/or Correlative Studies with Duvelisib for Hematologic Malignancies

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) has received a 2 Million Dollar research grant from Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (hereafter, "Grantor") to support NCCN Member Institution faculty for the performance of clinical and/or correlative studies of duvelisib in the treatment of hematologic malignancies. NCCN will serve as the funding organization for these grants that are available only to NCCN investigators.

Application Deadline: June 19, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

NCCN and Peregrine Pharmaceuticals Grant

National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) is pleased to announce that it has received a research grant from Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to support NCCN investigator initiated clinical and correlative studies of bavituximab in combination with other therapeutic strategies for the treatment of solid tumors in adult patients. The overall aim of this RFP is to develop innovative studies of bavituximab to help determine the role of bavituximab in expanding



The cancer revolution: Personalised treatment that's 'six times better' than traditional methods at beating the disease

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LATEST POSTS:

In 2011, at age 28, Benjamin Scheuer was diagnosed with stage 4 Hodgkin's lymphoma. A songwriter and performer, Benjamin recounted his journey to remission in "The Lion," a one-man autobiographical musical that opened Off Broadway last year. We were thrilled when he stopped by to visit us at Smilow Cancer Hospital when performing at the Long Wharf Theater!

Benjamin's latest song, "Cure," debuted last week. The song tells of his experience receiving chemotherapy treatment, and of the emotional challenges of remission.



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efficacy and/or improving outcomes for patients treated with immunotherapy or with modalities that increase tumor antigenicity.

Application Deadline: June 23, 2016

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Damon Runyon Innovation Award

The Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award is 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.

The Innovation Award is specifically designed to provide funding to extraordinary early career researchers who have an innovative new idea but lack sufficient preliminary data to obtain traditional funding. It is not designed to fund incremental advances. The research supported by the award must be novel, exceptionally creative and, if successful, have the strong potential for high impact in the cancer field.

Application Deadline: July 1, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

Lung Cancer Research Foundation Grants

The Lung Cancer Research Foundation's grant program provides funding for innovative research focused on the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure of lung cancer. LCRF grants are awarded for projects focused on one or more of the following areas of lung cancer research: Basic science, Translational research, Clinical research, Supportive care, Quality of care/outcomes.

Application Deadline: July 1, 2016

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Yale SPOR in Skin Cancer Developmental Research Awards

Developmental Research Program Awards are intended to support a broad spectrum of innovative pilot projects applicable to human skin cancer risk, prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment. To be funded, DRP projects must have promising translational research potential with application to human skin cancer, and there must be the expectation that they can evolve into, full projects with a clear translational component funded either within

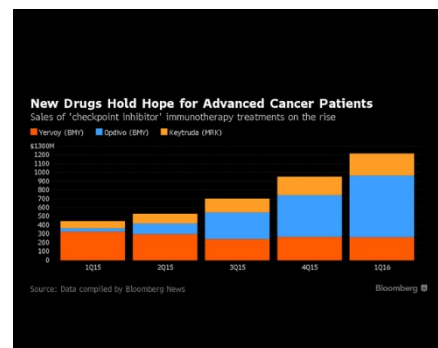
The Yale University Police Department hosted its sixth annual Battle of the Badges bench press competition to benefit breast cancer research at Smilow Cancer Hospital. The competition was held at Payne Whitney Gymnasium. Each team of three completed a certain number of repetitions within a prescribed period of time, based on each individual's body weight.



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Alan Kravitz was one of the first patients to get Opdivo when he was diagnosed with stage IV melanoma. With his prospects looking grim, Kravitz's doctor enrolled him into a clinical trial of drug in 2008. He received infusions twice a month, and a year later the nodules on his lungs were virtually gone. The mass on his liver, once larger than a golf ball, melted away. All that's now left is a scar.

"The goal here is to cure people of their cancer so we don't need continuous therapy," said his doctor, Mario Sznol, an oncologist and co-director of the Melanoma Program at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital.



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this SP0RE or as independent R01 (or equivalent) grants.

Application Deadline: July 11, 2016

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Susan G. Komen 2016/2017 Letter of Intent Announcements

1. CAREER CATALYST RESEARCH GRANTS (CCR)

CCR Grants provide unique opportunities for scientists who have held faculty positions for no more than five years at the time of Application to achieve research independence. CCR grants provide support for hypothesis-driven research projects that have significant potential to advance our understanding of breast cancer, lead to reductions in breast cancer incidence and/or mortality, and move us toward the goal of a world without breast cancer. There are two research focus areas: Basic/Translational and Clinical.

Letter of Intent due by 1pm, EST (U.S.) on Thursday, July 14, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

2. POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP GRANTS

PDF Grants are intended to attract and preserve today's young scientists and clinicians who will fuel the future and become the next generation of leaders in the field of breast cancer research. These leaders will play key roles in reducing breast cancer incidence and mortality within the next decade, with the ultimate goal of ending breast cancer forever. There are 2 Research Focus Areas: Basic/Translational and Clinical.

Letter of Intent due by 1pm, EST (U.S.) on Thursday, July 14, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

3. GRADUATE TRAINING IN DISPARITIES RESEARCH (GTDR) Grants

GTDR Grants are intended to establish and/or to sustain a training program for graduate students who are seeking careers dedicated to understanding and eliminating disparities in breast cancer outcomes across population groups.

Application Due: September 2016

Congratulations Dr. Joan A. Steitz, who was honored last week with the Jonathan Kraft Prize for Excellence in Cancer Research! Presented by Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, the Kraft Prize recognizes an extraordinary scientist, who has made major advances in our understanding of cancer and its treatment, and who teaches and inspires the next generation of cancer researchers.





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LATEST TWEETS:

 Join us tonight for this free workshop!
ow.ly/UcPU300YhU7

 .@ASCO's #QOPI Dr. Anne Chiang "current landscape of oncology..try to balance quality & value of these innovative Rx"

 Results of the Women's Activity and Lifestyle Study in CT (WALC) for #ovariancancer survivors. #ASCO16 Hall A <http://bit.ly/1ra6c9V>

 Fight cancer with your feet! Dr. Melinda Irwin @mirwin_yale talks to @Telegraph about a powerful new study <http://bit.ly/1PeA7DY>

[Learn More >>](#)

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

Do you have an idea for a new therapy and want help launching a CT-based biotech company? PITCH can help mature your concept and generate data sufficiently attractive to early-stage life science investors at no cost to you or your lab. Administered through the Yale Center of Molecular Discovery (YCMD), PITCH funds Center activities such as assay development, high throughput chemical screening, chemistry-based hit triage and medicinal chemistry optimization of active hits. PITCH is designed to foster new lines of research with milestone-driven progression, overseen by experienced board members and investors under CDA.

The next deadline for applications is

July 15, 2016

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BCA Young Investigator Grants

To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, BCA invites clinical doctors and research scientists whose primary focus is breast cancer and who are in the early stages of their careers to apply for funding for the Young Investigator Grant. This is a two-year grant for a total of \$125,000, with half the grant award being paid out each year.

Application Deadline: July 22, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

Ovarian Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for Fiscal Year 2016


The FY16 Defense Appropriations Act provides \$20 million (M) to the Department of Defense Ovarian Cancer Research Program (OCRP) to support high-impact ovarian cancer research.

Clinical Development Award

Must be an independent investigator at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent). Supports the translation of promising preclinical findings into products for clinical applications, including prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, or quality of life.

Application Due: August 10, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

 Congratulations to Dr. Marcus Bosenberg and team on the Sokoloff Family -@MelanomaReAlli Team Science award

Closer to Free

closer to free

The fund to advance cancer research and enhance patient care

June 10; 1PM

YCC Virus and Other Infection-Associated Cancers Research Program

SHM B-145

Cross-Reactivity in the Microbiome

William Ruff, MS

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June 13; 11AM

Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program

SHM I-116

Liquid Biopsy: Tracking Cancer by its Driver

Azeet Narayan, PhD

[Read More >>](#)

June 14; 9:30AM

Pathology Research in Progress Talk

TAC N-107

TBA

Vasiliki Pelekanou, MD, PhD and
Alexandra Albert

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June 14; 12PM

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds/Yale Program on Aging

Park Street Auditorium

Challenges and Opportunities at the Cancer/ Aging Interface

Investigator-Initiated Research Award

Must be an independent investigator at or above the level of Assistant Professor (or equivalent). Supports meritorious basic and clinically oriented research in ovarian cancer.

Application Due: August 10, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

Ovarian Cancer Academy Award

Early-Career Investigator

Early-Career Investigator must be within the first 3 years of his/her first faculty position (or equivalent) at the time of submission. Supports the addition of new Early-Career Investigators to the unique, interactive virtual academy that will provide intensive mentoring, national networking, and a peer group for junior faculty.

Application Due: August 10, 2016

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Pilot Award

Investigators at or above the postdoctoral level (or equivalent). Supports innovative, high-risk/high-reward research that could ultimately lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will drive the field of ovarian cancer research forward.

Application Due: August 10, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

SW43-DOX ± loading onto drug-eluting bead, a potential new targeted drug delivery platform for systemic and locoregional cancer treatment - An in vitro evaluation.

Ludwig JM, Gai Y, Sun L, Xiang G, Zeng D, Kim HS. Mol Oncol. 2016 May 21.

[Read More >>](#)

Chemical excitation of electrons: A dark path to melanoma.

Premi S, Brash DE.

DNA Repair (Amst). 2016 Jun 1.

[Read More >>](#)

Harvey Jay Cohen, MD

[Read More >>](#)

June 14; 5PM

Transforming Healthcare Grand Rounds

Fitkin Amphitheater, LMP 1094

Home-Based Medical Care: A Critical Strategy for Population Health Management

Bruce A. Leff, MD

[Read More >>](#)

June 16; 2PM

YCC/SCH Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Meeting

CGPP, Suites 107-109

TBA

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June 17; 11AM

Smilow Cancer Screening & Prevention Program Information Table

YNHH Atrium

National Men's Health Week and Prostate Cancer Screening & Prevention

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June 18; 8AM

YCC / Pancreatic Cancer Action Network Event

Hubbard Park

PurpleStride Connecticut: 5K & Family-Friendly Walk

Team Smilow Cancer Hospital

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June 20; 11AM

Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program

SHM I-304

Targeting Receptor Tyrosine Kinase to Radiosensitize Cancer Cells

Marta Baro, PhD

[Read More >>](#)

June 20; 2PM

Genetics of Cutaneous T Cell Lymphoma: From Bench to Bedside.

Damsky WE, Choi J.

Curr Treat Options Oncol. 2016 Jul;17(7):33.

[Read More >>](#)

SYD985, a Novel Duocarmycin-Based HER2-Targeting Antibody-Drug Conjugate, Shows Antitumor Activity in Uterine Serous Carcinoma with HER2/Neu Expression.

Black J, Menderes G, Bellone S, Schwab CL, Bonazzoli E, Ferrari F, Predolini F, De Haydu C, Cocco E, Buza N, Hui P, Wong S, Lopez S, Ratner E, Silasi DA, Azodi M, Litkouhi B, Schwartz PE, Goedings P, Beusker PH, van der Lee MM, Timmers CM, Dokter WH, Santin AD.

Mol Cancer Ther. 2016 Jun 2.

[Read More >>](#)

Up-front Targeted Therapy Prior to Cytoreductive Nephrectomy in Treatment-Naïve Patients With Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma.

Agarwal N, Shuch B, Pal SK.

JAMA Oncol. 2016 Jun 2.

[Read More >>](#)

Improving the patient experience in the delivery of high quality surgical care and health outcomes.

Kim SP, Abouassaly R.

Cancer. 2016 Jun 2.

[Read More >>](#)

Nivolumab and Pembrolizumab for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer.

Morgensztern D, Herbst RS.

Clin Cancer Res. 2016 Jun 1.

[Read More >>](#)

A Primer on CMS Quality Measurement: PQRS and MACRA

Chiang AC.

ASCO Daily News. 2016 May 26.

[Read More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Biology Institute Research Seminar

Brady Auditorium, B-131

Functional Approaches to Identify Drug Resistance Mechanisms and Novel Vulnerabilities in Cancer

Frederick Wilson, MD, PhD

[Read More >>](#)

June 21; 9:30AM

Pathology Research in Progress

TAC N-107

TBA

Rekha Rai, PhD and Sandra Martinez-Morilla, PhD

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June 21; 12PM

YCC/Smilow Case Notes

Park Street Auditorium

Elderly Patients with Curable Disease

Noffar Bar, MD

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June 21; 5PM

YCC Breast Clinical Lecture Series

Smilow first floor conference room, 1-330

[Read More >>](#)

June 23; 2PM

YCC/SCH Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Meeting

CGPP, Suites 107-109

TBA

[Read More >>](#)

June 24; 7AM

ASCO Review 2016

New Haven Country Club

Highlights of the Annual Meeting

Melinda Irwin, PhD, MPH

[Read More >>](#)

Submissions

Please submit your recent publication and grant

Why the Quality Oncology Practice Initiative Matters: It's Not Just About Cost.

Chiang AC.

Am Soc Clin Oncol Educ Book. 2016;35:e102-7.

[Read More >>](#)

Basic Overview of Current Immunotherapy Approaches in Cancer.

Velcheti V, Schalper K.

Am Soc Clin Oncol Educ Book. 2016;35:298-308.

[Read More >>](#)

Analysis of the human immunodeficiency virus-1 RNA packageome.

Eckwahl MJ, Arnion H, Kharytonchyk S, Zang T, Bieniasz PD, Telesnitsky A, Wolin SL.

RNA. 2016 May 31.

[Read More >>](#)

Breast cancer biology varies by method of detection and may contribute to overdiagnosis.

Hayse B, Hooley RJ, Killelea BK, Horowitz NR, Chagpar AB, Lannin DR.

Surgery. 2016 May 27.

[Read More >>](#)

Elderly patients undergoing SBRT for inoperable early-stage NSCLC achieve similar outcomes to younger patients.

Mancini BR, Park HS, Harder EM, Rutter CE, Corso CD, Decker RH, Husain ZA.

Lung Cancer. 2016 Jul;97:22-7.

[Read More >>](#)

Association of a let-7 miRNA binding region of TGFBR1 with hereditary mismatch repair proficient colorectal cancer (MSS HNPCC).

Xicola RM, Bontu S, Doyle BJ, Rawson J, Garre P, Lee E, de la Hoya M, Bessa X, Clofent J, Bujanda L, Balaguer F, Castellví-Bel S, Alenda C, Jover R, Ruiz-Ponte C, Syngal S, Andreu M, Carracedo A, Castells A, Newcomb PA, Lindor N, Potter JD, Baron JA, Ellis NA, Caldes T, LLor X.

Carcinogenesis. 2016 May 27.

[Read More >>](#)

announcements to:

Renee Gaudette

Director, Public Affairs and Marketing

renee.gaudette@yale.edu

 Forward to a Friend

Selective antitumor activity of roscovitine in head and neck cancer.

Gary C, Hajek M, Biktasova A, Bellinger G, Yarbrough WG, Issaeva N.

Oncotarget. 2016 May 23.

[Read More >>](#)

Biologically optimized helium ion plans: calculation approach and its in vitro validation.

Mairani A, Dokic I, Magro G, Tessonier T, Kamp F, Carlson DJ, Ciocca M, Cerutti F, Sala PR, Ferrari A, Böhlen TT, Jäkel O, Parodi K, Debus J, Abdollahi A, Haberer T.

Phys Med Biol. 2016 Jun 7;61(11):4283-99.

[Read More >>](#)

Novel targeted therapies in uterine serous carcinoma, an aggressive variant of endometrial cancer.

Menderes G, Clark M, Santin AD.

Discov Med. 2016 Apr;21(116):293-303.

[Read More >>](#)

Developing and Evaluating a Self-Management Intervention for Women With Breast Cancer.

Goldberg J, Hinchey J, Feder S, Schulman-Green D.

West J Nurs Res. 2016 May 25.

[Read More >>](#)

Spatiotemporal coordination of stem cell commitment during epidermal homeostasis.

Rompolas P, Mesa KR, Kawaguchi K, Park S, Gonzalez D, Brown S, Boucher J, Klein AM, Greco V.

Science. 2016 May 26.

[Read More >>](#)

Preclinical Medical Students' Diverse Educational and Emotional Responses to a Required Hospice Experience.

Tse CS, Morrison LJ, Ellman MS.

Am J Hosp Palliat Care. 2016 May 27.

[Read More >>](#)

Implementing and Evaluating a Four-Year Integrated End-of-Life Care Curriculum for Medical Students.

Ellman MS, Fortin AH 6th, Putnam A, Bia M.
Teach Learn Med. 2016 Apr-Jun;28(2):229-39.

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