August 24, 2018

Announcements

Yale SPORE in Skin Cancer
I am very pleased to announce that the National Cancer Institute has renewed its funding of the Yale SPORE in Skin Cancer grant for an additional 5 years, and a total of $12.5 million. Congratulations to Marcus Bosenberg and Harriet Kluger and the entire SPORE team on their accomplishment. We have seen exciting developments from the research funded through our SPORE in Skin Cancer over the last decade and are thrilled to be able to continue this important work with the support of the National Cancer Institute.

Smilow Breast Center Welcomes Tamara Carroll, MD
Dr. Tamara Carroll joins the Yale Department of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging from AdventHealth in Orlando, Florida where she worked as a Women's Imager. She is a graduate of Wesleyan University and Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Carroll completed her radiology residency at the University of Washington and a breast imaging fellowship at Yale. Her clinical interests include breast cancer screening and patient health literacy.
Dr. Edward Perry Joins VA Cancer Center

Dr. Michal Rose, Director of the VA Cancer Center, has announced the appointment of Edward Perry, MD to the Center. Dr. Perry joins the VA after completing a hematology/oncology fellowship at the University of Connecticut and a residency in internal medicine at the George Washington University. Prior to that, he was on the faculty of the Department of Psychiatry at Yale School of Medicine from 2001-2008. Dr. Perry's research interests are in psycho-oncology and supportive care.

YCC Biostatistics Shared Resource: Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Support

Yale Cancer Center's Biostatistics Shared Resource, directed by Dr. Shuangge Ma, offers a team of cancer biostatisticians and bioinformaticists who work collaboratively with YCC members to assist with research projects. The team works in conjunction with the Yale Center for Analytical Sciences (YCAS).

The shared resource provides biostatistics and bioinformatics support to YCC members, including research and clinical study design and analysis, biostatistics, sequencing pipeline and ‘omics analyses, and grant and manuscript preparation. For more information on services and utilization, please visit our website. Open office hours are also available each week in WWW 213 for biostatistics on Thursdays from 9am - 1pm and Fridays from 9am - 5pm, and for bioinformatics on Fridays from 1pm - 5pm.

Closer to Free

There's still time to register join us for the 8th annual Closer to Free Ride on Saturday, September 8th. There's a place for everyone - riders, volunteers, and supporters - every member of the Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital community plays an important part in making the Ride a success. I look forward to seeing you all there!

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, hosted by Oncology Services at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

Learn More >>

Notables

Valentina Greco, PhD, has been appointed the inaugural Carolyn Walch Slayman Professor of Genetics. Dr. Greco is a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Signal Transduction Research Program and focuses her research on understanding fundamental principles that sustain tissue regeneration.

Congratulations to Eileen Holt, RN, CN III, Smilow Radiation Oncology Hamden, who was the recipient of a Daisy Award earlier this month. The presentation was attended by Eileen's co-workers, Eileen’s family members, and a patient's family who nominated her for the extraordinary care she provided to their loved one and their entire family! Thank you for your wonderful work, Eileen!

Lajos Pusztai, MD, DPhil, Professor of Medical Oncology and a member of the Genomics, Genetics, and Epigenetics Research Program, has been awarded a $250,000 grant from the Breast Cancer Research Foundation to support his research project, Characterization of intra-tumor heterogeneity and immune infiltration in breast cancer and its clinical implications.

Elizabeth Claus, PhD, MD, Professor of Biostatistics, Director of Medical Research, Yale School of Public Health, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, has been named Chair of the American Brain Tumor Association’s “Partners in Patient Care Meeting” in Boston on November 3.

Employee Profile: Tanya Malak

Dr. Ruth McCorkle receives the American Academy of Nursing’s highest honor of "Living Legend".

Read More >>

Sznol Reflects on Immunotherapy Advances in mRCC

Read More >>

Closer to Free Cancer Survivor Rides in Memory of Wife and Daughter

Read More >>
Tanya Malak, Clinical Trials Team Manager for Leukemia Research in the Clinical Trials Office, often gets asked the question, “What are clinical trials exactly?” Clinical trials are often a misunderstood area of cancer, especially in regards to the work that is done behind the scenes. Tanya is responsible for overseeing the leukemia clinical research team, which coordinates phase I, II, and III trials from start up to activation, throughout the phase of the trial. They work to recruit patients and collect data points during the trial, but also work directly with patients to monitor for any side effects and see how they are tolerating the treatment regimen.

The team is responsible for overseeing about 25 trials that are currently enrolling patients, and a total of 40-50 trials that are in some phase of development. Tanya has been involved in clinical research for six years; the last year and a half spent exploring cancer therapies. “Leukemia is an area that is constantly changing and there is always something new to learn,” commented Tanya. “Our team is committed to the mission of providing patients with access to cutting-edge therapies for hematologic malignancies. Working on early phase oncology clinical trials is incredibly exciting as many of the therapies we study may become standard of care later down the line. In my role, I have the benefit of not only conducting research, but also working with patients and seeing first-hand how these therapies may help improve quality of life.”

The majority of the trials that Tanya works on are phase I trials, where getting information to the sponsor in a timely fashion is critical. Any serious adverse events need to be reported within 24 hours. Rebecca Lilian, Assistant Director for Clinical Trial Operations, Clinical Research, commented, "Over the past year, the Leukemia team has grown significantly and Tanya..."
has been pivotal in this growth. Tanya’s expertise in clinical trials, combined with her compassionate and caring personality, has created an environment that allows her staff to thrive.”

**Funding Opportunities**

**Elsa U. Pardee Foundation Grant**
The Elsa U. Pardee Foundation funds research to investigators in United States non-profit institutions proposing research directed toward identifying new treatments or cures for cancer.  
**Application Deadline:** August 31, 2018  
[Learn More >>](#)

**Cancer Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment Technologies for Low-Resource Settings (R41/R42 and R43/R44)**
This FOA encourages both (R43/R44) Small Business Innovation Research and (R41/R42) Small Business Technology Transfer grant applications from small business concerns to develop or adapt, apply, and validate existing or emerging technologies into user-friendly products for cancer prevention, diagnosis, or treatment in low-resource settings.  
**Application Deadline:** September 5, 2018  
[Learn More >>](#)

**Gilead Sciences Research Scholars Program in Hematology/Oncology**
Grants of up to $130,000 over two years will be awarded to junior faculty researchers for innovative translational research projects in hematology/oncology (with a focus on hematologic malignancies) that can be either based around a clinical trial with strong correlative science or laboratory investigation.  
**Application Deadline:** September 7, 2018  
[Learn More >>](#)

"High" or "Medium" Priority AIDS Research on Non-AIDS-defining or AIDS-defining Cancers (R01/R21)
The purpose of this FOA is to continue advancing our understanding of the risks, development, progression, diagnosis, and treatment of malignancies observed in individuals with an underlying human immunodeficiency (HIV) infection or AIDS.
HIV and Hepatitis B Co-Infection: Advancing HBV Functional Cure through Clinical Research (R01/R21)

The purpose of this FOA is to fill scientific gaps needed to (a) inform HBV functional cure strategies by furthering our understanding of unique challenges impacting HBV and HIV co-infected hosts and (b) advance the discovery and development of novel HBV interventions that are safe and achieve a functional cure in HIV and HBV co-infected individuals.

Application Deadline: September 7, 2018
Learn More >>

In Vitro and Animal Model Studies on HBV/HIV Co-Infection (R01/R21)

The purpose of this FOA is to stimulate and accelerate development of novel in vitro and small animal models of HBV/HIV co-infection and create a better understanding of the immunopathogenic interactions between HBV and HIV.

Application Deadline: September 7, 2018
Learn More >>

Harnessing Big Data to Halt HIV (R01)

The purpose of this FOA is to promote research that transforms understanding of HIV transmission, the HIV care continuum, and HIV comorbidities using Big Data Science.

Application Deadline: September 7, 2018
Learn More >>

Administrative Supplements to Support Cancer Disparity Collaborative Research

The purpose of this trans-NCI FOA is to promote new cancer disparities research among investigators who do not normally conduct it and to encourage the partnership of experienced cancer research investigators with cancer disparities-focused researchers.

Application Deadline: September 10, 2018
Learn More >>

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.

Get ready! The Closer to Free Ride is just around the corner on Saturday, September 8th! We are looking for more amazing volunteers to assist on Ride Day. Clinical staff is needed in Durham, Branford, Chester, Westbrook, North Haven, Wallingford, and Hamden and non-clinical volunteers are needed at the Yale Bowl and at various rest stops along the route. Be a part of this amazing day and register online to help at www.rideclosertofree.org

Meet another Closer to Free Rider, Clayton Curtiss. Clayton is gearing up for his 4th Closer to Free Ride. He initially started riding when his wife passed away of a brain tumor in 2015. Clayton will now ride for the first time wearing a survivor's jersey, following
• **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 >>

**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 >>

**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 >>

**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 >>

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his recent diagnosis. He is raising money with hopes to increase cancer research and one day eradicate cancer altogether.

Read More >>

Watch the Golf Channel for a special about the incredible work of The Lovemark Foundation and its ongoing commitment to raising money for our Brain Tumor Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital.

Read More >>

Yale New Haven employees weren’t about to let a hospital stay keep Ron S. from his granddaughter Meredith’s wedding in Philadelphia. With help from Information Technology Services, Food & Nutrition & his care team at Smilow Cancer Hospital, Ron was
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 >>](#)

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.

Do you or a loved one want to quit smoking or vaping? Smilow Cancer Hospital offers a Tobacco Treatment Program that will help you quit. Electronic devices are available that look and feel like real cigarettes but deliver nicotine through vapor instead of smoke. These products can be equally as addictive as cigarettes.

Our Tobacco Treatment Program is available to help any young adult 18 and over who desires assistance to stop smoking and/or vaping. We offer evidence-based treatment options, including medications and behavioral strategies, to meet each person’s individual needs.

[Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter](#)
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 >>

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 >>

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**

High Single Doses of Radiation May Induce Elevated Levels of Hypoxia in Early-Stage Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Tumors.
Read More >>

Deuterium metabolic imaging (DMI) for MRI-based 3D mapping of metabolism in vivo
Read More >>

iRGD-guided tumor-penetrating nanocomplexes for therapeutic siRNA delivery to pancreatic cancer.
Read More >>

Palliative Care Competencies and Readiness for Independent Practice: A Report on the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
Carey EC, Paniagua M, Morrison LJ, Levine SK, Klick JC, Buckholz GT, Rotella J, Bruno J, Liao S, Arnold RM.
Read More >>

Monte Carlo dosimetry modeling of focused kV X-ray radiotherapy of eye diseases with potential nanoparticle dose enhancement.
Read More >>

Clinical relevance of the multidrug resistance-associated protein 1 gene in non-small cell lung cancer: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

Today's Yale Cancer Answers will feature a discussion with Dr. Mario Strazzabosco, director of our Liver Cancer Program, on new treatment options and surveillance in high risk populations. Tune in at 7:30pm.

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 >>

SCH/YCC Two-Part Free Prostate Cancer Screening
September 11; 5PM
Evaluation of classical clinical endpoints as surrogates for overall survival in patients treated with immune checkpoint blockers: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

p53-Pirh2 Complex Promotes Twist1 Degradation and Inhibits EMT.

The Patient-Provider Relationship in Adolescent Oncology: An Exploratory Factor Analysis of a Thirteen Item Self-Report Measure.
Siembida EJ, Moss K, Kadan-Lottick N, Bellizzi KM.

Comparing the long-term outcomes among patients with stomach and small intestine gastrointestinal stromal tumors: An analysis of the National Cancer Database.
Giuliano K, Ejaz A, Reames BN, Choi W, Sham J, Gage M, Johnston FM, Ahuja N.

Cell-Penetrating Peptide Mediates Intracellular Membrane Passage of Human Papillomavirus L2 Protein to Trigger Retrograde Trafficking.
Zhang P, Monteiro da Silva G, Deatherage C, Burd C, DiMaio D.

Evaluation of induction chemotherapies after hypomethylating agent failure in myelodysplastic syndromes and acute myeloid leukemia.
Data-Driven Tree Transforms and Metrics.
Mishne G, Talmon R, Cohen I, Coifman RR, Kluger Y.
Read More >>

Measurement of circulating transcript levels (NETest) to detect disease recurrence and improve follow-up after curative surgical resection of well-differentiated pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors.
Read More >>

Prescription Drug Coverage and Outcomes of Myeloma Therapy Among Medicare Beneficiaries.
Olszewski AJ, Dusetzina SB, Trivedi AN, Davidoff AJ.
Read More >>

Be careful of the masquerades: differentiating secondary myelodysplasia from myelodysplastic syndromes in clinical practice.
Read More >>

Association Between Prostate MRI and Observation for Low-Risk Prostate Cancer.
Leapman MS, Wang R, Park HS, Yu JB, Weinreb JC, Gross CP, Ma X.
Read More >>

Phase 1 dose-escalation study of momelotinib, a Janus kinase 1/2 inhibitor, combined with gemcitabine and
nab-paclitaxel in patients with previously untreated metastatic pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma.
Ng K, Hendifar A, Starodub A, Chaves J, Yang Y, Koh B, Barbie D, Hahn WC, Fuchs CS.
Read More >>

Associations of preoperative breast magnetic resonance imaging with subsequent mastectomy and breast cancer mortality.
Wang SY, Long JB, Killelea BK, Evans SB, Roberts KB, Silber AL, Davidoff AJ, Sedghi T, Gross CP.
Read More >>