July 27, 2018

Announcements

YCC renewed as a NCTN/LAPS Site
I am extremely pleased to report that the National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN) has reviewed our renewal application for our Lead Academic Participating Sites (LAPS) grant and has approved our continuation for another 5 years (2019-2024). In our review, it was noted that Yale Cancer Center remains a robust NCTN contributor with a strong commitment to NCTN trials. We continue to be in the top ten of LAPS sites for accrual across all organizational structures and across all diseases, and to date have accrued 383 patients on NCTN trials, approximately 96 per year.

Thank you to the entire Clinical Trials Office for your continued efforts, and to all of the physicians, nurses, and clinical staff who work tirelessly to ensure we are offering our patients the very best treatments available for their cancer.

New Members to Join Palliative Care Program
I am happy to announce that two new physicians have been appointed to the Palliative Care Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital, led by Dr. Jennifer Kapo. Dr. Dmitry Kozhevnikov will care for patients at both our main campus and at the Smilow Care Center in North Haven beginning on August 1. Dr. Elizabeth Prsic will join us on November 1, and will care for patients at Smilow’s main campus.
Dr. Kozhevnikov recently completed his Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship at Yale School of Medicine after receiving his medical degree from West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. In 2016, he received The Susan and Herman Merinoff Palliative Medicine Award, which honors those who exhibit knowledge of Palliative Medicine principles and practice and possess the professionalism and compassion needed to care for patients with advanced illness.

Dr. Prsic completed her Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship at the University of Washington and graduated from George Washington University School of Medicine. She was a Research Fellow in the Division of Hematology Oncology at Brown University where she focused on end-of-life and palliative care under a Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grant. She received her Master of Public Health from Brown University School of Public Health.

Protocol Activation Cycle Empowerment (PACE) Project

On July 24, I was pleased to join the Clinical Trials Office leadership for a retreat to launch the next chapter of the Protocol Activation Cycle Empowerment (PACE) Project (previously the Impact project). The group discussed our progress in improving time to activation and had an open discussion on the rate limiting factors and possible solutions to reach our target activation timelines. I am happy to announce that web-based dashboards will launch in the coming weeks, which will make activation timelines more transparent and accessible.

Thank you to the DART Leaders, Clinical Trials Team Managers, and Sub-Process Owners who participated and contributed to our successful retreat. I look forward to future meetings and discussions regarding the PACE Project and to continued improvement of our study activation timelines.
Notables

Katherine Harvey, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine (Medical Oncology) has been selected as the American Medical Association Delegate from Connecticut to the Physician House of Delegates. She also serves as the young physician representative at the CT State Medical Society.

Dr. Shilpa Hattangadi, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Hematology/Oncology) is the recipient of a $100,000 Hyundai Impact Award. Dr. Hattangadi is one of 21 recipients of this year’s award, which is given to a researcher in pediatric oncology departments at select children’s hospitals nationwide.

Last week, Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Chief of Medical Oncology, moderated the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Congressional Briefing on E-Cigarettes, along with Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Illinois) and Rep. Jackie Speier (D-California), who served as honorary congressional co-chairs. Dr. Herbst is also Chair of the AACR Tobacco and Cancer Subcommittee.

Ranjit Bindra, MD, PhD, and Brian Shuch, MD, have been awarded an Impact Award from the SWOG/Hope Foundation to support their project, Identification and characterization of oncometabolite-induced DNA repair defects in sporadic papillary kidney cancer.

Congratulations to the 2018 graduating Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellows!
Angela Khairallah, LCSW, received the Social Work Award of Excellence from Yale New Haven Hospital in recognition of the excellent care and support she provides to patients and their families in the Breast Center. Angela was nominated by the nurse coordinators in the Breast Center, and supported by several letters of recognition from her colleagues.

Employee Profile: Barbara Lumpkin

Yale Cancer Researchers Suggest New Treatment for Rare Inherited Cancer

Join Yale Cancer Center on Facebook

Latest Posts:

Thank you to all who came to our celebration of Pediatric Survivors Day on June 25th at The Carriage House! It was a fantastic day!
When Barbara Lumpkin, Senior Administrative Assistant for Yale Cancer Center, started at Yale over 25 years ago, there was very little work done by computer; most of the work was done by hand. Barbara started as part of the former Cancer Information Service (CIS), a cancer communication network for the National Cancer Institute, but for the last seven years has been working in the Section of Hematology and currently supports five faculty/clinicians.

Barbara is responsible for assisting in the processing of re-credentialing paperwork, renewing medical licenses, and updating CVs and biosketches. In addition, her daily administrative tasks include scheduling meetings, submitting expense reports, and making travel arrangements. Barbara also helps to facilitate such programs as the Yale Affiliated Hospital Program (YAHP), the CME Tumor Board application, and is coordinator for the Internal Medicine Hematology Elective.

Barbara commented that she has a great appreciation for the dedication and commitment it takes to manage both the clinical and academic responsibilities that her faculty take on. "There is so much work done outside of the clinic that people don't realize. They are required to take certain classes, give lectures, and stay up to date on the latest advances. I am so proud to have been a part of this organization for so long, and to support these doctors that are making a difference."

Richard Carr, Program Manager for the Section of Hematology, commented, "Yale Cancer Center has been fortunate to have Barbara's support now for over 25 years. She has worked with kindness, dedication, and as a team player to which her fellow administrative staff and faculty have benefited from time and again."

A special thanks to Dr. Jonathan Leventhal from Yale Dermatology, Dr. Mark Oestreicher from Adult & Pediatric Dermatology Specialists, and the Yale Dermatology Residents. Together, they screened over 100 people for skin cancer on Monday at our free screening event at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Trumbull!

Jack Walsh was diagnosed with ewing sarcoma in 2014. Soon after, members of his hometown of Prospect, CT began offering his family with help with meals, transportation, and support. When Make-A-Wish Connecticut contacted Jack, he decided he wanted to host a party for those in the community that helped him on
Alfred Lee, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine (Hematology), commented, "Barbara has been my administrative assistant since I started at Yale and she first helped me get settled. Since then, she's been with me every step of the way, helping me out academically, administratively, and even emotionally. She is one of the dearest people in my life and has become family to me. I don't know how she manages to do the same for everyone else (which she does), but as I've mentioned to her many times before, if she ever retires, I'm retiring with her!"

#OOTBTHANKS: Camila Schott

YCC #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Camila Schott, a Senior Administrative Assistant at Yale Cancer Center. When her colleague went out on leave, Camila stepped right up to the plate without hesitation and was ready to help in any way that she could. While still managing to juggle her normal responsibilities of supporting the Deputy Director and our Care Center physicians, Camila efficiently and systematically maintained organization of the Yale Cancer Center Director's daily needs in a seamless fashion. Her hard work and dedication is truly appreciated. Thank you, Camila!

Funding Opportunities

"Jack Gives Back" became a reminder that gratitude and giving can go a long way.

Dr. Roy Herbst, MD, PhD, Chief of Medical Oncology Chair of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Tobacco and Cancer Subcommittee moderated the Congressional debriefing on E-Cigarettes last week. The panelists at the briefing presented scientific findings pertaining to the harmful effects of e-cigarettes and suggested ways to halt the rise in youth nicotine addiction.
**Biden Cancer Initiative Fierce Awards**
The Biden Cancer Initiative is taking nominations for its inaugural FIERCE Awards, recognizing individuals and organizations making a transformative impact on the lives of cancer patients in five categories: prevention and early detection; reducing cancer disparities; patient navigation; survivorship; and LEAP (Leadership through Exemplary and Awesome Purpose).

**Nominations Due By:** July 31, 2018
Learn More >>

**Susan G. Komen Career Catalyst Research Grant**
Susan G. Komen is seeking LOIs for outstanding translational research into the understanding, detection, and treatment of metastatic breast cancer which will lead to a reduction in breast cancer deaths by 2026.

**LOI Due:** August 1, 2018
Learn More >>

**Reducing Stigma to Improve HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment and Care in Low and Middle-Income Countries R21**
The purpose of this FOA is to stimulate research on interventions to reduce HIV/AIDS-associated stigma and its impact on the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and on the quality of life of People Living with HIV/AIDS.

**Application Deadline:** August 1, 2018
Learn More >>

**Administrative Supplements to Promote Collaborative Activities in Basic Cancer Research**
The purpose of this FOA is to incentivize collaborative, multidisciplinary research across a broad area of challenging topics in basic cancer biology.

**Application Deadline:** August 6, 2018
Learn More >>

**HIV/AIDS and the Tumor Niche (R01)**
The purpose of this FOA is to advance our understanding of the role of the tumor niche or microenvironment in the risks, development, progression, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer observed in individuals with an underlying HIV infection or AIDS.

**Application Deadline:** August 7, 2018
Learn More >>

Harvey A Risch, MD, PhD, Professor of Epidemiology at Yale School of Public Health and a researcher in Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, was recently named to the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)’s list of the top-cited article list for his article on aspirin use and its role in the reduced risk of pancreatic cancer.

Sunday’s Yale Cancer Answers featured a discussion on pancreatic cancer with Dr. James Farrell.

Smilow welcomes our two newest Radiation Oncologists! Yi An, MD has been named as an Assistant Professor of Therapeutic Radiology and will...
Availability of Administrative Supplements for NCI Grant and Cooperative Agreement Awards to Support Pediatric Cancer Control Research Across the Lifespan

This Notice informs current NCI awardees that NCI is interested in Administrative Supplement applications that seek to enhance pediatric cancer control research across the lifespan.

**Application Deadline:** August 17, 2018

Learn More >>

Notice of Availability of Administrative Supplements for Integrative Data Analysis to Extend Research in Cancer Control and Population Sciences

This Notice informs current NCI awardees that NCI is interested in Administrative Supplement applications that seek to integrate/merge or link two or more independent datasets to answer novel cancer prevention and control questions.

**Application Deadline:** August 17, 2018

Learn More >>

Investigation of the Transmission of Kaposi Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus (R01/R21)

The purpose of the FOA is to advance our understanding of the modes of transmission of Kaposi sarcoma-associated herpesvirus; the biology of the initial steps of infection; and risk factors for infection in populations living with HIV or at high risk of developing HIV.

**Application Deadline:** August 18, 2018

Learn More >>

Cooperative Human Tissue Network

The purpose of this FOA, issued by the NCI, is to support the Cooperative Human Tissue Network (CHTN). The goal for CHTN is to collect and distribute to investigators high quality human tissue specimens to facilitate basic and early translational cancer research.

**Application Deadline:** August 28, 2018

Learn More >>

NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) Research Bases

This FOA solicits applications from institutions/organizations to participate as “Research Bases” for the NCI-supported Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP).

August 31, 2018

Learn More >>

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care for patients at the Park Avenue Medical Center in Trumbull. Sanjay Aneja, MD was appointed as Instructor in the Department of Therapeutic Radiology and will treat patients with brain malignancies in the Gamma Knife Center at Smilow Cancer Hospital.

Smilow Rocks spreads kindness with painted rocks left for patients, staff, and caregivers at Smilow Cancer Hospital. Thank you for the hundreds of amazing rocks you have shared with us!

Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter
NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) Minority/Underserved Community Sites

This FOA solicits applications from institutions/organizations to participate as "Minority/Underserved Community Sites" for the NCI-supported Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP).

**Application Deadline:** August 31, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP) Research Bases

This FOA solicits applications from institutions/organizations to participate as "Research Bases" for the National Cancer Institute (NCI)-supported Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP). There are three funding opportunities available:

- Research Bases (UG1 Clinical Trial Required)
- Community Sites (UG1 Clinical Trial Required)
- Minority/Underserved Community Sites (UG1 Clinical Trial Required)

**Application Deadline:** August 31, 2018

[Learn More >>](#)

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. 

**Application Deadline:** September 7, 2018

Learn More >>

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.

- **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 >>

Recent Publications
Assisted reproductive technologies (ART) and childhood cancer: is the risk real?
Levi-Setti PE, Patrizio P.
Transcription Factors Contribute to Differential Expression in Cellular Pathways in Lung Adenocarcinoma and Lung Squamous Cell Carcinoma.
Liu S, Wang X, Qin W, Genchev GZ, Lu H.
Read More >>

Transcriptional regulation of O-GlcNAc homeostasis is disrupted in pancreatic cancer.
Read More >>

Selection of patients with myelodysplastic syndromes from a large electronic medical records database and a study of the use of disease-modifying therapy in the United States.
Ma X, Steensma DP, Scott BL, Kiselev P, Sugrue MM, Swern AS.
Read More >>

The use of immunosuppressive therapy in MDS: clinical outcomes and their predictors in a large international patient cohort.
Read More >>

Supporting self-management in palliative care throughout the cancer care trajectory.
Schulman-Green D, Brody A, Gilbertson-White S, Whittemore R, McCorkle R.
Read More >>
Advances in biomarkers and treatment strategies for HPV-associated head and neck cancer.
Pan C, Yarbrough WG, Issaeva N.
Read More >>

Complications in patients with unilateral breast cancer who undergo contralateral prophylactic mastectomy versus unilateral mastectomy.
Huang J, Chagpar A.
Read More >>

Human Extrafollicular CD4+ Th Cells Help Memory B Cells Produce Igs.
Kim ST, Choi JY, Lainez B, Schulz VP, Karas DE, Baum ED, Setlur J, Gallagher PG, Craft J.
Read More >>

Long-term follow-up of a single institution pilot study of sirolimus, tacrolimus, and short course methotrexate for graft versus host disease prophylaxis in mismatched unrelated donor allogeneic stem cell transplantation.
Read More >>

Complementary Medicine, Refusal of Conventional Cancer Therapy, and Survival Among Patients With Curable Cancers.
Johnson SB, Park HS, Gross CP, Yu JB.
JAMA Oncol. 2018 Jul 19.
Read More >>

Oligosaccharyltransferase Inhibition Overcomes Therapeutic Resistance to EGFR Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors.
Cancer Res. 2018 Jul 19.
Read More >>
Bullous disorders associated with anti-PD-1 and anti-PD-L1 therapy: A retrospective analysis evaluating the clinical and histopathologic features, frequency, and impact on cancer therapy.


Associations of artificially sweetened beverage intake with disease recurrence and mortality in stage III colon cancer: Results from CALGB 89803 (Alliance).


Immunosuppressive therapy in myelodysplastic syndromes: a borrowed therapy in search of the right place.

Shallis RM, Chokr N, Stahl M, Pine AB, Zeidan AM.


Parental perception of child vulnerability in childhood cancer survivors.

Staba Hogan MJ, Ross WL, Balsamo L, Mitchell HR, Kadan-Lottick NS.


Early Experiences With Journal Data Sharing Policies: A Survey of Published Clinical Trial Investigators.


Medical egg freezing: How cost and lack of insurance cover impact women and their families.
Krebs-cycle-deficient hereditary cancer syndromes are defined by defects in homologous-recombination DNA repair.


Read More >>