Announcements

The Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology hosted its first annual Dean’s Symposium yesterday, with presentations from leading immunology and immunotherapy scientists and physicians from around the country and Yale School of Medicine. Chaired by Drs. Roy Herbst and Nikhil Joshi, the event drew over 300 people and concluded with dinner and discussion among the presenters.

Learn More >>
On Friday, September 21, I was proud to host U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal and U.S. Senator Chris Murphy for a Biden Cancer Community Summit, along with Drs. Roy Herbst, Akiko Iwasaki, Craig Crews, and Ranjit Bindra. The Senators’ strong support of NIH funding and cancer research was clearly articulated throughout the session, and I look forward to continued discussions with them. If you were not able to join us, the full video of the event can be accessed online.
CME Symposiums with Saint Francis
Please join us for two upcoming CME symposiums with our colleagues at Smilow Cancer Hospital at Saint Francis this fall. On Friday, October 26, we will host a multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Symposium and on Friday, November 9, a program on Hematological Malignancies is scheduled. Both CME symposiums are free, but registration is requested.

The Yale Center for Precision Cancer Modeling
We are proud to offer a new Yale Cancer Center Shared Resource, the Center for Precision Cancer Modeling (CPCM) enables informative preclinical studies for drug development for cancer. The Center offers a wide variety of in vivo cancer models as well as unique models developed at Yale, including models that enable the evaluation of anti-cancer immune responses.

These cancer models can be utilized for the investigation of drug candidates as single agent therapy, comparative efficacy studies, or synergy studies with standard of care therapies. The CPCM can organize and carry-out a full suite of preclinical evaluation of the drug candidates of interest including: Toxicology (Tox), Pharmacokinetics (PK), and Pharmacodynamics (PD). The CPCM will be your partner in developing animal protocols and generating high quality data for academic publications or presentations for commercial development.

Learn More >>

Reiki Volunteer Needed
Our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Torrington is in need of a Reiki Practitioner (Reiki Level 2+ Certification) to volunteer his/her time, at least once a week for 3 hours for integrative medicine services for our patients. Please contact Fernanda.

Most People Don’t Know if They Have Genetic Risk for Cancer
Read More >>

Join Smilow Cancer Hospital on Facebook

Latest Posts:
Wendy Chambers leads a blessed life - she has a wonderful family, a collection of friends that have been gathered over her lifetime, and she's had a long and successful career in consumer insights at several major corporations - most recently at Pepperidge Farm. She is also a two-time breast cancer survivor.

Meet Wendy
BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR

Read More >>
Nominations for YCC Annual Awards

Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce our call for nominations for our annual awards in the areas of excellence in research and clinical care. Each award will be announced at the Yale Cancer Center Conclave in January. The nomination deadline for all awards is Friday, October 26th.

Yale Cancer Center Research Prizes: Research Prizes will be awarded in support of excellence in the areas of basic science, clinical research, translational research, and cancer prevention and control. Awards will be chosen in each area to recognize a paper that is considered to have had the greatest impact on the field this year. The applicant must be a current member of the Cancer Center and science in the publication must be cancer-focused. Please submit a PDF of your best publication (publication date from October 2017 to October 2018). To be eligible you must be either the first or last author of the publication. Email your publication to Anna Raso.

Yale Cancer Center Award for Clinical Excellence: This award will be given to the physician who best exemplifies excellence in clinical care including super clinical skills, use of a patient- and family-centered approach to care, and inclusion of a multi-disciplinary care model. Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please nominate yourself or a peer and send a brief nomination letter (one-page maximum) to Anna Raso.

Yale Cancer Center Lifetime Achievement Award: Yale Cancer Center recognizes the achievements of one of our senior members through our annual Lifetime Achievement award. Please send nomination suggestions for the award to Anna Raso.

Ruth McCorkle Oncology Advanced Practice Provider Award: This annual award from Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital recognizes the contributions of our Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant colleagues who contribute so much to oncology patient care. Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for this award. Nominations are due for the Ruth McCorkle Award to Cathy Lyons by November 30.

Notables

When patients arrive for chemotherapy or radiation treatments at Smilow Cancer Hospital, Thom Kolesar is often the first person they encounter, and he ensures that they make it safely into the hospital. "I am humbled to be able to work here and interact with such amazing people. I have been blessed with good health my entire life, and working here has really changed my perspective," said Thom. "The tenacity and courage that I see on a daily basis is truly inspiring. I am very thankful."

Thom's hard work and consideration for every patient does not go unnoticed by patients and staff alike. He was recently recognized by two colleagues who commented, "Thom's patient encounters are beyond compare. He is thoughtful, kind, hardworking, and truly a caring person. He is delightful and makes all those around him smile; whether it is a fellow employee, patient, doctor, or just a passerby."

Impact: An Event for Young Adults with Cancer
The Virus and Other Infection-associated Cancers Research Program is proud to welcome Ellen Foxman, MD, PhD, to its program. Dr. Foxman is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and is studying innate immunity and host/virus interactions in the respiratory tract. Her laboratory focuses on signaling pathways in primary human airway epithelial cells. In recent work, her laboratory found an unexpected link between susceptibility to respiratory viruses and a pathway well-known to play an important role in oncogenesis and in evasion of chemotherapy by cancer cells: the NRF2 mediated oxidative stress response.

Dr. Foxman's future research directions include a more in-depth exploration of interplay between cell stress responses and epithelial immune defense, which she believes will provide new insights about oncogenesis in the airway and other epithelial tissues, and may also provide insights into how to counter evasion of epithelial cell immunosurveillance mechanisms to improve cancer therapy.

Diane Krause, MD, PhD, Professor of Laboratory Medicine, of Cell Biology, and of Pathology and a member of the Genomics, Genetics, and Epigenetics Research Program, has received the 2018 Yale Postdoctoral Mentoring Prize, awarded annually by the Office of the Provost to a faculty member who exemplifies the role of a mentor and who has provided exceptional mentoring to one or more postdoctoral scholars during the previous year.

Claudio Alarcon, PhD, a member of the Genomics, Genetics, and Epigenetics Research Program, has been awarded a 2018 V Scholar Program Grant to fund his project, "Epitranscriptomic Regulation of Cancer Metastasis."

Sidi Chen, PhD, a member of the Genomics, Genetics, and Epigenetics Research Program, has been awarded a $2.5 million 'High Risk, High Rewards' grant from the Common Fund of the National Institutes of Health to fund a five-year research project to improve T cell-based immunotherapy to fight diseases such as...
Tae Kon Kim, MD, PhD, a member of our Hematology Program, has received a clinician scientist grant from the American Cancer Society to support his research for the next 5 years, totaling $750,000. It will support his research project, "Augmenting the anti-leukemic effect of macrophages in AML by PD-1H blockade."

Employee Profile: Kimberly Bielecki

The role of Patient Navigator is integral to a patient's care when they are first diagnosed with cancer. Kimberly Bielecki, RN, BSN, MBA, is an Oncology Patient Care Navigator at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers in Fairfield and Trumbull, and as needed in the inpatient oncology unit at Bridgeport Hospital. She works every day to make the lives of our patients better and to help guide them through their journey with cancer.

Kim recently received the Bridgeport Hospital Platinum Quality Award, which recognizes those who best display the hospital's values of patient-centered care, respect, compassion, integrity, and accountability. The Platinum level award is for those that exceed those goals, and nominations are accepted from employees, patients, and family members. With 40 years of nursing experience, Kim brings extensive and invaluable knowledge to her role as navigator. She is actively involved in cancer screening events for head and neck, skin, and prostate cancers, and is the resource person for staff and physicians when a patient has an identified need. Kim makes it a priority to develop close relationships with patients and works collaboratively with the rest of the care team to ensure that patients are able to get the care they need, when they need it.

"Kim seems to remember every patient she has cared for," said Lisa Shomsky, MBA, BSN, CNML, Director of Patient Services at...
Smilow Bridgeport. "A friend of a recent patient commented that Kim made a huge difference in her friend’s life, supporting her day and night, and providing her some comfort in her final days. That type of compassion is something they don’t teach in nursing school."

Kim commented, "As a navigator I provide support in many ways, and it’s important to realize that each patient has unique needs. We are instrumental in supporting patients through their cancer journey, listen to frustrations, celebrate successes and find ways to help when at times it seems impossible to patients and their families."

**Funding Opportunities**

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 >>

**About advances in lung cancer treatment.**

"Promising news for patients with early-stage #lungcancer. New research in @RSNA by Dr. Hyun "Kevin" Kim shows Thermal Ablation, a minimally invasive procedure, is a safe, effective treatment for the disease."

"It's important to invest more in the younger generation to keep them working in cancer research."

**Calendar**

The Innovation and Diversity Summit  
**October 5; 7AM**  
Harkness Auditorium  
**Patient-Centered Approaches to Care and Research**  
Learn More >>

Hematology Research Seminar Series  
**October 5; 12PM**  
Brady Auditorium  
**SF3B1 Mutations in MDS: Looking Beyond Aberrant Splicing**  
Manoj Pillai, MBBS  
Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Answers  
**October 7; 7:30PM**  
WNPR  
**Breast Cancer Awareness and Access to Trials**  
Andrea Silber, MD  
Learn More >>

Radiobiology & Radiotherapy Research Program  
**October 8; 11AM**
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 >>
R02 Learn More >>

NCCN/Eli Lilly and Company Quality of Care in Gastric Cancer Request for Proposals
NCCN® and Eli Lilly are collaborating to offer a new opportunity seeking proposals to bridge the gaps in care for gastric and gastroesophageal junction (GEJ) cancer patients in the United States.

Letter of Intent Due: October 24, 2018
Learn More >>

SHM I-304
Lightning Strikes Twice? Translating Oncometabolite-induced BRCAaness into the Clinic via Brainstorm
Ranjit Bindra, MD, PhD
Learn More >>

Epigenetics Interest Group Seminar
October 8; 12PM
BCMM 206/208
Decoding Gene Regulation on Zygotic Genome Activation During Maternal Zygotic Transition in Zebrafish
Yin Tang
Role of Nanog, Oct4, and Sox19b in Chromatin Remodeling and Transcriptional Regulation During the Maternal-to-Zygotic Transition in Zebrafish
Liyun Miao
Learn More >>

SCH/YCC Seminar
October 8; 1:30PM
BCMM 206/208
Optimizing Therapy of Triple-negative and Hereditary Breast Cancer
Melinda L. Telli, MD
Learn More >>

Pathology Research in Progress Talks
October 9; 9AM
TAC N107
Ruth Montgomery, PhD and Rolando Garcia Milian, MLS, AHIP
Learn More >>

YCC Grand Rounds
October 9; 12PM
Park Street Auditorium
Polymer Nanoparticles for Treating Cancer
W. Mark Saltzman, PhD
Minimally Invasive Approaches to
Women's Health Research at Yale Pilot Project Grants
On behalf of Dr. Carolyn M. Mazure and WHRY, we are pleased to announce the availability of Pilot Project Grants with awards starting July 1, 2019. All Yale Ladder Faculty are eligible to apply. Investigators outside the Yale community are invited to collaborate with Yale or Yale-affiliated principal investigators.

**Letter of Intent Due:** October 25, 2018
[Learn More >>]

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Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource: Targeted Exposure Analysis Laboratories
This FOA solicits Laboratories (Lab Hubs) providing a comprehensive suite of targeted analytical services for biological samples derived from extant or ongoing human health studies in the NIH extramural research community.

**Application Deadline:** October 29, 2018
[Learn More >>]

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Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource: Untargeted Exposure Analysis Laboratories
This FOA solicits Laboratories (Lab Hubs) that can provide comprehensive measurement of the exposome using untargeted approaches (such as metabolomics using libraries enriched for environmental exposure biomarkers) for biological samples derived from extant or ongoing human health studies in the NIH extramural research community.

**Application Deadline:** October 29, 2018
[Learn More >>]

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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 >>]

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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 >>**

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

**Application Deadline:** November 2, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Developing the Therapeutic Potential of the Endocannabinoid System for Pain Treatment**
The overarching purpose of this FOA is to promote the validation of strong candidate biomarkers and endpoints for pain that can be used to facilitate the development of non-opioid pain therapeutics from discovery through Phase II clinical trials.

**Application Deadline:** November 5, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Feasibility Studies to Build Collaborative Partnerships in Cancer Research**
This FOA invites P20 planning grant applications for developing collaborative partnership between institutions serving underserved health disparity populations and underrepresented students and NCI-designated Cancer Centers (or Cancer Centers with highly integrated cancer research programs)

**Application Deadline:** November 14, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Prevention of HPV-related Cancers in HIV-infected individuals: United States-Latin American-Caribbean Clinical Trials Network: Partnership Centers**
The purpose of this FOA is to facilitate the design, conduct, and completion of clinical trials for improving prevention of human papillomavirus (HPV)-related cancers in HIV-infected individuals.

**Application Deadline:** November 15, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Cancer Prevention Clinical Trials Network (CP-CTNet): Data Management, Auditing, and Coordinating Center**
Through this FOA, the NCI proposes and will support the Cancer

**Douglas Fearon, MD**

**Learn More >>**

**Pathology Grand Rounds**
October 11; 12:30PM
LMP1094
**The Actin Cytoskeleton and Neurodegeneration**
Mel Feany, MD, PhD

**Learn More >>**

**Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar**
October 11; 2:30PM
Orchard Medical Center, Suite 107-109

**Learn More >>**

**OBGYN Grand Rounds**
October 11; 4PM
BML
**Endometriosis Beyond Menstrual Cramps: From Extragenital Disease to Cancer**
Farr Nezhat, MD, FACOG, FACS

**Learn More >>**

**Digestive Diseases GI Core Curriculum Lecture Series**
October 12; 1PM
TAC S-247
**Evaluation of Pancreatic Cysts**
James Farrell, MBChB

**Learn More >>**

**Smilow Screening & Prevention Program Informational Table**
October 13; 9AM
Goodwin College
**CT Special Olympics Family Health Forum**

**Learn More >>**

**IMPACT: An Event for Young Adults with Cancer**
October 13; 11:30AM
Prevention Clinical Trials Network (CP-CTNet)

**Application Deadline:** November 15, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Physical Activity and Weight Control Interventions Among Cancer Survivors: Effects on Biomarkers of Prognosis and Survival (R21)**

This FOA encourages transdisciplinary and translational research that will identify the specific biological or biobehavioral pathways through which physical activity and/or weight control (either weight loss or avoidance of weight gain) may affect cancer prognosis and survival.

**Application Deadline:** November 16, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Diet and Physical Activity Assessment Methodology (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

This FOA encourages innovative research to enhance the quality of measurements of dietary intake and physical activity.

**Application Deadline:** November 16, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Oncology Co-Clinical Imaging Research Resources to Encourage Consensus on Quantitative Imaging Methods and Precision Medicine**

The purpose of this FOA is to invite Cooperative Agreement applications to develop research resources that will encourage a consensus on how Quantitative Imaging (QI) methods are optimized to improve the quality of imaging results for co-clinical trials.

**Application Deadline:** November 19, 2018

**Learn More >>**

**Discovery and Validation of Novel Targets for Safe and Effective Pain Treatment (R21/R01)**

This R21 NIH Exploratory/Developmental Grant supports exploratory and developmental research projects by providing support for the early and conceptual stages of pain target discovery and validation projects.

**Application Deadline:** November 27, 2018

**Learn More >>**

Long Wharf Maritime Center
Kate Yglesias Houghton

**Learn More >>**

**Infinite Strength Fundraiser**

**October 13; 4PM**

Our Lady of Mercy Academy

**Hoedown to raise money for The Breast Center at Smilow**

**Learn More >>**

**An Evening with Elisabeth von Trapp**

**October 13; 7PM**

Saint Ann's Church

**A Concert for Breath**

Elisabeth von Trapp

**Learn More >>**

**Yale Cancer Answers**

**October 14; 7:30PM**

WNPR

**Radiation Treatment Side Effects**

Henry S. Park, MD, MPH and Christin Knowlton, MD, MA

**Learn More >>**

**Cancer in Translation**

**October 16; 7:30AM**

West Campus Conference Center

**YCC Signal Transduction Research Program Retreat**

David B. Solit, MD

**Learn More >>**

**Pathology Research in Progress Talks**

**October 16; 9:30AM**

TAC N-107

Jon Zugazagoitia and Paul Stabach

**Learn More >>**

**YCC Grand Rounds**

**October 16; 12PM**

Park Street Auditorium
Discovery of Biomarkers, Biomarker Signatures, and Endpoints for Pain (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Optional)

The purpose of this FOA is to promote the discovery of strong candidate biomarkers and endpoints for pain that can be used to facilitate the development of non-opioid pain therapeutics from discovery through Phase II clinical trials.

**Application Deadline:** November 27, 2018

Learn More >>

Analytical and/or Clinical Validation of a Candidate Biomarker for Pain

The overarching purpose of FOA is to promote the validation of strong candidate biomarkers and endpoints for pain that can be used to facilitate the development of non-opioid pain therapeutics from discovery through Phase II clinical trials.

**Application Deadline:** November 27, 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**

Read More >>

Fibrosis-matched outcomes between chronic hepatitis B patients with drug-induced virological response and inactive carriers.
Kim HS, Baatarkhuu O, Lee HW, Park JY, Kim DY, Ahn SH, Song K, Han KH, Kim BK, Kim SU.
Liver Int. 2018 Oct 2.
Read More >>

Partial nephrectomy versus ablative techniques for small renal masses: a systematic review and network meta-analysis.
Eur Radiol. 2018 Sep 25.
Read More >>

Canonical and Non-Canonical Wnt Signaling in Immune Cells.
Chae WJ, Bothwell ALM.
Read More >>

Inhibition of isoprenylation synergizes with MAPK blockade to prevent growth in treatment-resistant melanoma, colorectal, and lung cancer.
Theodosakis N, Langdon CG, Micevic G, Krykbaeva I, Means RE, Stern DF, Bosenberg MW.
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Androgen receptor degradation by the proteolysis-targeting chimera ARCC-4 outperforms enzalutamide in cellular models of prostate cancer drug resistance.
Read More >>

Homeostatic Epidermal Stem Cell Self-Renewal Is Driven by

Submissions
Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:
Renee Gaudette
Director, Public Affairs and Communications
Local Differentiation.
Mesa KR, Kawaguchi K, Cockburn K, Gonzalez D, Boucher J, Xin T, Klein AM, Greco V.
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Immune marker profiling and PD-L1 expression across Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer mutations.
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Mechanisms of resistance to HER2-targeted therapies in HER2-amplified uterine serous carcinoma, and strategies to overcome it.
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What Is the Adverse Event Profile After Prophylactic Treatment of Femoral Shaft or Distal Femur Metastases?
McLynn RP, Ondeck NT, Grauer JN, Lindskog DM.
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Multi-component gene network design as a survival strategy in diverse environments.
Luo X, Song R, Acar M.
Read More >>

Impact of carboplatin hypersensitivity and desensitization on patients with recurrent ovarian cancer.
Read More >>