DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

August 18, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Many of us are working furiously on the submission of our Cancer Center Support Grant. This grant, which we have held continuously since 1974, allows us to call YCC and Smilow a "NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center." Working on a project this large is always arduous, sometimes overwhelming, occasionally tedious, and INCREDIBLY valuable. As we assemble the grant, we think about who we are, what we want to be, and how we will get there. It is a great opportunity for us to exchange ideas, think through possibilities, and lay out our plans in writing. We have challenged one another and asked a series of questions: What should we do to increase our scientific output? How do we improve our patient care? What steps must be taken to diversify our staff? And from a cancer standpoint, what are the critical needs of the community we serve?

I believe we have tremendous strengths here at Yale. There is, however, always room for improvement. Our goals are lofty. We want to have the scientific impact that will change the face of cancer, and at the same time, we want to be the very best place to receive cancer care. And we want to build a center where everyone is delighted to come to work each day. In truth, these two pillars of our mission are complementary—like a hand and glove. It is the relentless pursuit of these goals that makes YCC and Smilow so special. I think we are taking real steps towards this vision, and we have the team to make it a reality.

Please enjoy the last few weeks of the summer. Signing off until September.

Facic

Announcements

Dr. David Schoenfeld joins the Skin and Kidney Cancer Program

The Skin and Kidney Cancer Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center is pleased to welcome David Schoenfeld, MD, PhD. Dr. Schoenfeld is an Instructor of Medicine

(Medical Oncology) and cares

Eric P. Winer, MD

Director, Yale Cancer Center
Physician-in-Chief, Smilow Cancer Network

Yale NewHaven **Health**

Smilow Cancer Hospital



News Center









Smilow Cancer Hospital Recognized

Among the Nation's Best for Cancer Care
2023-2024



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YouTube Says It's Now Removing Videos

(inicalcal Chicology) and cares for patients with melanoma and advanced skin and kidney cancers at Smilow Cancer Hospital in New Haven. He received his medical degree and a PhD in Cellular, Molecular, and Biomedical Studies from Columbia University as part of the Medical Scientist Training Program. He then joined the Physician-scientist Training Program at Yale where he completed his residency and fellowship training.



cancer therapies. He is investigating the tumor immune microenvironment and testing new immunomodulatory drugs and combinations in preclinical models, with the goal of bringing new treatments to patients by conducting early phase clinical trials. His research has been supported in part by the T32 Yale Cancer Center-Advanced Training Program for Physician-scientists.

Dr. Adriana Kahn joins **Center for Breast Cancer** Adriana Kahn, MD, is an Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and cares for patients as part of the Center for Breast Cancer at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center in New Haven. Dr. Kahn completed a fellowship in Medical Oncology at Yale School of Medicine, and her residency at the University of Connecticut. She also completed a fellowship in breast cancer in Canada and a residency and medical oncology fellowship at the Universidade de Sao Paulo,



Brazil. She received her medical degree from the Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil.

Dr. Kahn's research focuses on breast cancer and drug development. She was awarded the 2023 Robert A. Winn Diversity in Clinical Trials Career Development Award from the American Association of Cancer Research Career (AACR), as well as the 2023 Young Investigator Award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) for her ongoing work. She is

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Promoting Cancer Misinformation



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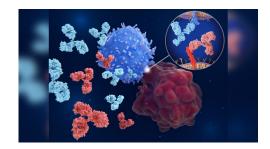
Get Comfy During Breast Cancer: Feel-Good Clothes, Wigs, Scarves



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Study Shows Promise of Immunotherapy

Treatment for Penile Cancer



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Study: Low-Risk Long-Term Cancer
Survivors Much More Likely to Die of
Noncancer Causes



the author of multiple peer-reviewed publications and poster presentations at national and international conferences. In addition, she is leading investigator-initiated clinical trials as principal investigator of ongoing clinical trials at Yale Cancer Center.

Volunteer for Closer to Free!



The Closer to Free Ride cannot happen without the dedication and support of hundreds of volunteers. If you're not pedaling to support Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center on September 9, join us as a volunteer and share your energy and enthusiasm with our community.

We are in need of volunteers from 6am-6pm at the Yale Bowl. Volunteers receive a CTF Ride volunteer t-shirt, food tickets to use at our Food Truck Festival, lunch out on the route, and two complimentary beverages in the Beer & Wine Garden.

Please reach out to Kristen Alves for more information.

ASCO Review

Registration is now open for our Review of Advances in Oncology, Highlights from the ASCO® Annual Meeting 2023. For anyone who was unable to travel to Chicago to attend ASCO in person, and for those who are interested in hearing new advances from Yale Cancer Center, our ASCO Review will provide updates on treatment options; outcomes of clinical trials; and assess the emerging role of immunotherapy, targeted therapies, and antibodies in oncology.

Please join us on Friday, September 29, 2023, at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven. **Register today.**

Notables

The laboratory of **David A. Braun, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), Louis Goodman and Alfred Gilman Yale Scholar, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, has received approximately \$5.75M in federal awards to fund mechanisms of response and resistance to immune therapy in kidney.



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Study Suggests Breast Cancer Screening for Older Women Carries Risks



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Opinion: Cancer Patients Should Never
Be Put In This Situation



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Smilow Cancer Hospital Celebrates

Opening of Dedicated Inpatient Sickle

Cell Disease Clinic



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Researchers Find a Vulnerability in Lung
Cancers Resistant to Targeted Therapies

cancer at Yale Cancer Center. The National Cancer Institute awarded Dr. Braun an R37 MERIT Award, which is an extension of an R01 and provides longer term grant funding to particularly meritorious applications from early-stage investigators. In addition, through the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) Kidney Cancer Research Program, Dr. Braun has also received an Idea Development Award. Learn more

Dr. Braun has joined the leadership of the **Yale Medical Oncology-Hematology Fellowship Program** as the **Associate Program Director for Research**. In this role, he will oversee the development of our physician-scientist trainees and our fellows interested in laboratory-based basic and translational science careers. Dr. Braun's unwavering commitment to the development of young physician-scientist trainees will be invaluable to the program. He's been an advisor and mentor to countless physician-scientist trainees over the years and understands first-hand the unique privileges and challenges that residents and fellows interested in lab-based careers face as they move through their clinical training with the goal of eventually becoming independent investigators.

Veda Giri, MD, Division Chief, Clinical Cancer Genetics, Director, Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program, and Director, Early Onset Cancer Program, received a grant from **Bakes for Breast Cancer** to fund her PROSPER study, which focuses on early onset cancer. Bakes for Breast Cancer funds dedicated oncologists at the earliest stages of clinical research. **Learn more**

David Carlson, PhD, DABR, FAAPM, Professor of Therapeutic Radiology, Vice Chair for Physics, Therapeutic Radiology, and Director of Medical Physics, has been named a **Fellow of the American Society for Radiation Oncology** (FASTRO). Dr. Carlson will receive his FASTRO designation at an awards ceremony in San Diego on October 3rd during ASTRO's 65th Annual Meeting.

Seth Herzon, PhD, Milton Harris '29 Ph.D. Professor of Chemistry, Professor of Pharmacology and of Therapeutic Radiology, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Developmental Therapeutics Research Program, is the inaugural winner of the **A.V. Rama Rao Award**, given by the Council of the Chemical Research Society of India (CRSI). Dr. Herzon will accept the award next year during a CRSI National Symposia in Chemistry in India, where he will also deliver a lecture.

In addition, **Dr. Herzon** has received an **R01** in collaboration with **Ranjit Bindra, MD**, **PhD**, Harvey and Kate Cushing Professor of Therapeutic Radiology and Professor of Pathology; Vice Chair for Translational Research, Therapeutic Radiology; Scientific Director, Chênevert Family Brain Tumor Center at Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center, to support their research, "Novel therapeutics for the targeted eradication of DDR-defective tumors."

Stephanie Halene, PhD, Dr Med, has been appointed **Arthur H. and Isabel Bunker Professor of Medicine (Hematology)** and Professor of Pathology. Dr. Halene is also Chief of Hematology and Director of the DeLuca Center for Innovation in Hematology Research.

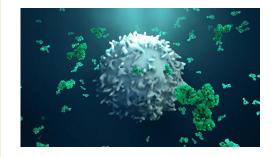
Kurt Schalper, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Pathology, Director of the



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Method Allows New Insights into Interplay

Between Immune System and Tumors



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Researchers Develop a New Way to
Classify HPV-Associated Head and Neck
Cancers



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Study: Big Benefits from Oncology Comanagement



Translational Immuno-oncology Laboratory, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, was the recipient of the **Best Mentor Award** at the **2023 Methods in Clinical Cancer Research Workshop** last month.

Congratulations to Layla Van Doren, MD, MBA, named our 2023 Forget Scholar. The Forget Scholar award was established in 2015 in honor of Dr. Bernard Forget, renowned hematologist and scientist. The annual award is given to a deserving individual who is transitioning from their fellowship to an academic career in hematology. Dr. Van Doren is an Assistant Professor of Medicine (Hematology) and cares for patients with sickle cell disease and patients with bleeding and clotting disorders at Smilow Cancer Hospital.

In addition, **Dr. Van Doren** has received an **Education Research Grant** from the **Yale Department of Internal Medicine** to study "Exploring providers' preferences for education on the management of patients with sickle cell disease (SCD)." The grant will support the first of a two-part study, which aims to understand the educational demands of providers caring for patients with sickle cell disease using qualitative and quantitative methods.

Barbara Burtness, MD, Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), Chief of Translational Research, and Co-Director of the Developmental Therapeutics Research Program, recently presented during the Plenary session at the AACR/AHNS Head and Neck Cancer Conference in Montreal on "Immunotherapy for HPV-Associated Oropharynx Cancer." Dr. Burtness also presented at the AHNS International Meeting in the Milton J. Dance Symposium on "Treatment Optimization for Early Stage HPV-Associated Oropharynx Cancer."

Sarah Goldberg, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and Research Director of the Center for Thoracic Cancers, Co-Chaired the 2023 SNO/ASCO CNS Cancer Conference focused on accelerating therapeutic discovery and advancing care of patients with primary and metastatic CNS malignancies last week in San Francisco. Don Nguyen, PhD, BS, Associate Professor of Pathology and Medicine (Medical Oncology) and Co-Director of Yale Cancer Center's Signal Pathology Research Program, provided the keynote address on "Adaptive Mechanisms of Brain Metastasis and Therapeutic Response in Lung Cancer." Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, Deputy Director of Yale Cancer Center and Assistant Dean for Translational Research, led a Brain Metastases Think Tank discussion at the meeting.

The Center for Gastrointestinal Cancers (CGIC) has selected three Yale Cancer Center teams for funding through its 2023-24 CGIC Seed Grant Program. The intramural grant program is designed to spur interdisciplinary team-based basic, translational, clinical, or population health research in GI cancers by providing pilot funding to support new or existing projects in early

stages. Congratulations to the awardees:

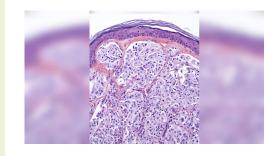
 Michael Chiorazzi, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, and Michael Cecchini, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), Co-Director, Colorectal Program in the Center for Gastrointestinal Cancers, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Developmental Therapeutics Research Program: "Identification of Tumor Determinants Leading to Immune Privilege for **Read More**

Advances in Particle Therapy - Proton
Track-end Counts and Helium Ion
Treatment Planning



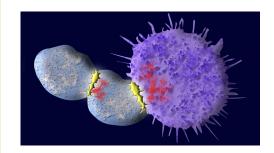
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Yale Scientists Identify Immune Cells
Critical for Immunologic Memory for
Melanoma



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Yale Scientists Develop a New Approach
to Strengthen CAR-T Cell Therapy for
Cancer Treatment



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Six Smilow Radiation Oncology Centers
Receive Accreditation by the American
Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO)

Colorectal Cancer Liver Metastasis"

 Prajwal Boddu, MBBS, Associate Research Scientist, Medical Oncology, and Luisa Escobar-Hoyos, PhD, Assistant Professor of Therapeutic Radiology and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Radiobiology and Genome Integrity Research Program: "Biology of Splicing Factor Mutations in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma (PDAC)"

 Carrie Lucas, PhD, Associate Professor of Immunobiology and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, and Michael Cecchini, MD: "Applying insights from monogenic autoinflammation to anti-tumor immunity in colorectal cancer"

Jacqueline Gaddy, MD, MSc, MSCR, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), Deputy Director of the Diversity Enhancement Program in Oncology, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, has been selected to participate in the Robert A. Winn Diversity in Clinical Trials: Career Development Award (Winn CDA) for early-stage investigator physicians. The Winn CDA aims to develop a new generation of clinical trialists with the additional knowledge, skills, and competencies to effectively engage with communities to foster active community participation in clinical research.

George Goshua, MD, MSc, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Hematology) within the Classical Hematology Program, has been invited to join the **Annals of Internal Medicine Editorial Board** for a three-year term, effective July 1, 2023.

Congratulations to the following Yale Cancer Center Members who have been awarded a **2023 YCC Pilot Award!** The 2023 YCC Pilot grants support areas of innovative cancer research from all six YCC Research Programs.

- Daniel Boffa, MD, Professor of Surgery (Thoracic Surgery), Division Chief, Thoracic Surgery, Clinical Director, Center for Thoracic Cancers, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Radiobiology and Genome Integrity Research Program, "Data Linkage to Enhance Representativeness and Equity of Cancer Care – Pilot in the State of Connecticut."
- Andres Hidalgo, PhD, Professor of Immunobiology and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, "Understanding the origin of tumor-supportive neutrophils."
- Yannick Jacob, PhD, Associate Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Genomics, Genetics, and Epigenetics Research Program, "The mechanism of genome instability in pediatric brain tumors caused by H3K27M."
- Diane Krause, MD, PhD, Anthony N. Brady Professor of Laboratory Medicine, Professor of Pathology, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Genomics, Genetics, and Epigenetics Research Program, "Novel Inducible Mouse Model of AMKL."
- Smita Krishnaswamy, PhD, Associate Professor of Genetics and of Computer Science and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, "Mapping and Modulating Dynamic Transitions across the Cancer Plasticity Landscape."
- Shuangge Steven Ma, PhD, Chair of the Department of Biostatistics, Professor of Biostatistics, Director of the Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Shared Resource, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, "Cancer omics modeling with statistically principled deep learning."
- Michael Mak, PhD, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Signaling Networks Research Program, "Computational and Biomimetic Approaches for Liver Cancer Progression and Resistance."
 - lianghing Zhou, PhD, EAHA, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery



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Congratulations to the 2023 Susan D. Flynn Oncology Nursing Fellows on the completion of their summer fellowships!

The Fellows completed 8-week rotations featuring a comprehensive clinical experience in oncology nursing, plus exposure to "best practices" and expert training in compassionate care, including palliative care. Direct observational and learning experiences included exposure to ambulatory oncology nursing, acute care medical and surgical oncology nursing, infusion services, and more.



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Recently on Yale Cancer Answers, speech pathologist, John Gerrity, discussed his role in caring for patients after a diagnosis of head and neck cancer and methods of restoring speech. Listen on Connecticut Public Radio or download our podcast from iTunes.



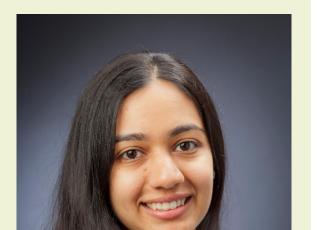
and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Developmental Therapeutics Research Program, "Nanoparticle-mediated Siglec-10/G blockade immunotherapy for breast cancer treatment."

Don Nguyen, PhD, BS, Associate Professor of Pathology and Medical Oncology and Co-Leader of the Yale Cancer Center Cancer Signaling Network Research Program, and Kurt Schalper, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Pathology, Director of the Translational Immuno-oncology Laboratory, and member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program have been awarded a Chênevert Family Brain Tumor Center Award to support their research into the "Deregulation of immunity and antigen presentation in NSCLC brain metastasis."

Jean-Leon Thomas, PhD, Professor of Neurology, Akiko Iwasaki, PhD, Sterling Professor of Immunobiology, Professor of Dermatology and of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology and of Epidemiology, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, Anna-Marie Pyle, PhD, Sterling Professor of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, Professor of Chemistry, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, and W. Mark Saltzman, PhD, Goizueta Foundation Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Professor of Cellular and Molecular Physiology and of Chemical Engineering, and a member of Yale Cancer Center's Developmental Therapeutics Research Program, have been awarded a Chênevert Family Brain Tumor Center Award to support their research into the "Preclinical assessment of RIG-I agonist SLR14 for glioblastoma treatment."

The Cancer Immunology **Research Program** welcomes Najla Arshad, PhD, Associate Research Scientist in Dermatology and Immunobiology. Dr. Arshad has a long-standing interest in understanding how dysregulation of protein function causes disease. Her research has been focused on the function of mutant calreticulin in antigen presentation in myeloproliferative neoplasms. This work led to the discovery of novel immunogenic

peptides in myeloproliferative malignancies which are now being targeted for induction of tumor specific T cell responses.





Listen Now

Last month, Mary McNiff presented Harriet Kluger, MD, with a donation from the Annual Jim McNiff Memorial Golf Tournament in support of Dr. Kluger's kidney cancer research. Thank you to the entire McNiff family for their continued efforts to raise awareness and funding for kidney cancer research!



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Announced earlier this month, the Yale Cancer Center Public Affairs and Communications Office has earned a 2023 Gold Award from dotCOMM Awards in recognition of Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital's weekly radio show, Yale Cancer Answers. Yale Cancer Answers is hosted by Dr. Anees Chagpar, Professor of Surgery (Surgical Oncology),

and is currently in its 18th year on air.

The dotCOMM Awards are an international competition honoring excellence in web creativity and digital communication. The competition spotlights the role of creatives in the dynamic, constantly evolving web. The awards are administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals.



Employee Profile: Edwin Antunes

Edwin Antunes, Intake
Coordinator for the Endocrine
Program, has been with
Smilow Cancer Hospital since
2021, and has worked in the
field of oncology for 10 years.
A cancer survivor himself, he
has a deeply rooted passion
caring for patients with
cancer. He is the first point of
contact for many patients and
introduces them to the
process while establishing a
relationship he hopes will
continue down the road.

"That first encounter can make or break a patient's first impression, and I take that very seriously," said Edwin. "It



may be my tenth call of the day, but this is their first interaction with their care team and I want to make it as easy of a process as possible. I make it clear from the start that they can reach out to me at any time and that we strive for excellence and try to display that with every encounter."

As referrals come in, Edwin explains the process. If they are scheduled for an appointment, he makes sure all the necessary documents are collected, explains location and parking information, and answers any questions; anything to reduce anxiety ahead of their first appointment. Even while fielding calls daily, Edwin communicates closely with the other team members. He is an enthusiastic staff member and works well with his team to keep Smilow's vision of patient-centered care front and center. He remains a point of contact for as long as they need him. "You can't force kindness," said Edwin. "I am not just an intake coordinator, but also a care coordinator and I try to spread kindness and joy, because it is tough out there."

Maria Llanos, Clinical Operations Manager, commented, "I remember my first interview with Edwin; I knew Smilow needed his impeccable patient-centric background. When he accepted the position I was excited to see him grow. It has been a pleasure having him on my team. His kindness not only extends to our patients, but to his coworkers and YNHH team members. He goes



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Smilow Cancer Hospital has a new clinical trial available for patients age 18 and older diagnosed with breast cancer or lymphoma, who are scheduled to begin an intravenous chemotherapy regimen within the next eight weeks. Interested patients are asked to perform a 6-minute walking test on-site, wear an activity tracker, and have access to the internet via a mobile device or computer with the ability to upload tracker data and complete surveys.

Medical Research Changes Lives

You can change the course of cancer research. Scientists and doctors at Yole Cancer Center and working hard to bring you new cancer treatments. We need patients for clinical research to help bring discoveries from the laboratory to more people who need them. We hope you'll be one of them.

Clinical Trial for: Patients with lymphoma or breast cancer who will be starting systemic anti-cancer therapy within eight weeks

Contact:
Yale Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office
Lisa Torre
lisa.torre@yale.edu

YaleNewHaven**Health**Smilow Cancer Hospital



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On Yale Cancer Answers, Palliative Care

Chaplain, Jane Jeuland, discussed spirituality and cancer as heard on her new podcast, "In the Midst of it All." Listen on Connecticut Public Radio or download our podcast from iTunes.



above and beyond daily and is proactive in closing the gap. We are so thankful to have him as part of the Smilow family. Our patients are in great hands with him."

#OOTB Recognition



Pictured with Dr. Amer Zeidan, **Anne Caldwell, RN**, and **Madelynn Bonfiglio**, and Daniel Moncayo (missing from photo) recently went above and beyond to support the Leukemia Clinical Research Team and clinical trial participants. Within the first two weeks of a high acuity, Phase I AML clinical trial opening at Yale Cancer Center, the team consented, screened, and began treatment for two participants. Notably, one of the participants was consented, screened, and treated in less than two days. Additionally, these were the first two participants enrolled study-wide for this clinical trial, achieving an important milestone. The complexity of this study required inpatient coordination, frequent sponsor communications, and weekend coverage, which Anne, Madelynn, and Daniel supported seamlessly. This extensive work occurred while maintaining the compliance and safety of their other clinical trial participants and assuming additional responsibilities to

bridge the team during staffing shortages. Anne, Madelyn, and Daniel approach challenges with a calm, team-focused mindset, and we are very grateful for their efforts and the opportunities it allows our patients. Thank you!

Recent Publications

Peters GW, Talcott W, Peters NV, Dhanasopan A, Lacy J, Cecchini M, Kortmansky J, Stein S, Lattanzi S, Park HS, Boffa D, Johung KL, Jethwa KR.

Pre-operative chemoradiotherapy with or without induction chemotherapy for operable locally-advanced esophageal cancer. *J Gastrointest Oncol.* 2023 Jun 30;14(3):1181-1192.

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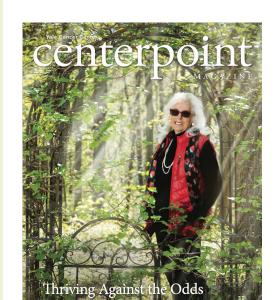
Recently, the staff at Smilow Cancer Hospital in Waterford were treated to a delicious summer picnic lunch from Chester's Barbecue in Groton as a thank you for the outstanding work they do supporting and caring for patients throughout the year!



Read More

Take a few minutes to read our Spring | Summer issue of Centerpoint Magazine.

This issue highlights the incredible story of Martha Atwood, who was diagnosed with Burkitt lymphoma and thrived through a challenging course of treatment. We also share new programs at Smilow Cancer Hospital to prioritize cancers in young adults and to provide exceptional palliative and prehabilitation care resources to our patients.



Wiegand A, Kastury R, Neogi A, Mani A, Bale A, Cox A.

FKBP14 kyphoscoliotic Ehlers-Danlos syndrome misdiagnosed as Larsen syndrome: a case report.

Cold Spring Harb Mol Case Stud. 2023 Jul 11;9(3):a006281.

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PACS-integrated machine learning breast density classifier: clinical validation.

Clin Imaging. 2023 Sep;101:200-205.

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Lee AI, Masselink LE, De Castro LM, Marshall AL, Connell NT, Dent GA, Fritz J, Homer M, Lucas TL, Naik RP, Nelson M, O'Connell CL, Rajasekhar A, Reynolds RJ, Sharma D, Smith M, Weeks LD, Erikson CE.

Burnout in US hematologists and oncologists: impact of compensation models and advanced practice provider support.

Blood Adv. 2023 Jul 11;7(13):3058-3068.

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Grant MJ, Goldberg SB.

Precise, pragmatic and inclusive: the modern era of oncology clinical trials.

Nat Med. 2023 Aug;29(8):1908-1909.

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Cao A, Cartmel B, Li FY, Gottlieb LT, Harrigan M, Ligibel JA, Gogoi R, Schwartz PE, Esserman DA, Irwin ML, Ferrucci LM.

Effect of Exercise on Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy Among Patients Treated for Ovarian Cancer: A Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Clinical Trial.

JAMA Netw Open. 2023 Aug 1;6(8):e2326463.

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Helicobacter pylori-negative mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphoma of the stomach: A clinicopathologic analysis. *Am J Clin Pathol*. 2023 Aug 9:aqad088.

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Clinicopathologic characterization of hepatocellular adenomas in men: a multicenter experience.

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Impact of COVID-19 on the gastrointestinal surgical oncology patient population.

Heliyon. 2023 Jul 20;9(8):e18459.

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Kerekes D, Frey A, Bakkila B, Kunstman JW, Khan SA.

Surgical treatment of stage IV gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine carcinoma: Experience and outcomes in the United States. *J Surg Oncol*. 2023 Jul 12.

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Yan H, Talty R, Jain A, Cai Y, Zheng J, Shen X, Muca E, Paty PB, Bosenberg MW, Khan SA, Johnson CH.

Discovery of decreased ferroptosis in male colorectal cancer patients with KRAS mutations.



Courtney Gibson, MD, MS, FACS, is an Associate Professor of Surgery specializing in surgery of the thyroid, parathyroid and adrenal gland. Dr. Gibson recently gave a talk on parathyroid disease and tumors in recognition of Parathyroid Disease Awareness Month in July.

The presentation is available on our YouTube page for everyone interested in learning more.



Read More

Premier Subaru in Branford stopped by Smilow Cancer Hospital in North Haven to deliver 80 blankets for patients undergoing cancer treatment. The thick, soft blankets, accompanied by many messages of hope from Subaru personnel, are part of the partnership between the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and Subaru Loves to Care supporting patients with cancer in Connecticut. The Premier Subaru team was met by several members of our clinical staff

who expressed their heartfelt appreciation for the thoughtful and generous gift for their patients.



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Hepatopancreatobiliary malignancies: time to treatment matters. *J Gastrointest Oncol*. 2023 Apr 29;14(2):833-848.

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Ann Surg Oncol. 2023 Aug 9.

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Systemic Staging of Locally Advanced Breast Cancer: How Hard to Look?.

Journal of clinical oncology: official journal of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, 41(23), 3891–3894.

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Cancer cell, S1535-6108(23)00246-5.

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Annals of internal medicine, 10.7326/M23-0133.

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JCO oncology practice, 19(8), 533-535.

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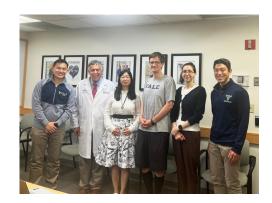
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The Yale Cancer Center-Advanced Training Program for Physician-Scientists (YCC-ATPP), led by principal investigators Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, and Lieping Chen, MD, PhD, is a is a five-year, T32 training program that provides salary and research funds for four 3rd year Hematology/Medical Oncology fellows.

The goal of this program is to help the fellows develop the skills necessary to function independently, including the ability to design, initiate, and complete research projects, and to effectively write grants and manuscripts. It uniquely positions the Heme/MedOnc fellows to become independent clinical, translational, or basic cancer research leaders of tomorrow.

Pictured (left-right): David Su, MD (Surgery resident, T32 fellow), Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD; Meina Wang, PhD; Curt Perry, MD, PhD (Heme/Onc Fellow, T32 fellow); Jessica Stempel, MD, FACP (Heme/Onc fellow, T32 fellow); and Benjamin Lu, MD (Heme/Onc fellow, T32 fellow).

Not pictured: Jeremy Jacox, MD, PhD (Heme/Onc fellow, T32 fellow), and Thejal Srikumar, MD (T32 fellow).



Read More

Congratulations to Anish Sharda, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Hematology, the 2023 recipient of the JH Milstone Grant. The JH Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health Study.

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Treatment patterns and real-world effectiveness of rituximab maintenance in older patients with mantle cell lymphoma: a population-based analysis.

Haematologica, 108(8), 2218-2223.

Read More

Milstone Fund awards an annual grant to support early-stage investigators and innovative research that improves understanding of bleeding, thrombosis, or thrombolysis.

Dr. J. Haskell Milstone was a Professor of Pathology at Yale from 1947-1977. He taught pathology and blood coagulation to a generation of medical students and residents and advocated strongly for better treatment for those with hemophilia. This annual fund honors Dr. Milstone's seminal work in coagulation and will continue to support generations of researchers.



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.@YouTube says it's now removing videos promoting cancer misinformation, which can deeply prey "on the hope of our patients who have cancer," explains @PamelaKunzMD in an interview with @wnpr.

Congratulations to Dr. George
Goshua @GeorgeGoshuaMD
on his appointment to the editorial
board for @AnnalsoflM.

"When we radiate the pelvis for rectal cancer, there are several important organs there. Radiation is very focused, but you hit more than the tumor."

Tonight at 7:30pm on Yale Cancer Answers, speech pathologist, John Gerrity, discusses his role in caring for patients after a diagnosis of head and neck cancer and methods of restoring speech.

Listen live @wnpr or download our podcast from @iTunes.



A new study from co-senior author @AminNassarMD Malla, A. B., Yu, H., Farris, D., Kadimi, S., Lam, T. T., Cox, A. L., Smith, Z. D., & Lesch, B. J.

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Shallis, R. M., Daver, N., Altman, J. K., Komrokji, R. S., Pollyea, D. A., Badar,

#immunotherapy offers clinical benefits for a subset of patients with advanced penile squamous cell carcinoma

Congratulations to Seth Herzon,
PhD, the inaugural recipient of the
A.V. Rama Rao Award given by the Council
of the Chemical Research Society of India
(CRSI) @ChemResSocIndia.

Patients w/stage IV#gastriccancer limited to nonregional lymph nodes exhibited a better prognosis than mets to a single organ, suggesting an opportunity to introduce M1 staging subclassifications.

The 2023 SNO/ASCO CNS Cancer Conference starts tomorrow, co-chaired by Sarah Goldberg, MD, MPH, with the keynote address presented by Don Nguyen, PhD, BS.

#Clinicaltrials using neoadjuvant
#immunotherapy for #earlyTNBC
were reviewed to learn more about next-gen
challenges to improve outcomes + the
potential of the #microbiome.

.@David_Leffell
shares how learning from the
success of #smokingprevention, a
comprehensive + unified #sunprotection
policy can be developed to greatly the risks

associated w/excessive sun exposure.

"The findings ... emphasize the need for a careful evaluation of the benefits + harms of screening older women (for #breastcancer)," says a study from @IlanaRichman, @cpgyale, @shiyijjwang, et al.

Incorporating aerobic exercise can improve #CIPN neuropathy in women treated for #ovariancancer according to a study from @anlan_cao with Drs. Melinda Irwin @mirwin_yale and Leah Ferrucci.

Dr. Michael Chiorazzi + colleagues developed a technique to fully reconstitute a person's immune system in a mouse, enabling researchers to study individual differences in #cancer progression

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IL-7R licenses a population of epigenetically poised memory CD8⁺ T cells with superior antitumor efficacy that are critical for melanoma

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 120(30), e2304319120.

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Epstein-Barr virus associated primary central nervous system lymphoma in an immunosuppressed patient with a comorbid autoimmune disorder: A case report.

Experimental and therapeutic medicine, 26(2), 410.

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Funding and Award Opportunities

DoD Melanoma Research Program Funding Opportunities

The FY23 Defense Appropriations Act provides funding for the Melanoma Research Program (MRP) to support innovative, high-impact melanoma research.

 Melanoma Academy Scholar Award: to develop a network of successful, highly DOD FY23 Melanoma Academy Scholar Award 5 productive melanoma researchers in a collaborative research and career development environment.

Pre-Application Deadline: August 31, 2023

 Mid-Career Accelerator Award: to support investigators who have laid the foundation for becoming leaders in the melanoma field and who intend to advance the state of the science in melanoma.

Pre-Application Deadline: August 31, 2023

• Team Science Award: to bring together investigators from divergent disciplines to achieve innovations and advancements in melanoma research and/or patient care that could not be achieved by any one investigator working independently.

Pre-Application Deadline: August 31, 2023

 Focused Program Award – Rare Melanomas: to support a multidisciplinary research program of at least two, but not more than + treatment response.



"This study has revealed a new vulnerability of a subset of lung

#adenocarcinomas that have become resistant to standard-of-care targeted therapies," said Dr. Katerina Politi @politikaterina.

Calendar

Yale Cancer Answers

August 20, 7:30 PM

WNPR 90.5

Advanced Techniques in Breast Surgery

Tristen Park, MD **Learn More**

Multi-Disciplinary Portal Hypertension and Vascular Liver Disorders Conference

August 22, 7:30 AM

Location TBA

Todd Schlachter, MD

Learn More

Yale School of Medicine Biorepository **Open Information Session**

August 22, 1:00 PM

Zoom

Chen Liu, MD, PhD | Wade Schulz, MD

Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer **Hospital Town Hall**

August 23, 5:00 PM

Zoom

Kevin Billingsley, MD, MBA | Kim Slusser, RN | Robert Bona, MD | Paula Pike, RN, MBA | Christin Knowlton, MD, MA | Sharlene Hench | Ian Krop, MD, PhD | Alyssa Gateman, MPH

Learn More

Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds August 24, 9:00 AM

35 Park Street, North Pavilion LL505

Theranostics and Precision Medicine Gabriela Spilberg, MD

Learn More

Yale Cancer Answers

August 27; 7:30PM

WNPR

Stereotactic Radiosurgery for Lung Cancer

three, distinct but complementary projects addressing an overarching question relevant to rare melanomas

Pre-Application Deadline: August 31, 2023

Read More

Hyundai Bridge2K Award for NIH K Award Applicants

The purpose of the Hyundai Bridge2K Award is to provide seed funding to support the resubmission efforts of strong pediatric cancer-focused grant applications that narrowly missed the pay line at national funding agencies. Ideal candidates are those with NIH K award applications (e.g., K08, K23) that were scored.

Application Deadline: August 31, 2023

Read More

Limited Competition: Collaborative Partnership to Advance Global Health Research (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

The goal of this NOFO is to develop, establish, implement, and maintain a successful collaborative partnership to advance NIH priorities, support NIH collaboration on global health, and advance biomedical research internationally. This program will support a partnership between the NIH and the recipient(s) with the commitment and capacity to help extend NIH research-related programs worldwide.

Application Deadline: September 1, 2023

Read More

Advancing Cancer Control Equity Research Through Transformative Solutions (U19/U24)

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) invites proposals for research centers to advance cancer control equity by stimulating community-engaged, multilevel research interventions that address the impact of social determinants of health (SDOH) on adverse cancer control outcomes.

Application Deadline: September 14, 2023

Read More

Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research 2023 Medical **Research Awards**

Identify two outstanding junior faculty members – one who is conducting

mainstream or conventional research and one who is conducting complementary or integrative research – who would be willing to complete and submit a grant application for review. Gabrielle's Angel Foundation remains committed to funding innovative, translational proposals and to supporting promising independent early-career investigators, rather than wellestablished, senior scientists.

Application Deadline: September 15, 2023

Read More

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Equity in Access Research **Program**

Through this program, LLS aims to generate new evidence that can guide policy reform and changes in healthcare practice, in order to mitigate the impact of social, economic and environmental disadvantages and reduce barriers to care.

Letter of Intent Due: September 15, 2023

Read More

DoD Kidney Cancer Research Program

KCRP supports research of exceptional scientific merit in kidney cancer.

- Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigators Early-Career Scholar Award -Preproposal Due: September 15, 2023
- Clinical Trial Award Preproposal Due: September 15, 2023
- Idea Development Award Preproposal Due: September 15, 2023
- Nurse-Initiated Research Award Preproposal Due: September 15, 2023
- Translational Research Partnership Award Preproposal Due: September 15, 2023

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Nadine Housri, MD

Learn More

Yale Cancer Answers September 3; 7:30PM **WNPR**

The Role of a Hospitalist in Oncology Care Jensa Morris, MD and Sarach Schellhorn, MD

Learn More

Yale Center for Molecular and Systems Metabolism (YMSM) September 5, 11:00 AM

Brady Auditorium; 310 Center Street,

In Search of the Holy Grail: Cardiolipin Remodeling by ALCAT1 Controls the Mitochondrial Aging Clock Yuguang (Roger) Shi, PhD

Learn More

Center for GI Cancers Seminar Series 2023-2024 September 7, 4:15 PM **Location and Speaker TBA** Learn More

Yale Eye Center Grand Rounds September 8, 7:00 AM **Location TBA**

Mobilizing Lymphatics in Immune Privileged **Spaces**

Eric Hoyeon Song, MD, PhD **Learn More**

Surgery Grand Rounds September 8, 7:30 AM **FMP Auditorium** "State of the Department"

Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA, FACS

Learn More











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Director, Public Affairs and Communications

NIH Institutional Excellence in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Biomedical and Behavioral Research Prize Competition The prize competition goals are as follows:

1. To recognize and reward institutions whose biomedical, social, and behavioral science schools, departments, centers, or divisions have identified gaps with respect to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) and have designed, implemented, and evaluated interventions to address these gaps to achieve sustained improvement in DEIA within their faculty.

2. To identify effective practices for enhancing DEIA within faculty, postdoctoral scholars, and student bodies that are feasible and can be disseminated for adoption by other institutions.

Application Deadline: September 26, 2023

postdoctoral scholars, and student bodies.

Read More

The Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network - Core Clinical Centers (UG1 Clinical Trial Optional)

This NOFO invites applications to participate as Core Clinical Centers and Consortia in the BMT CTN. Core Clinical Centers and Consortia are expected to support and conduct multi-site trials to compare novel treatment approaches and management strategies for children and adults undergoing hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HCT) for non-malignant and malignant blood diseases, either alone or in combination with novel adoptive cell-based therapies.

Application Deadline: October 2, 2023

Read More

The Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network - Data Coordinating Center (U24)

This NOFO invites applications to participate as the Data Coordinating Center (DCC) for the BMT CTN. The overall goals are to identify and address gaps in HCT and adoptive cell therapy outcomes for blood diseases; rapidly disseminate study results to improve the scientific basis of the therapies being studied; provide a platform to train emerging clinical trial investigators; build a biorepository for future research that includes

specimens linked to clinical data and outcomes from patients with nonmalignant blood diseases who receive these therapies; and ultimately improve the life and quality of life for patients with blood diseases who receive HCT or adoptive cell therapies.

Application Deadline: October 2, 2023

Read More

Charles H. Hood Foundation Child Health Research Awards Program

The intent of the Child Health Research Awards Program is to support newly independent faculty, provide the opportunity to demonstrate creativity, and assist in the transition to other sources of research funding.

Application Deadline: October 4, 2023

Read More

Cancer Prevention, Detection, Diagnosis, and Treatment Technologies for Global Health (U01)

This NOFO supports the development of cancer-relevant technologies suitable for use in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Specifically, the NOFO solicits applications for projects to adapt, apply, and validate existing or emerging technologies into a new generation of user-friendly, low-cost technologies for preventing, detecting, diagnosing, and/or treating cancers in people living in LMICs.

Application Deadline: October 13, 2023

Read More

Leveraging Social Networks to Promote Widespread Individual Behavior Change (R01)

The purpose of this NOFO is to invite basic observational or experimental behavioral and/or social science R01 applications that test how intrapersonal and interpersonal mechanisms of behavior change interact with, influence, or are influenced by characteristics of social networks, with implications for

health. Research supported through this NOFO will examine at least two levels of analysis: interpersonal processes and social network characteristics.

Application Deadline: November 3, 2023

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