COVID Response
Our Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center family is truly one of a kind, and continues to rally on behalf of our patients during this difficult time. The teamwork and dedication that we have experienced over the last month through challenging decisions and several significant moves is unsurpassed. Thank you for all you have done, and will continue to do on behalf of our patients and for one another.

Our inpatient medical and surgical oncology units are now well situated at our Saint Raphael Campus. In addition, our outpatient care from NP 1 has transitioned to our Care Center in Guilford and the majority of outpatient and infusion care from NP 4 and 8 has transitioned to North Haven. Our Old Saybrook Care Center has temporarily merged with Guilford; the Orange Care Center has temporarily merged with Derby; and the Fairfield Care Center has temporarily merged with Trumbull. Our Extended Care Clinic continues to be available for patients in need of urgent attention in its new temporary space on EP 1, and a Rapid Evaluation Clinic has launched for Smilow patients who develop COVID-type symptoms to enable testing and triage for care on NP 1.

Our leadership team will continue to make decisions and modify our plans to ensure we are providing the very best cancer care to our patients, while protecting our patients and their families, and our
physicians, nurses, caregivers, and staff. Communication remains key, and we will continue to provide our internal community with updates through Town Halls and our regular emailed COVID Updates. We also want to be sure we're providing information directly to our patients, and earlier this week we hosted our second public Patient and Family Forum. The forum, our internal updates, and additional information for your patients are archived in a new section of our website. [www.yalecancercenter.org/covid](http://www.yalecancercenter.org/covid)

**Virtual Grand Rounds**

I am grateful to Akiko Iwasaki, PhD, for her leadership in the study of immune response to COVID-19 and for taking the time to launch our virtual Grand Rounds earlier this month. Dr. Iwasaki's research efforts will undoubtedly bring new insights into the immune system's ability to halt the coronavirus, and potential vaccine development. Dr. Craig Crews followed with an exciting grand rounds presentation on his work on PROTAC-mediated protein degradation earlier this week, and his lab's progress. Many of our grand rounds presentations are archived on our [website](http://www.yalecancercenter.org) for your review. Dr. Harlan Krumholz will join us this Tuesday, April 21 at Noon and we will continue on a weekly schedule. Please check the Yale Cancer Center [calendar](http://www.yalecancercenter.org/calendar) for the latest information.

**Robert Bona, MD, Appointed Director of Benign Hematology**

Please welcome Robert Bona, MD, to Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center. Dr. Bona will join us on July 1 as a Professor of Medicine (Hematology) and will serve as the inaugural Director.
of our Benign Hematology Program and Medical Director of the Hemophilia Treatment Center for the Department of Pediatrics. Many of you are familiar with Dr. Bona, who has been caring for our patients as a part-time member of the hematology section for the last three years. We look forward to working more closely with Dr. Bona to build a comprehensive program for patients with inherited and acquired blood diseases.

Dr. Bona joins Yale from Quinnipiac University where he is currently a founding faculty member and Professor of Medical Sciences at the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine. Previously, he served as the division chief and fellowship program director at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. He also has strong ties to St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center where he began his career after fellowship. He is a leader in the clinical care and research of benign hematological conditions, having led several research studies, clinical trials, and care innovations to advance the treatment of blood diseases.

Dr. Bona trained in Hematology-Oncology at the University of Connecticut Health Center, followed by training in clinical thrombosis at McMaster University in Ontario. He graduated from SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY and completed his residency and internship at Brown University.

Notables

Dmitry Kozhevnikov, DO, Laura J. Morrison, MD, and Matthew S. Ellman, MD, received the Rosenkranz Award for Pedagogical Advancement from the Yale Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning. This award will support their ongoing work to expand palliative care training for Yale residents. Together, they are exploring the efficacy of simulation training as part of serious illness communication and symptom management education. Drs. Kozhevnikov and Morrison are faculty in the Yale Palliative Care Program and Dr. Ellman is a faculty member in the Section of General Internal Medicine.

Tiny Nanoparticles Offer Large Potential for Brain Cancer Treatment
Read More >>

Despite Battling COVID-19, Yale New Haven Oncologist Continues Treating Patients Virtually
Read More >>

Join Smilow Cancer Hospital on Facebook

Latest Posts:

Dr. Smita Krishnaswamy has transitioned her work away from campus at this time and shares her insight on working from home.

"Since our work is entirely computational and dry-lab it was not very difficult. We just moved our lab meetings online. Aside from that we work remotely a lot, by using Slack for communication and sharing code on GitHub. Now I work full time, but I also
The American Association of Physicists in Medicine has awarded the Michael D. Mills Editor in Chief Award of Excellence for an Outstanding General Medical Physics Article to Jennifer Johnson, Eric Ford, James Yu, Courtney Buckey, Shannon Fogh, and Suzanne B. Evans for their paper, "Peer Support: A needs assessment for social support from trained peers in response to stress among medical physicists."

Carla Rothlin, PhD, Dorys McConnell Duberg Professor of Immunobiology and Professor of Pharmacology and Co-Leader of Yale Cancer Center's Cancer Immunology Research Program, has been named a senior editor of eLife, an open access journal.

The Cancer Microbiology Research Program welcomes Ruth Montgomery, PhD, Professor of Internal Medicine (Rheumatology). Dr. Montgomery's lab focuses on the function of innate immune cells and use of novel technology to advance translational studies. She has expertise in the effects of aging on innate immune responses and pathways as well as infectious models, including Lyme disease and the West Nile virus. As Associate Dean for Scientific Affairs, Dr. Montgomery works to facilitate access for Yale investigators to the exceptional resources of our institution including instrumentation, collaborating investigators, and a diverse pool of human subjects for translational studies.

Employee Profile: Cheryl Walsh, RN

homeschool my three small kids (ages 7, 5, and 3) at home, so it’s like I have at least 4 jobs now! It is also hard to get quiet time to read or get certain things done during the day with the kids always running around and being chaotic.”

Be on the lookout for hearts in nature, architecture, or anywhere you can spot them in your daily environment and take a photo to share with us on social media with #SmilowHearts! You can also email your photos to Dana Brewer.

All heart photos submitted will be used in a future art installation project in the main lobby of Smilow Cancer Hospital. We look forward to seeing your hearts!

We continue to be incredibly thankful our physicians, nurses, and staff for their dedication to our patients. Sharing a few scenes from our week together with all of you!
As a New Patient Nurse Coordinator with the Thoracic Oncology Program, one of the primary roles for Cheryl Walsh, RN, is to make sure crucial information is obtained for an effective initial visit. Cheryl also helps newly-referred patients understand what to expect from their appointment. In what is often an emotional and stressful time, Cheryl guides patients through their upcoming appointments to help alleviate their anxiety and connect with them on a psycho-social level, which is a critical component for successful care.

For new patients, the diagnosis or second opinion process is an emotional experience. Educating patients on the types of additional imaging or testing that may be needed can relieve some of their concerns. Cheryl explains, “Talking with patients on their level in order to help them understand the process while answering their questions, comforts them. It can help them trust that they are, and will be taken care of.”

Upon graduation from nursing school, Cheryl worked as both an inpatient nurse and charge nurse on 9 West, which was a medical oncology/hematology floor. When the construction of Smilow was completed, her unit moved to NP11 and NP12. Cheryl stayed on NP12, Medical Oncology, for five years. During this time, she was also working per diem for the Hospital of Central Connecticut, outpatient oncology, and for Connecticut Hospice’s homecare program. When a nurse coordinator position became
available enabling her to bring her patient care experience to a collaborative team of physicians, she jumped at the chance.

Over the last four years as a Nurse Coordinator, on top of her normal responsibilities, Cheryl has attended the weekly thoracic tumor board and has participated in numerous projects, including the rollout of ERAS and IDEAL initiatives for thoracic surgical patients. She also supports all five oncologists within the department, the chief of thoracic surgery, and two pulmonologists who see patients in Smilow.

"As coordinator, this role is such a good mix of patient contact and team collaboration," says Cheryl. "The Thoracic Oncology team is a great group that emphasizes collaboration and the advancement of care. What is so special about oncology is that we personalize care and support our patients in every way possible. We become their team, almost as if we are an extended family."

OOTB Thanks!

YCC#OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Talia Mitchell Gallagher, MS, MB(ASCP), Administrative Director of the Clinical Research Support Laboratory (CRSL) at Yale Cancer Center. When faced with unexpected challenges caused by the COVID19 pandemic, Talia has been on the front

Read More >>

Ten Percent Happier is a website and mobile app we enjoy that offers a weekly podcast, newsletter, a daily live meditation break, and numerous other tools if you are looking for mindful resources during this time of anxiety and uncertainty.

Read More >>

Many of you have graciously asked how you can help support our hospital and patients during this challenging time. One way everyone can get involved - patients, families, children, and friends - is to send cards, notes, or homemade pictures to patients in the hospital. Most of our patients are not able to see their family or have any visitors. Your well wishes will bring some much appreciated cheer!

Please send mail to:
Jill Williams, RN, PSM
lines every single day to guide her staff and transporters from the CRSL. In order to send people home as soon as possible preventing further exposure, her guidance led to a very productive and focused team effort with outstanding results. Thank you, Talia!

Yale Cancer Center’s #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS program is a staff recognition initiative to show appreciation to employees who have exemplified an above-and-beyond effort or an outstanding contribution to the team. All nominations should be submitted to the Director’s Office c/o Anna Raso.

Recent Publications

Lifting the innate immune barriers to antitumor immunity.
Rothlin CV, Ghosh S. J Immunother Cancer. 2020 Apr;8(1).
Read More >>

Papillomaviruses Go Retro.
Read More >>

Senescent Cells with Augmented Cytokine Production for Microvascular Bioengineering and Tissue Repairs.
Read More >>

MicroRNAs and long non-coding RNAs as novel regulators of ribosome biogenesis.
Read More >>

Roles of cell fusion, hybridization and polyploid cell formation in cancer metastasis.
Read More >>
Higher-risk myelodysplastic syndromes with del(5q): does the del(5q) matter?
Read More >>

Development of Subspecialty-Specific Reporting Milestones for Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship Training in the U.S.
Read More >>

Pralatrexate injection for the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory peripheral T-cell lymphoma.
Read More >>

Preserving genome integrity in human cells via DNA double-strand break repair.
Read More >>

Potent BRD4 inhibitor suppresses cancer cell-macrophage interaction.
Read More >>

Invasive Staging Procedures Do Not Prevent Nodal Metastases from Being Missed In Stage I Lung Cancer.
Read More >>

Joint effect of pre-operative anemia and perioperative blood transfusion on outcomes of colon-cancer patients undergoing colectomy.

Read More >>

Funding Opportunities

Fast Funding for COVID-19 Science
If you are a scientist at an academic institution currently working on a COVID-19 related project and in need of funding, we invite you to apply for a Fast Grant.

**Deadline:** Fast Grant decisions are made in under 48 hours. Apply Now!

Learn More >>

Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer Career Enhancement Program (CEP)
The CEP of the Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer has been established to educate the next generation of investigators committed to translational research in lung cancer. The CEP will provide support of up to $50,000 to promising junior investigators and/or establish investigators who have not previously conducted lung cancer focused research.

**Letters of Intent Due:** April 24, 2020

Learn More >>

Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer Developmental Research Program (DRP) Award
The DRP of the Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer provides seed money to investigators to support studies with a strong translational component that have the potential to evolve into, or be incorporated as, a full Yale SPORE in Lung Cancer project. The purpose is also to generate preliminary data or evidence of collaboration for new NCI grant applications.

**Letters of Due:** April 24, 2020

Learn More >>

Calendar

Virtual Yale Healthcare Conference 2020
**April 17; 11:00 AM**
Zoom link upon registration
COVID-19: Responding to a Public Health Crisis
Vivek H. Murthy, MD, MBA | Katherine Baicker, PhD | Dan Diamond

Learn More >>

Phone Meditation hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
**April 17, 1:00 PM**
Call 888-398-2342, access code 3862125

Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Answers
**April 19, 7:30 PM**
NPR
Palliative Care
Edward Schwartz, LCSW

Learn More >>

Guided Imagery and Massage with Michele Grand hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
**April 20; 10:30 AM**
https://zoom.us/j/227831908?pwd=NGxZaktFV1V6QnFwS09ta1U3TGVCQT09

Learn More >>

Virtual T’ai Chi/Qigong hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
**April 20; 3:00 PM**
https://zoom.us/j/402346549

Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds - Zoom only
**April 21; 12:00 PM**
https://zoom.us/j/356458855
Elsa U. Pardee Foundation Research Grants
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:** April 30, 2020  
[Learn More >>](#)

Lung Cancer Research Foundation Disparities in Lung Cancer
The LCRF grant program provides funding for research into the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure of lung cancer.

**Application Deadline:** May 1, 2020  
[Learn More >>](#)

Lung Cancer Research Foundation Pilot Grant Program
The LCRF Pilot Grant Program supports high-risk, high-reward research projects investigating a wide variety of topics related to lung cancer.

**Application Deadline:** May 1, 2020  
[Learn More >>](#)

Gabrielle’s Angel Foundation for Cancer Research
The Foundation funds innovative clinical or basic science research that will lead to novel therapeutic approaches that could replace, or be used in combination with existing effective therapies for patients with leukemia and lymphoma.

**Application Deadline:** May 1, 2020  
[Learn More >>](#)

Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance
This grant provides funds for large ovarian cancer research projects that involve several investigators within one institution or collaborations between groups in multiple institutions.

**Application Deadline:** May 1, 2020  
[Learn More >>](#)

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
Development of Clinical Quality Measures to Improve Diagnosis RFP
The purpose of this FO is to provide assistance in the form of grants for the development of innovative clinical quality measures that promote excellence in

Harlan Krumholz, MD, SM  
[Learn More >>](#)

Phone Meditation hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine  
April 21; 12:30 PM  
Call 888-398-2342, access code 3862125  
[Learn More >>](#)

Virtual W’Tai Chi/Qigong hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine  
April 22; 2:00 PM  
https://zoom.us/j/161235921  
[Learn More >>](#)

Phone Meditation hosted by Phil Levine, Mindfulness Meditation Coach  
April 22; 12:30 PM  
Call 888-398-2342, access code 3862125  
[Learn More >>](#)

Virtual Gentle Yoga hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine  
April 23; 10:00 AM  
https://zoom.us/j/513653912  
[Learn More >>](#)

Palliative and Symptom Science (PASS) Research Seminar  
April 23; 12:00 PM  
https://zoom.us/j/2037856977  
Meeting ID: 203 785 6977  
Laura Morrison, MD, FAAHPM, FACP and Rebecca Gagne Henderson, MSN, APRN, ACHPN  
[Learn More >>](#)

Guided Imagery and Massage with Michele Grand hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine  
April 23; 1:30 PM  
https://zoom.us/j/893963891?pwd=eFBqZTVtUzVRR0JQYXJTGGRwNjEzdz09  
[Learn More >>](#)

Smilow Town Hall  
April 23; 5:00 PM  
Virtual Zoom Meeting  
https://zoom.us/s/421546627; Phone: (203) 432-9666 ID: 421 546 627  
Weekly COVID-19 Update  
[Learn More >>](#)

Phone Meditation hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine  
April 24, 1:00 PM  
Call 888-398-2342, access code 3862125  
[Learn More >>](#)
diagnosis of three categories of disease - acute vascular events, infections and cancer.

**Application Deadline:** May 4, 2020

Learn More >>

**Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance Collaborative Research Development Grant**
This Grant provides funds for large ovarian cancer research projects that involve several investigators within one institution or collaborations between groups in multiple institutions.

**Letter of Intent Due:** May 15, 2020

Learn More >>

**NCCN Taiho Futibatinib Request for Proposals**
NCCN is pleased to announce that it is collaborating with Taiho Oncology, Inc., to offer a new opportunity for the design and performance of clinical and correlative studies of futibatinib, a fibroblast growth factor receptor antagonist, in the treatment of solid tumors.

**Application Deadline:** May 15, 2020

Learn More >>

**Phi Beta Psi Sorority**
The purpose of this award is to advance cancer research nationwide to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment by providing research grants to qualified investigators addressing original questions and hypotheses to be explored in basic and clinical studies in the field of cancer.

**Internal LOI Due:** May 15, 2020

Learn More >>

**Prostate Cancer Foundation 2020 Young Investigator Awards**
We are pleased to announce a new round of funding for PCF Young Investigators. We especially encourage young investigators working on prostate cancer health disparities to apply.

**Application Deadline:** May 18, 2020

Learn More >>

**Toward Translation of Nanotechnology Cancer Interventions (TTNCI) (R01)**
This FOA is to enable the translation of nanotechnology-based cancer interventions relying

---

**Yale Cancer Answers**
April 26, 7:30 PM
NPR
AI and Prostate Cancer
John Onofrey, PhD
Learn More >>

**Guided Imagery and Massage with Michele Grand hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine**
April 27; 10:30 AM
https://zoom.us/j/227831908?pwd=NGxZaktFV1V6QnFwS09ta1U3TGVCQT09
Learn More >>

**Virtual T'ai Chi/Qigong hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine**
April 27; 3:00 PM
https://zoom.us/j/402346549
Learn More >>

**Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds - Zoom only**
April 28; 12:00 PM
https://zoom.us/j/356458855
Immunology of HIV-Associated Cancer and LncRNAs in Cancer: What, where, and how?
Brinda Emu, MD, and Nadya Dimitrova, PhD

Phone Meditation hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
April 28; 12:30 PM
Call 888-398-2342, access code 3862125
Learn More >>

Virtual W T'ai Chi/Qigong hosted by Smilow Integrative Medicine
April 29; 2:00 PM
https://zoom.us/j/161235921
Learn More >>

Phone Meditation hosted by Phil Levine, Mindfulness Meditation Coach
April 29; 12:30 PM
Call 888-398-2342, access code 3862125
Learn More >>

Smilow Wellness Presents
April 30; 1:00 PM
https://zoom.us/j/549880871
Managing Mindfully in Uncertain Times
George "Bud" Wassell, MS, CEAP, LPC
Learn More >>

Submissions
on next-generation nanoparticle formulations and/or nano-devices.

**Application Deadline:** May 21, 2020

Learn More >>

**Department of Defense Lung Cancer Research Program**

Supports innovative, high impact, lung cancer research. Multiple funding opportunities.

**Concept Award:** Pre-application (LOI)

Deadline: May 27

**Idea Development Award:** Pre-application (LOI)

Deadline: May 6

**Investigator-Initiated Translational Research Award:** Pre-Application (LOI) Deadline: May 6

Learn More >>

**Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP)**

The PCRP seeks to promote highly innovative, groundbreaking research; high-impact research with near-term clinical relevance; the next generation of prostate cancer investigators through mentored research; and resources that will facilitate translational research.

**Early Investigator Research Award** - Letter of Intent due June 4, 2020

**Physician Research Award** - Letter of Intent due June 4, 2020

Learn More >>

**James S. McDonnell Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards**

The JSMF Fellowship is a unique opportunity for students with an interest in and an aptitude for complexity science who are in the final stages of completing their Ph.D. and looking to make a significant change in direction for their first postdoctoral fellowship.

**Application Deadline:** June 12, 2020

Learn More >>

**Urgent Competitive Revision and Administrative Supplements on COVID-19**

The NCI is issuing this Notice of Special Interest to highlight the urgent need for research on COVID-19 and the effects of its causative agent, the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), on cancer, and vice versa.

Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

**Renee Gaudette**
Director, Public Affairs and Communications
Application Deadline: June 26, 2020
Learn More >>

Competitive Revision SBIR/STTR Supplements on COVID-19
The SBIR/STTR programs at the NCI are issuing this Notice of Special Interest to highlight the urgent need for the development of prophylactic, therapeutic and diagnostic for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).
Application Deadline: June 26, 2020
Learn More >>

Damon Runyon-Racileff Innovation Award
This award is designed to provide support for the next generation of exceptionally creative thinkers with “high-risk/high-reward” ideas that have the potential to significantly impact our understanding of and/or approaches to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of cancer.
Application Deadline: July 1, 2020
Learn More >>

Breast Cancer Alliance Young Investigator Grant
To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, Breast Cancer Alliance invites clinical doctors and research scientists whose primary focus is breast cancer and who are in the early stages of their careers, to apply for funding for the Young Investigator Grant.
Application Deadline: July 24, 2020
Learn More >>