October 1, 2021

Announcements

Dr. Jennifer Kilkus Joins Psycho-Oncology Program

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Jennifer Kilkus, PhD, ABPP, as an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry (Psychological Medicine). Dr. Kilkus received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Kentucky, completed a post-doctoral fellowship in psycho-oncology from WellStar Health System, and obtained board certification in clinical health psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology. Her work has received both regional and national recognition; Dr. Kilkus received the WellStar Health System Quality Award in 2018 for efforts made to develop an integrated behavioral health oncology program for one of the largest health systems in Georgia. In 2019, she received the Early Career Achievement Award from the American Psychological Association.

At Smilow, Dr. Kilkus provides evidence-based behavioral medicine and psychotherapy interventions to patients with cancer. Her research interests reflect her commitment to improve quality of life in cancer survivorship, with current studies investigating treatment options for persistent and late side effects of cancer treatment. Dr. Kilkus has a special interest in training and provides mentoring and supervision to interns in the Behavioral Medicine service through Yale’s APA-accredited clinical psychology internship program. She serves on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for the Yale New Haven Psychiatric Hospital.

Assistant Medical Directors in the Clinical Trials Office Named

As clinical trial opportunities expand across the Smilow Cancer Hospital Network and more clinical trials open, we recognize the need for an expanded leadership team in our Clinical Trials Office (CTO) to support our clinical research staff and mission. As such, we are pleased to announce

from the desk of
Nita Ahuja, MD, MBA, FACS
Interim Director, Yale Cancer Center
Interim Physician-in-Chief,
Smilow Cancer Hospital

News Center

Smilow Shares Greenwich: Prostate Cancer: Screening, Treatment, and Advances

Read More

Dr. Victor Chang Shares Why He Works in Cancer Research

Read More
appointments to the positions of Assistant Medical Director of the Clinical Trials Office and Assistant Medical Director of the Clinical Trials Office for the Care Center Network. These two positions report directly to the Medical Director of the Clinical Trials Office/Acting Associate Cancer Center Director for Clinical Sciences, Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD, and join current Assistant Medical Director for the Clinical Research Support Laboratory in the CTO, Stephanie Halene, MD, PhD.

Stacey Stein, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology), has been appointed Assistant Medical Director of the Clinical Trials Office and will be responsible for the quality and medical direction of the clinical trials unit at Smilow Cancer Hospital. Dr. Stein joined Yale Cancer Center in 2010 and has led numerous clinical trials for cancer over the last decade. She has served on our Protocol Review Committee since 2013 and has been vice-chair since 2019. Her incredible passion for clinical research and expanding the prospects for our patients will translate to continued improvements in clinical trial opportunities through our CTO.

Neal Fischbach, MD, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine (Medical Oncology), has been appointed Assistant Medical Director of the Clinical Trials Office for the Care Center Network. Dr. Fischbach has been serving as Assistant Director for Clinical Research for the Care Center Network since 2019 and we look forward to continuing to work with him to grow our clinical trial portfolio throughout our 15 care centers in Connecticut and Westerly, RI. His preliminary work to create a clinical trial matching program for patients in our Care Centers suggests that a significant impact will be achieved with a systemwide roll out, both in overall accrual and in enrolling underrepresented minorities. Dr. Fischbach will work to achieve that growth with collaboration from each of our providers in our Care Centers.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Stein and Dr. Fischbach to their new positions. We are confident that the addition of two new Assistant Medical Directors will help provide continuity and leadership at all our clinical locations. Your collaboration with them on accrual to our clinical trial portfolio, Dr. Victor Chang Shares Why He Works in Cancer Research

Cancer Without Chemotherapy: ‘A Totally Different World’

Yale Cancer Center Study Demonstrates Efficacy of Risk Calculator in Treating Geriatric Patients with Cancer

Yale Cancer Center Study Shows Benefits of a Next Day Access Program for Patients with Cancer
on-site planning and execution of clinical trials, and implementation of Yale Cancer Center’s clinical trial goals is critical to our success in the coming months.

Notables

**Elizabeth Claus, PhD, MD**, Professor of Biostatistics and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, has been awarded a U2C grant from the National Cancer Institute to support her proposal, “OPTimizing engageMent in discovery of molecular evolution of low grade glioma (OPTIMUM).”

**Michael Cecchini, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Developmental Therapeutics Research Program, has been awarded a [K08 Career Development Award](#) to support his research and development of two investigator-initiated early phase clinical trials for patients with colorectal cancer under the mentorship of Patricia LoRusso, DO.

**Adam Roshka** has been promoted to [Director of Finance and Administration](#) for both the Yale Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office (CTO) and the [Yale Center for Clinical Investigation (YCCI)](#). Leveraging the Integrated Business Office model for functional and resource alignment across multiple departments, Adam will serve as Lead Administrator for both the YCCI and YCC CTO organizations and will maintain oversight of the day-to-day financial operations while having increased responsibility to drive key initiatives. Adam will continue to manage the business office staff as well as the staff and faculty affairs team for these two areas.

Adam joined Yale 16 years ago as an Accountant in Radiology and Biomedical Imaging. In October 2008, he joined Yale Cancer Center and in September 2020, Adam officially began his dual role supporting both the CTO and the YCCI as an Associate Director of Finance and Administration. In his new role, Adam will provide support to Tesheia Johnson, Chief Operating Officer for YCCI, and Margaret Gilshannon, Deputy Director for Finance & Administration for YCC, and will also have accountability to Brian Rebeschi, Executive Director, Finance & Administration.

**Amber Selvidge** has joined the Clinical Trials Office (CTO) as [Senior Assistant Director of the CTO](#) and brings 18 years of oncology clinical research experience to her new role at Yale. Amber has held prior leadership positions at Baylor College of Medicine, US Oncology Network, and Stephenson Cancer Center at Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center. Her management experience, along with expertise in IRB and regulatory requirements, protocol development, and clinical trial management, including remote management, will be an asset to the CTO.

**Diane Wall** joins the CTO as [Regional Assistant Director of the Care Centers](#) from Fetal Medicine at Yale New Haven Hospital where she has spent the last nine years focused on developing and expanding the Fetal Care Center. In her new role with the CTO, Diane will oversee our clinical trial operations in the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers throughout Connecticut.
Rachel Greenup, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Surgery (Surgical Oncology) and Chief of Breast Surgery, will present Surgical Oncology Grand Rounds at The Ohio State University The James Cancer Hospital Solove Research Institute on Wednesday, October 6 on, "The Price We Pay: The Financial Costs and Burden of Cancer Care."

Please register to join us for our Yale Breast Program Retreat on October 29, 2021, from 9am to 2pm via Zoom. The goal of the retreat is to continue to unite the outstanding Breast Research and Breast Health Care communities at Yale and our healthcare partners across the state to make us the world premier program for understanding, treatment, and care of those afflicted with breast diseases.

On Saturday, October 23rd, as part of the 2021 Susan G. Komen Connecticut Virtual More Than Pink Walk, The Breast Center at Smilow Cancer Hospital team, organized by Adriana Kahn, MD, will walk to raise money for breast cancer patients everywhere. With support from breast faculty including Maryam Lustberg, MD, MPH, and Lajos Pusztai, MD, DPhil, the team hopes to raise $2,500 to fund research to discover more effective treatments, as well as vital patient support to help connect people with things like breast cancer screenings, diagnostics, treatment assistance and so much more. Learn more, register to join, and support the cause!

Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce our call for nominations for our annual awards in the areas of excellence in research, teaching, mentorship, and clinical care. Each award winner will be announced at the Yale Cancer Center Conclave in January (date TBD). The nomination deadline for all awards (unless otherwise noted) is November 1, 2021.

Yale Cancer Center Research Prizes: Research Prizes will be awarded in support of excellence in the areas of basic science, clinical science, translational science, and population science. 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 nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center, and the science in the publication must be cancer-focused. To be eligible, the nominee must also be either the first or last author of the publication. Please submit a PDF of the publication (publication date must be between October 2020 to October 2021) along with the category it should be considered for via email 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 outstanding 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 outstanding candidates and send a brief nomination letter (one-page maximum) via email to Anna Raso.

Yale Cancer Center Award for Mentorship Excellence: This award will be given to the faculty member who best exemplifies excellence in mentorship by providing ongoing feedback and support, serving as a role model to their mentee(s), inspiring them in their passion for cancer care or for their specific field of study, providing opportunities and resources for mentee(s) to advance their careers, and encouraging their mentee(s) to grow, strive for excellence,
Yale Cancer Center Award for Teaching Excellence: This award will be given to the faculty member who best exemplifies excellence in teaching by ensuring their trainee(s) acquire the skills they need to develop as outstanding health practitioners, scientists, and/or researchers, providing ongoing feedback, inspiring passion for cancer care or for their specific field of study, explaining difficult concepts in innovative and creative ways, and stimulating excitement, debate, and critical and independent thinking. Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please nominate outstanding candidates and send a brief nomination letter (one-page maximum) via email 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. Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please send nomination suggestions for the award via email 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 J.C. Carley by November 30, 2021. Link to Nomination Form

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Understanding whether you have a certain inherited mutation for gynecologic cancer can alter your management recommendations, such as developing a screening plan that may help to detect cancer at an early stage, or risk-reduction surgery to reduce the risk of developing cancer. During Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month, the Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program focuses on hereditary causes of uterine, ovarian, and fallopian tube cancer.

Cecelia Calhoun, MD, MSPH, MBA, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Hematology), cares for adolescents and...
October is National Disability Awareness Month. The awareness month was declared in 1988 by the United States Congress to raise awareness of the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. People with disabilities constitute one of the nation’s largest minority groups, and the only group that ANY OF US can become a member of at any time. At Yale, The DiversAbility at Yale (DAY) Affinity Group creates an environment that is open and inclusive for all individuals impacted by disability, through engagement, education, and advocacy. The group also focuses on ways to support the recruitment, retention, and advancement of staff and faculty with disabilities. Resources are available.

Yale Black Postdoctoral Association
The Yale Black Postdoctoral Association (YBPA) was formed to enhance the visibility of Black postdocs—to one another, and to the Yale School of Medicine community at large—and provide much needed support to address the unique needs of postdoctoral fellows/associates from groups traditionally underrepresented in science.

Yale Cancer Center is very well represented in YBPA. Two of YBPA’s founding members are postdocs Aileen Fernandez, PhD, (David Rimm’s lab), and Chrystal Starbird, PhD, (Kathryn Ferguson’s lab). Also on the Executive Board is Krishna C. Mudumbi, PhD, (Mark Lemmon’s lab). The group hosts speakers and workshops, provides peer mentorship, partners with community groups, and promotes wellness events. As part of this effort, they host the tri-annual Emerging Scholars Symposium where speakers are invited to give a research seminar and meet with various groups at Yale, including graduate students, postdocs, and faculty. The next Emerging Scholar Seminar will be held virtually on October 21, at Noon.

If you are interested in joining or learning more, please visit https://medicine.yale.edu/diversity/studentstraineespostdocs/ybpa/

Employee Profile: Javier Perez Irizarry
For over nine years Javier Perez Irizarry, MPH, CTR, Data Quality Coordinator for the Cancer Registry at Yale New Haven Hospital, has ensured that all cancer data collected among the Certified Tumor Registrars within (Hematology), cares for adolescents and young adults with Sickle Cell Disease as part of the Smilow Cancer Hospital Pediatric and Adult Hematology Programs and Director of the Adolescent-Young Adult Sickle Cell Program. Dr. Calhoun was a recent guest on Yale Cancer Answers, a weekly podcast featuring specialists from Yale Cancer Center, where she discussed care and treatment of adolescents and young adults who have Sickle Cell Disease.

Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer diagnosis in men and most men are diagnosed in their mid-60s. Black men are more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer and have a more aggressive type. During Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, the Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program shares possible ‘red flags’ that increases suspicion of a hereditary predisposition to prostate cancer.

Please join us for a 5 session, weekly virtual group that is focused on teaching skills to patients managing anxiety, depression, adjustment, and physical side effects of treatment. It is free of charge and open to
Certified Tumor Registrars within the five Cancer Registries across the Yale New Haven Health System are accurate and complete. This includes many different types of data, including patient demographics, tumor characteristics, treatment, and outcomes. In addition, he serves as a core resource for clinical, epidemiological, and laboratory investigations in cancer.

Javier oversees and performs quality control functions for Cancer Registries at all Smilow locations. He is responsible for the oversight of special quality projects as required by Smilow leadership and for ensuring compliance with regulatory and accreditation requirements, including but not limited to, the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (ACoS CoC), the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) and the Connecticut Tumor Registry (CTR).

“As the oldest Cancer Registry in the United States, we take great pride in the work that we do here and the potential impact for patients,” said Javier. “The data collected provide highly critical information for planning, monitoring, and measuring cancer-related services, research, and education. I work closely with physicians and other healthcare professionals, administrators, researchers, and healthcare planners to provide support for cancer program development, ensure compliance with reporting standards, and serve as a valuable resource for cancer information.”

Naralys Sinanis, MPH, CHES, Oncology Care Model Program Manager commented, “Javier is exceptionally detail-oriented, conscientious, and committed to exceeding expectations. He is collaborative and always strives to produce the highest quality work.” Dr. Kerin Adelson added, “Javier is a dedicated perfectionist who rises to every challenge and exceeds all expectations.”

Recent Publications


Lisevick A, Cartmel B, Harrigan M, Li F, Sanft T, Fogarasi M, Irwin ML, cancer survivors at any stage of their treatment or post-treatment. The group will begin on Monday, October 11 at 2:30pm. Read More

Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center at Greenwich Nurses celebrate magnet redesignation! The recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the nation’s highest honor of nursing excellence, honors professional nursing practices, career development, and safety. Watch Now

Tune in to Yale Cancer Answers to hear from endocrine surgeon Dr. Grace S. Lee speaking in honor of Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month. Listen on Connecticut Public Radio or download our podcast from iTunes.

Read More


Read More


Read More


Read More


Read More


Read More


Read More


Read More

September is Blood Cancer Awareness Month, and leukemia, lymphoma (Hodgkin lymphoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma) and myeloma are the three most common types of blood cancers. Data has shown that the survival rate of patients with blood cancer has improved dramatically over the years, and while there is no current method to screen a person for blood cancer in its earliest stages, it is usually detected after a person notices their symptoms and visits their doctor. Symptoms can include persistent fatigue, loss of appetite, fever/chills, bone/joint pain, headaches, shortness of breath, frequent infections, itchy skin, and swollen lymph nodes.

The Hematology Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital offers the most comprehensive services for the diagnosis and treatment of blood cancers in the region. Physicians within the program are organized into a multispecialty team that discusses the treatment plans for patients until consensus is reached on the best management course for each individual patient. Our researchers continue to work on current promising therapies and are able to offer treatment for all phases and stages of lymphoma, leukemia, and myeloma.

Yale New Haven Hospital is a member of the National Marrow Donor Program and is accredited as a major transplant center by the FACT transplant accreditation committee. In an effort to destroy abnormal cancerous cells in leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma, stem cell transplants are often used. We are pleased to shared that Yale is the only center in Connecticut offering allogeneic transplant, a transplant using compatible donor stem cells.
Lopez de Rodas M, Schalper KA.
Tumour Antigen-induced T cell Exhaustion - the Archenemy of Immune-hot Malignancies.
*Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology*, Online ahead of print.
Read More

Prostate Cancer Screening and Incidence Among Aging Persons Living with HIV.
Read More

Incremental Spending Associated with Low-Value Treatments in Older Women with Breast Cancer.
*Annals of Surgical Oncology*, Online ahead of print.
Read More

Gatsios A, Kim CS, Crawford JM.
Escherichia coli Small Molecule Metabolism at the Host-Microorganism Interface.
Read More

Hypomethylating Agents and FLT3 Inhibitors as Maintenance Treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukemia and Myelodysplastic Syndrome Following Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant - a Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.
*Transplantation and Cellular Therapy*, Online ahead of print.
Read More

Mode of Delivery, Birth Characteristics and Early-Onset Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in a Population-Based Case-Control Study.
*Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention*, Online ahead of print.
Read More

Pak LM, Purad CC, Nadipally S, Rao MP, Mukherjee S, Hegde SKB, Golshan M.
ASO Visual Abstract: Cancer Awareness and Stigma in Rural Assam India: Baseline Survey of the Detect Early and Save Her/Him (DESH) Program.
*Annals of Surgical Oncology*, Online ahead of print.
Read More

Dow J, Krysztofiak A, Liu Y, Colon-Rios DA, Rogers FA, Glazer PM.
Vulnerability of IDH1 Mutant Cancers to Histone Deacetylase Inhibition via Orthogonal Suppression of DNA Repair.
Read More

Congratulations to Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program, on her appointment to serve on the steering committee of the new American Association for Cancer Research Cancer Prevention Working Group, which is dedicated to supporting cancer prevention research.

The Wallingford, Connecticut Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 591 spent the summer months fundraising for the Smilow Cancer Hospital Oncology Social Work Fund. Through individual giving and weekly dance events the VFW members raised over $8500 for breast and gynecologic cancer patient assistance, and we are so grateful for their efforts!
Funding and Award Opportunities

NCI Basic Research in Disparities, Diversity Training and Research Education Funding

- Basic Research in Cancer Health Disparities Program (R01, R21, R03): for cancer researchers interested in investigating the biological/genetic contributors to cancer health disparities.

Application Deadline (R01): October 5, 2021 (R21, R03): October 16, 2021

Cancer Prevention-Interception Targeted Agent Discovery Program (CAP-IT) Centers (U54)
The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for Cancer Prevention-Interception Targeted Agent Discovery Program (CAP-IT) Centers (U54). The overall goal of the CAP-IT Program is to establish an agile and effective network infrastructure to undertake collaborative research focusing on precision cancer prevention and interception, with the overarching goal of discovering molecularly or immunologically targeted agents designed to prevent or interrupt the oncogenic process in higher-risk populations.

Application Deadline: October 7, 2021

Cancer Prevention-Interception Targeted Agent Discovery Program (CAP-IT) Data and Resource Coordination Center (CAP-IT DRCC) (U24)
The purpose of this FOA is to solicit Applications for the Cancer Prevention-Interception Targeted Agent Discovery Program (CAP-IT) Data and Resource Coordination Center (CAP-IT DRCC) (U24). The overall goal of this FOA and the companion FOA (U54 CAP-IT Specialized Centers, RFA-CA-21-038) is to establish an agile and effective network infrastructure to undertake collaborative research focusing on precision cancer prevention and interception, with the overarching goal of discovering molecularly or immunologically targeted agents designed to prevent or interrupt the oncogenic process in higher-risk populations.

Application Deadline: October 7, 2021

Program on the Origins of Gastroesophageal Cancers (R01)
This FOA is to request applications for the Program on the Origins of Gastroesophageal Cancers (R01). This new program will build on recent molecular classifications of gastroesophageal cancers, significant understanding of their cancer genomics, and advances in stem cell research to examine and define how these related cancers initially evolve at the cellular level.

Application Deadline: October 8, 2021
Gastroesophageal Cancers (U24)
This FOA is to request applications for the Coordinating Center, Program on the Origins of Gastroesophageal Cancers (U24). This new program will build on recent molecular classifications of gastroesophageal cancers, significant understanding of their cancer genomics, and advances in stem cell research to examine and define how these related cancers initially evolve at the cellular level.

**Application Deadline:** October 8, 2021

NCI F99/K00 Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award
This award supports outstanding PhD and other Research Doctoral candidates to complete their dissertation research training (F99 phase) and transition in a timely manner to mentored, cancer-focused postdoctoral career development research positions (K00 phase).

**Letter of Intent Due:** October 10, 2021

NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K08)
The purpose of this award is to prepare individuals for careers that have a significant impact on the health-related research needs of the nation.

**Application Deadline:** October 12, 2021

Career Development Awards to Promote Diversity (K01, K08 and K22)
These funding opportunities are designed to enhance the diversity in the NCI-funded cancer research workforce by supporting eligible individuals from diverse backgrounds, including groups that have been shown to be nationally underrepresented in the biomedical, behavioral, social and clinical sciences.

**Application Deadline:** October 12, 2021

NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K22)
The purpose of this award is to assist postdoctoral fellows or individuals in equivalent positions to transition to positions of assistant professor or equivalent and initiate a successful biomedical career as an independent research scientist.

**Application Deadline:** October 12, 2021

AACR Anna D. Barker Basic Cancer Research Fellowship
This award supports postdoctoral or clinical research fellows to establish a successful career path in cancer research.

**Application Deadline:** October 14, 2021

Lustgarten Foundation-AACR Career Development Award for Pancreatic Cancer Research, in honor of Ruth Bader Ginsburg
This award has been established to honor the life and legacy of Justice Ginsburg, who worked tirelessly to advance gender equality, even while battling pancreatic cancer. The intent of this program is to support the development and diversity of talent working in pancreatic cancer research.

**Letter of Intent Due:** October 18, 2021

A special thank you to Lindsay's Legacy Foundation for their support of our patients through their annual “Be Happy” race series! Thank you for your amazing work in honor of Lindsay!
Lustgarten Foundation–AACR Career Development Award for Pancreatic Cancer Research, in Honor of John Robert Lewis
This award has been established to honor the life and legacy of Representative Lewis, who worked tirelessly to advance the civil rights of all Americans, even while battling pancreatic cancer. The intent of this program is to support the development and diversity of talent working in pancreatic cancer research.
Letter of Intent Due: October 18, 2021
Read More

AACR-AstraZeneca Career Development Award for Physician-Scientists, in Honor of José Baselga
This award has been established to honor the life and legacy of Dr. José Baselga, who was a scientific leader and supportive mentor to an entire generation of physician-scientists. Dr. Baselga’s research focused on novel molecular targeted therapeutics and he played a leading role in the clinical development of multiple cancer drugs.
Letter of Intent Due: October 19, 2021
Read More

CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship to Promote Racial Diversity
CRI invites applications from candidates who identify as Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino/a American, or American Indian or Alaska Native. CRI is seeking hypothesis-driven, mechanistic studies in both immunology and tumor immunology that aim to directly impact our understanding of the immune system’s role in cancer.
Application Deadline: October 21, 2021
Read More

Women’s Health Research Pilot Project Grants: Studying Women and the Influence of Sex & Gender on Health
WHRY Pilot Project Program funds studies providing new approaches to understanding the health of women, and/or the influence of sex/gender differences on health. Studies that advance our understanding of sex or gender in addressing the coronavirus pandemic will also be reviewed for funding.
Letters of Intent Due: October 21, 2021
Read More

National Cancer Institute Youth Enjoy Science Research Education Program (R25)
The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research.
Application Deadline: October 28, 2021
Read More

Youth Enjoy Science (YES) Program (R25)
The NCI YES Program supports educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research.
Read More
further studies or careers in research.

**Application Deadline:** October 28, 2021

**Debbie’s Dream Foundation Career Development Award for Gastric Cancer Research**
This award supports junior faculty to conduct gastric cancer research and to establish a successful career path in this field.

**Application Deadline:** October 28, 2021

**Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry and Re-integration into Health-Related Research Careers**
The goal of this program is to provide support for a mentored research training experience for individuals with high potential to re-enter or re-integrate into an active research career, after an interruption for family responsibilities or other qualifying circumstances.

**First Available Due Date:** November 1, 2021

**Blavatnik Fund for Innovation at Yale**
The Blavatnik Fund for Innovation at Yale, made possible by a generous grant from the Blavatnik Family Foundation, supports Yale faculty in the commercialization of applied research and technology in the life sciences. The Fund is expanding its reach beyond therapeutics and medical devices and calling for applicants working in the digital health, healthcare IT and related spaces to submit proposals for funding consideration.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2021

**Radiation Oncology-Biology Integration Network (ROBIN) Centers (U54)**
The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for U54 Research Centers to form the Radiation Oncology-Biology Integration Network (ROBIN). The cadre of ROBIN Centers created through this FOA will establish an agile and effective national radiation oncology network infrastructure that collectively address critical hypothesis-based translational research knowledge gaps on the biological basis of responses in cancer patients who undergo radiation treatments.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2021

**Acquired Resistance to Therapy Network (ARTNet; U54)**
The ARTNet FOA is a new funding opportunity that builds upon the Drug Resistance and Sensitivity Network (DRSN, RFA-CA-17-009) to focus study on the mechanistic basis of acquired resistance to cancer therapies and disease recurrence.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2021

**Coordinating and Data Management Center for Acquired Resistance to Therapy Network (ARTNet; U24)**
The overarching goal of the ARTNet is to bridge basic, pre-clinical, and translational research along the tumor-tumor microenvironment continuum to inform new strategies that can be better translated to overcome significant challenges in acquired resistance to cancer therapies. The Coordinating Center will leverage the research infrastructure to facilitate study development and execution.

---

**Calendar**

**Hematology Research Seminar Series**
October 1; 12:00 PM
*Current and Emerging Therapies in Hemophilia Care*
Michael Recht, MD, PhD, MBA
Learn More

**Lung Cancer Research Foundation:**
Virtual Free to Breathe Walk
October 2; 11:00 AM
Learn More

**Yale Cancer Answers**
October 3; 7:30 PM
Thuy Tran, MD, PhD
Learn More

**Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program**
October 4; 11:00 AM
*The Yale Cancer Center’s Radiobiology and Genome Integrity Research Program*
Joseph N. Contessa, MD, PhD & Megan C. King, PhD
Learn More

**Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds**
October 5; 12:00 PM
*Stage IV Breast Cancer at Diagnosis: To operate or not: Swinging the Pendulum and WHO for Brain Tumors: Changes to Diagnosis and Classification*
Mehra Golshan, MD, MBA & Anita Huttner, MD
Learn More

**Yale Center for Immuno-Oncology Seminar (presented as part of the Human and Translational Immunology Program Seminar Series)**
October 5; 4:00 PM
*Re-activation of Transposable Elements as a Method to Enhance Anti-Cancer Immune Response*
Marcus Bosenberg, MD, PhD
Learn More

**Yale Liver Center Seminar**
October 5; 5:00 PM
*Genomics and Cancer Biomarkers for HCC: Potential Applications in Surveillance,*
Center will assemble the appropriate infrastructure to facilitate and implement the administrative, outreach, collaborative, and data management activities of the ARTNet.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2021

Read More

**Cancer Research Institute Clinical and Laboratory Integration Program (CLIP) Immunotherapy**

CLIP supports pre-clinical and translational research that can be directly applied to optimizing cancer immunotherapy in the clinic. CLIP grants are awarded to qualified scientists exploring clinically relevant questions aimed at improving the effectiveness of cancer immunotherapies.

**Letter of Intent Due:** November 1, 2021

Read More

**Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma (PDAC) Stromal Reprogramming Consortium (PSRC) (U01)**

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for U01 Research Projects to form the NCI-led PDAC Stromal Reprogramming Consortium (PSRC). The overarching objective of the PSRC is to develop a comprehensive understanding of PDAC tumor progression, its microenvironment (TME) as a tumor fate determinant and the reciprocal tumor-TME interactions that drive clinical outcomes.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2021

Read More

**NCI Research Specialist Awards (Laboratory-based Scientist) Award (R50)**

This FOA invites grant applications for the Research Specialist Award (R50) in any area of NCI-funded cancer research. This FOA is specifically for laboratory-based scientists and is designed to encourage the development of stable research career opportunities for exceptional scientists who want to continue to pursue research within the context of an existing NCI-funded basic, translational, clinical, or population science cancer research program, but not serve as independent investigators.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2021

Read More

**NCI Research Specialist (Core-based Scientist) Award (R50)**

This FOA invites grant applications for the Research Specialist Award (R50) in any area of NCI-funded cancer research. This FOA is specifically for core/shared resource/central scientific support scientists and is designed to encourage the development of stable research career opportunities for exceptional scientists who want to continue to pursue research within the context of an existing NCI-funded basic, translational, clinical, or population science cancer research program, but not serve as independent investigators.

**Application Deadline:** November 1, 2021

Read More

**Melanoma Research Alliance RFPs**

The MRA is pleased to announce RFPs for pre-clinical, translational, and early clinical research with the potential to produce unusually high impact, near-term advancements in melanoma prevention, detection, diagnosis, staging, and treatment.

**Melanoma Research Alliance RFP:** October 5, 2021

Read More

Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital: Present and Future (and some preliminary thoughts about evolution)

**October 6; 11:30 AM**

Eric P. Winer, MD ‘83

Learn More

Smilow Shares

**October 6; 7:00 PM**

*Breast Cancer Awareness: New Treatment Advances & Innovations*

Mehra Golshan, MD, MBA | Maryam Lustberg, MD, MPH | Bohdan Pomahac, MD | Tristen Park, MD

Learn More

Pathology Grand Rounds

**October 7; 12:30 PM**

*Intergenerational Epigenetic Inheritance of Cancer Susceptibility*

Bluma Lesch, MD, PhD

Learn More

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Seminar

**October 7; 2:30 PM**

Learn More

Center for GI Cancers Weekly Seminar

**October 7; 4:15 PM**

*Cancer Prevention and Control Program: Opportunities for Collaboration with GI*

Michaela Dinan, PhD & Xiaomei Ma, PhD

Learn More

Yale Cancer Center Seminar

**October 8; 12:00 PM**

*Reset the Clock in Aging and Blood Cancer—A focus on Clonal Hematopoiesis and Epigenetics*

Zhuoer (Zoey) Xie, MD, MS

Learn More

Yale Cancer Answers

**October 10; 7:30 PM**

*NPR*

*The Role of Pathology in Cancer*

Angelique W. Levi, MD

Learn More
Research Centers for Cancer Systems Biology (U54)
The NCI supports the application of systems biology approaches to cancer research through the CSBC. The CSBC includes U01 Research Projects and, through this FOA, U54 Research Centers. These multi-project Research Centers should address challenges in basic cancer biology that require a coordinated systems biology approach.
Application Deadline: November 12, 2021
Read More

Mechanisms that Impact Cancer Risk after Bariatric Surgery (R01, R21)
Through this FOA, the NCI invites applications for support of investigator-initiated studies addressing mechanisms by which bariatric surgery impacts cancer risk, and seeks to draw in talented scientists who study bariatric surgery to investigate its effects on cancer, rather than shorter term outcomes such as weight loss and diabetes.
Application Deadline: November 12, 2021
Read More

Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium: Research Units (U01)
Through this FOA, the NCI is soliciting applications for the Research Units (RUs), one of the two scientific components of the Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium (PCDC), to conduct research on early detection of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) and characterization of its precursor lesions to identify those patients who are at high risk of progression to cancer.
Application Deadline: November 15, 2021
Read More

Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium: Management and Data Coordination Unit (U24)
Through this FOA, the NCI is soliciting applications for the establishment of the Management and Data Coordination Unit (MDCU), one of the two scientific components of the Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium (PCDC).
Application Deadline: November 15, 2021
Read More

Mobile Health: Technology and Outcomes in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (R21/R33)
The overall goal of the program is to catalyze innovation through multidisciplinary research that addresses global health problems, develop an evidence base for the use of mHealth technology to improve clinical and public health outcomes, and strengthen mHealth research capacity in LMICs.
Application Deadline: November 15, 2021
Read More

Cancer Research Institute Technology Impact Award
These grants aim to encourage collaboration between technology developers and clinical cancer immunologists and to generate the proof-of-principle of a novel platform technology in bioinformatics, ex vivo or in silico modeling.
Read More
systems, immunological or tumor profiling instrumentation, methods, reagents and assays, or other relevant technologies that can enable clinician scientists to generate deeper insights into the mechanisms of action of effective or ineffective cancer immunotherapies.

**Letter of Intent Due:** November 15, 2021

**Understanding Oral HPV Infection, Acquisition, and Persistence in People Living with HIV (R01, R21)**
The purpose of these FOAs are to solicit research to better understand the epidemiology and biology of oral HPV infection, its acquisition and persistence, in people living with HIV and elucidate the initial mechanisms related to HPV-associated oral and oropharyngeal cancers and warts in the context of HIV.

**Application Deadline:** November 18, 2021

**A Multilevel Approach to Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials (U01)**
Through this FOA, the NCI solicits applications for CUSP2CT, a program that will implement and evaluate multilevel and culturally tailored outreach and education interventions with the primary goal of increasing referral and ultimately, accrual of underrepresented racial/ethnic (R/E) minority populations, to NCI-supported clinical trials, NCI’s Community Oncology Research Program, and Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trials Network.

**Application Deadline:** November 19, 2021

**Data, Evaluation and Coordinating Center for: A Multilevel Approach to Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials (U24)**
The purpose of this FOA is to solicit applications for Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials U24 Data, Evaluation and Coordinating Center.

**Application Deadline:** November 19, 2021

**AACR Clinical Oncology Research (CORE) Training Fellowships**
Designed for early-career clinical scientists who hold a medical degree (MD, DO, or MD/PhD) and are interested in acquiring the knowledge and skills related to clinical trial design and execution from the perspective of the pharmaceutical industry. The fellow will gain real-world experience in drug development, including clinical research, clinical trial design, and data analysis.

**Application Deadline:** November 30, 2021

**The Hope Foundation for Cancer Research SEED Fund for SWOG Early Exploration and Development 2021**
These awards may assist investigators with projects that support the following types of studies: pre-clinical data, secondary data analysis from clinical trials, pilot and feasibility studies (including early stage clinical trials), small, self-contained research projects, or development of research methodology/technology. $50,000

**Application Deadline:** December 1, 2021

---

**Cancer Genetics and Prevention Seminar**
**October 14; 2:30 PM**
**Learn More**

**2021-2022 Microbiology Graduate Program Seminar**
**October 14; 4:00 PM**
**Mark Hochstrasser, PhD**
**Learn More**

---

**Submissions**
Please submit your recent publications, awards, and grant announcements to:

**Renee Gaudette**
Director, Public Affairs and Communications
The purpose of this FOA is to support and accelerate the integration of evidence-based cancer control interventions for PLWH by leveraging existing HIV treatment and prevention infrastructure.

Application Deadline: December 15, 2021

Read More