May 10, 2019
Announcements

MOU Signed with the National Cancer Center of China

On May 1, Yale Cancer Center, the Yale School of Public Health, and the Yale Institute of Global Health joined leaders of the National Cancer Center of China (NCCC) to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to seek to advance research on cancer outcomes and cancer prevention and control. The MOU also includes exploration of a potential joint Cancer Outcome Research Center between our institutions. Under the agreement, NCCC and Yale researchers will work together to obtain grant funding for basic and translational research involving cancer prevention, early detection, clinical trials, genome analysis and epidemiological study.

Learn More >>
Celebrating our Nurses
I was pleased to join Lori Pickens, MHA, Maureen Major Campos, MS, RN, Peter Schulam, MD, PhD, and Tracy Carafeno, MS, BSN, to celebrate our incredible nursing staff at the 2019 Annual Oncology Nursing Recognition Breakfast earlier this week. Our nurses are our daily inspiration for the remarkable care our patients and families are provided throughout Smilow Cancer Hospital and our Care Centers and I am grateful for every person’s unique contributions to our mission. We were pleased to honor a few our nurses and PCAs with the following recognition at this year’s event:

2019 Smilow Cancer Hospital Oncology and Research Nursing Award for Clinical Excellence: Lisa Baker, RN

2019 Smilow Cancer Hospital Oncology and Research Patient Care Associate (PCA) and Ambulatory Care Associate (ACA) Award: Ivette Hernandez, PCA II, Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Guilford

R. Keith Butterfield Memorial Scholarship Awards: Wendy Marin, PCA - NP 11 & Alissa Ciarlo, PCA, Smilow Cancer Hospital at Saint Francis

The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation Scholarship Awards:
Martha Kraak, RN - NP 7, Amrita Karki, RN - NP 11, Nicole Valeriano, RN - NP 7

Claire Puklin Award for Clinical Excellence in Urologic Nursing:
Jill Morrone, RN, Urology

Scientists are working on cancer treatments that attack the disease’s ‘Holy Grail.’ Big pharma and biotechs have already invested more than $1 billion.
Read More >>

Yale Cancer Center Scientists Receive Grant to Advance Lung Cancer Research
Read More >>

Vitamin D and colorectal cancer
Read More >>
Hill Day

I was pleased to join Roy Herbst, MD, PhD, Sarah, Mougalian, MD, Katerina Politi, PhD, and my wife, Joanna Fuchs, MD, for AACR, AACI, and ASCO's joint Hill Day on Capitol Hill on April 30th to meet with legislators and raise awareness of the importance of funding for cancer research. We spent time with Representative Rosa DeLauro and Senator Richard Blumenthal's staff, among others.
Join Yale at ASCO
We are looking forward to another exciting ASCO annual meeting in a few weeks. If you are presenting research, either during an oral or poster presentation, please send your abstract information to Anne Doerr. Please join your colleagues at a reception during the meeting hosted by Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital on Sunday, June 2 at 8:30pm at the Hilton Chicago.
RSVP >>

Yale Cancer Center Annual Retreat
Please join us on May 16 for our Annual Retreat: Bringing Yale Cancer Center Science to the Clinic and Community. Registration has been extended, but closes at 5pm on Monday, May 13. This year, we invite trainees engaging in cancer research to participate in a poster session describing their cancer-relevant work. Poster prizes will be given for 1. Basic Science and Computational Research, 2. Translational Research, 3. Clinical Research, and 4. Population Science, Prevention and Outcomes Research.
Register Now >>

New technique by Yale Cancer Center scientists may improve detection and treatment of advanced brain cancer
Read More >>

Greenwich Hospital and the Town of Greenwich partner to announce a new program to screen earlier for Breast and Ovarian Cancers
Read More >>

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Latest Posts:
Trainee Colloquium
Yale Cancer Center will hold its Second Annual YCC Trainee Colloquium on Friday, May 17, 2019. This will be a forum for Yale trainees to highlight their research, exchange ideas, and initiate collaborations. This year, we invite predoctoral MD, PhD, MD-PhD students, postdoctoral associates, postdoctoral fellows, residents, and clinical fellows engaging in cancer research and graduates of the Cancer Biology Training Program to submit abstracts describing their work.
Learn More >>

Palliative Care Research Retreat
Registration is now open for the palliative care research retreat, "Moving Forward: Building an Interprofessional Palliative Care Research Center at Yale" to be held June 4, 8am-1:30pm at the West Campus Conference Center.
Learn More >>

Notables

Congratulations to Roy Decker, MD, PhD, Professor of Therapeutic Radiology and Disease Aligned Research Team Leader for Therapeutic Radiology. Dr. Decker has been named Chair of the Radiation Oncology Committee for SWOG.

Yuval Kluger, PhD, Professor of Pathology and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Genomics, Genetics, and Epigenetics Research Program, has received a Research Project Grant from the NIH to support his project, "Efficient Methods for Calibration, Clustering, Visualization and Imputation of Large scRNA-Seq Data."

The nurses at Smilow Cancer Hospital and at our Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers around the state of Connecticut go above and beyond for our patients every day. Their dedication and care ensures each patient and family receives the personalized treatment they need for their cancer. Today, on National Nurses Day, during Oncology Nursing Month, we celebrate each and every one of them. Thank you for all you do!

Read More >>

Yale Cancer Center welcomes Dr. Navid Hafez and Dr. Ania Jastreboff to its membership. Dr. Hafez is focused on investigator-initiated clinical trials of new treatments and engaging in translational projects with scientists at Yale. He cares for patients on phase I clinical trials.

Dr. Jastreboff is dedicated to the study, prevention, and innovative treatment of obesity in adults and children. In particular, Dr. Jastreboff hopes to focus and share her expertise and experience in obesity medicine to improve the outcomes of patients with cancer.
The Cancer Immunology Research Program is proud to welcome Zenggang Pan, MD, PhD, to its program. Dr. Pan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology. Dr. Pan has been deeply interested in immunology ever since his PhD training at the Nebraska Lymphoma/Leukemia Research Center. During his recent move to Yale Pathology, he developed specific interest in tumor microenvironment (TME), particularly TME in lymphomagenesis, classification, progression, and therapy.

Tianxiang Zhang, PhD also joins the Cancer Immunology Research Program. Dr. Zhang is an Associate Research Scientist in the Department of Immunobiology. During the last four years, he has been working to establish a high throughput screening system to identify novel effector T cell inhibitors that could impair T cell tumor infiltration. Dr. Zhang’s research interests focus on the microenvironment of poorly immune infiltrated tumors and to try to increase the immunogenicity and T cell infiltration of these tumors.

Nikhil Joshi, PhD, was awarded the Distinguished Young Investigator Research Award at the 5th Annual Immuno-Oncology Young Investigator’s Forum for his abstract, "Engineering NINJA for Studies of Cancer Immunology."

Members of Project Yes You Can from Fairfield University raised support for the Smilow Cancer Hospital Gastrointestinal Cancers Program Fund by hosting a 5K run through the University campus. The event and donation was made in memory of Terrence M. Moore, father of Meg Moore (front), who passed away from stomach cancer when Meg was 2 years old. Over 50 people participated in the April 13th event. Thank you to the entire team for your support!
Employee Profile: Andreina Boebel

On a daily basis Andreina Boebel, Patient Financial Access Counselor at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center at Waterbury, works closely with patients to take care of everything they may need. From scheduling appointments, coordinating referrals, and patient education, Andreina has a hand in patient care from the moment a patient arrives.

"There is a lot of anxiety for patients when they come to see us, and many don't know what to expect. I try to alleviate some of that anxiety by educating patients and making it as easy and smooth a process as possible for them," said Andreina. "Understandably patients want to be seen right away, or have their scans done immediately, but that isn't always possible, or necessary. My job is to build trust and communication with them and reinforce that they are always our top priority."

Andreina's role is constantly evolving and growing, and she currently has taken the initiative as the new patient care coordinator for the Waterbury Care Center. This entails the onboarding of new patients and referrals, scheduling appointments within a designated timeframe, and answering any non-clinical questions. She has been in her current role for just over a year, but started at Yale in 2011.

Her manager, Jose Ayala, PFAS Supervisor, commented, "Andreina is an exceptional team player and her leadership skills that are displayed on a daily basis encourage and direct the whole team in a positive direction." Nanette Bergamo, RN, added, "She is a role model for the other front office staff and they look to her for guidance and advice. She has a
positive and infectious personality and is always cheerful and smiling, which makes a huge difference in the energy in the office.

#OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS: Christine Ly and Mark Oeding

YCC #OUTOFTHEBLUETHANKS recently recognized Christine Ly and Mark Oeding from the Clinical Trials Office!

Always maintaining a positive attitude, Christine, a Regulatory Manager, has recently been instrumental in working to improve and ensure compliance for the Lung portfolio, as well as making sure all the new studies are moving through the activation process as quickly as possible. Through her exceptional and diligent work, Christine has been a fantastic addition to the team.

Mark, a Regulatory Manager, recently stepped in as the Regulatory Assistant for the GI team when staff transitions resulted in a vacancy in that role. While still maintaining his normal responsibilities as Regulatory Manager, Mark has truly stepped up to the plate to ensure proper coverage for the GI portfolio as well as ensuring a seamless transition for the newly-appointed GI Regulatory Assistant. His hard work and willingness to help is very much appreciated.

Thank you, Christine & Mark!

Follow Yale Cancer Center on Twitter

Encouraging research for #prostatecancer patients. A new study in .@AJPathology led by Dr. Marie Robert shows a #biomarker may help identify if there is a risk of the disease spreading.

Congratulations to Dr. Prasanna Ananth! She is one of just four
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.

Funding Opportunities

Administrative Supplement for Research on Bioethical Issues (PA-19-217)

The NIH Office of Science Policy (OSP) within the Office of the Director (OD) announces the availability of administrative supplements to support research on bioethical issues to develop an evidence base that may inform future policy directions. Applicants may propose to supplement parent awards focused on bioethics or to add a component related to bioethics to a parent award in which bioethics was not the focus.

Areas of high priority research include, but are not limited to, the bioethical, legal, and societal implications of the following: New and emerging technology development and use; clinical and non-clinical data sharing; precision and personalized medicine; research privacy and security; learning healthcare systems; crowdsourcing; participant-driven research and consumer generated data; patient/participant representation in research.

Researchers to receive a 2019 @NCCNnews Young Investigator Award for her work in #pediatriccancer.

Thank you Dr. N. Lynn Henry .@huntsmancancer for presenting the Iris Fischer Memorial Lectureship “Aiming to Improve Quality of Life for Breast Cancer Survivors” at Grand Rounds.

Thank you to our amazing team for their incredible efforts on #MelanomaMonday providing free skin cancer screenings to our community at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Waterford.

It's #MelanomaMonday. In our fight against skin cancer, @YaleDerm will be doing free screenings and handing out sunscreen at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center in Waterford this evening.

Dr. John Roberts will discuss the Sickle Cell Disease Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital and @YNHH on Yale Cancer Answers at 7:30pm on @wnpr. The comprehensive program provides extraordinary care for patients with sickle cell disease and their families.

Congrats to researchers @PolitiKaterina and Dr. Don Nguyen. They will study the relationship between drug resistance and #lungcancer metastasis thanks to a 5-year, $4 million dollar @theNCI grant!

Watch @charlesfuchsmmd talk to @jocelynmaminta@GMCT about his study showing VitaminD helps patients with advanced #colorectalcancer.
oversight; special and vulnerable population research, and more.

**Application Deadline:** May 13, 2019 by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

**Learn More >>**

**Department of Defense Lung Cancer Research Program**

**Idea Development Award**

The FY19 LCRP Idea Development Award mechanism promotes new ideas that are still in the early stages of development and have the potential to yield impactful data and new avenues of investigation. This award supports conceptually innovative, high-risk/high-reward research that could lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate progress toward eradicating deaths and suffering from lung cancer.

**Preproposal Deadline:** May 15, 2019

**Learn More >>**

**Investigator-Initiated Translational Research Award**

The FY19 LCRP Investigator-Initiated Translational Research Award mechanism supports translational research that will develop promising ideas in lung cancer into clinical applications. Translational research may be defined as an integration of basic science and clinical observations. Observations that drive a research idea may originate from a laboratory discovery, population-based studies, or a clinician’s firsthand knowledge of patient care. The ultimate goal of translational research is to move a concept or observation forward into clinical application.

**Preproposal Deadline:** May 15, 2019

**Learn More >>**

**Translational Research Partnership Award**

The FY19 LCRP Translational Research Partnership Award mechanism supports partnerships between clinicians and research scientists that will accelerate the movement of promising ideas in lung cancer into clinical applications. This award supports the development of translational research collaborations between two independent, faculty-level (or equivalent)
investigators to address a central problem or question in lung cancer in a manner that would be less readily achievable through separate efforts.

Preproposal Deadline: May 15, 2019
Learn More >>

Notice of Special Interest: Administrative Supplements for Activities to Promote Human Immune-Representing Oncology Models

Through funds available from the Cancer Moonshot Initiative, and pursuant to the NIH interest in advancing human tissue models that do not rely on human fetal tissue (NOT-OD-19-042), the National Cancer Institute (NCI) is inviting applications for administrative supplements to improve representation of the human immune system in ongoing cancer modeling development projects that can be utilized in immuno-oncology research.

Application Deadline: June 3, 2019
Learn More >>

HEAL Initiative: Early Phase Pain Investigation Clinical Network - Specialized Clinical Centers (U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (RFA-NS-19-036)

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to invite applications for the Specialized Clinical Centers ("hubs") of the Early Phase Pain Investigation Clinical Network (EPPIC-Net). EPPIC-Net will serve as the cornerstone of the NIH’s Helping to End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) Initiative. EPPIC-Net will provide a robust and readily accessible infrastructure for carrying out in-depth phenotyping and biomarker studies in patients with specific pain conditions, and the rapid design and performance of high-quality Phase 2 clinical trials to test promising novel therapeutics for pain from partners in academia or industry. Studies will bring intense focus to patients with well-defined pain conditions and high unmet therapeutic needs.

Application Deadline: June 3, 2019
Learn More >>

2019 Breast Cancer Alliance Young Investigator Award

Dr. Jonathan Puchalski will discuss the Pulmonary Intervention Program at Smilow Cancer Hospital on this evening’s Yale Cancer Answers on @wnpr at 7:30pm. Tune in to listen to his interview, or download the podcast through the @iTunes Store.

Calendar

Yale Cancer Biology Institute Research Seminar
May 10; 2:00
Hope Memorial Building, H-110
Sensitivity to Ferroptosis as a Feature of Therapy-Resistant Cancer Cell States
Vasanthi Viswanathan
Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Answers
May 12; 7:30 PM
WNPR
Patient Perspective: Wendy, Breast Cancer Survivor
Wendy Chambers
Learn More >>

Epigenetics Interest Group Seminar
May 13; 12:00 PM
Boyer Center for Molecular Medicine, BCMM 206/208
Comparative Analysis of Epigenetic Aging Clocks from CpG Characteristics to Functional Associations
Zunyun Liu
Learn More >>

Pharmacology Presents the Sartorelli Seminar Series
May 13; 2:00 PM
Hope Memorial Building, H-110
Epigenetic Microenvironmental Determinants of Tumor Invasion and Metastasis
Douglas Hanahan, PhD
Learn More >>
Purpose: To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, BCA 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. **This grant is intended to help advance the careers of young researchers who do not yet have their own major grant support.**

**Application Deadline:** June 4, 2019  
[Learn More >>]

**Biology of Bladder Cancer (R01/R21)**
This FOA encourages applications investigating the biology and underlying mechanisms of bladder cancer.

**Application Deadlines:** *(R01): June 5, 2019 (R21): June 16, 2019*  
[Learn More >>]

**Mechanisms Underlying the Contribution of Sleep Disturbances to Pain (R01 Clinical Trial Optional) (PA-19-200)**
NCI is a participating organization.  
The purpose of this FOA is to encourage mechanistic research to investigate the impact of sleep disturbances on pain. The mechanisms and processes underlying the contribution of sleep and sleep disturbances to pain perception and the development and maintenance of chronic pain may be very broad.  
This FOA encourages interdisciplinary research collaborations by experts from multiple fields—neuroscientists, psychologists, endocrinologists, immunologists, geneticists, pharmacologists, chemists, physicists, behavioral scientists, clinicians, caregivers, and others in relevant fields of inquiry.

**Application Deadline:** June 5, 2019  
[Learn More >>]

**Modulating Intestinal Microbiota to Enhance Protective Immune Responses against Cancer (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (PAR-19-198)**
The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support research which can elucidate mechanism(s) of action by which gut microbes inhibit or enhance anti-tumor immune responses. Thus, research projects should be focused...
on delineating how specific microbes or their metabolites target host immune responses to prevent colitis-associated or sporadic tumor formation.

**Application Deadline:** June 10, 2019

**Modulating Intestinal Microbiota to Enhance Protective Immune Responses against Cancer (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (PAR-19-199)**

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to support research which can elucidate mechanism(s) of action by which gut microbes inhibit or enhance anti-tumor immune responses. Thus, research projects should be focused on delineating how specific microbes or their metabolites target host immune responses to prevent colitis-associated or sporadic tumor formation.

**Application Deadline:** June 10, 2019

**Recent Publications**

**Multiplexed, Sequential Secretion Analysis of the Same Single Cells Reveals Distinct Effector Response Dynamics Dependent on the Initial Basal State.**


[Read More >>]

**Interleukin-7 Contributes to the Invasiveness of Prostate Cancer Cells by Promoting Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition.**


[Read More >>]

**Industry Payments for Otolaryngology Research: A Four-Year Analysis of the Open Payments Database.**

Brauer PR, Morse E, Mehra S.

Positive margin rates and predictors in transoral robotic surgery after federal approval: A national quality study.
Hanna J, Morse E, Brauer PR, Judson B, Mehra S.
Read More >>

Hyperprogression after one dose of nivolumab in sinonasal cancer: A case report.
Xiang JJ, Uy NF, Minja FJ, Verter EE, Burtness BA.
Read More >>

Expression analysis and significance of PD-1, LAG-3 and TIM-3 in human non-small cell lung cancer using spatially-resolved and multiparametric single-cell analysis.
Clin Cancer Res. 2019 May 3.
Read More >>

Corrigendum to "Utility of CD8 score by automated quantitative image analysis in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma" [Oral Oncol. 86 (2018) 278-287].
Hartman DJ, Ahmad FS, Ferris RL, Rimm DL, Pantanowitz L.
Oral Oncol. 2019 Apr 30.
Read More >>

Role of Core Number and Location in Targeted Magnetic Resonance Imaging-Ultrasound Fusion Prostate Biopsy.
Lu AJ, Syed JS, Ghabili K, Hsiang WR, Nguyen KA, Leapman MS, Sprenkle PC.
Read More >>
Next-generation Sequencing in the Management of Gastric and Esophageal Cancers.
Rubinstein JC, Nicolson NG, Ahuja N.
Read More >>

Monitoring neurocognitive functioning in childhood cancer survivors: evaluation of CogState computerized assessment and the Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function (BRIEF).
Balsamo LM, Mitchell HR, Ross W, Metayer C, Hardy KK, Kadan-Lottick NS.
Read More >>

Transcriptomic analysis of human IL-7 receptor alpha low and high effector memory CD8+ T cells reveals an age-associated signature linked to influenza vaccine response in older adults.
Aging Cell. 2019 May 1:e12960.
Read More >>

Everolimus and Bevacizumab in the Management of Recurrent, Progressive Intracranial NF2 Mutated Meningioma.
Mathew Thomas V, Bindal P, Vredenburgh JJ.
Read More >>

Persistent Use of Extended Fractionation Palliative Radiotherapy for Medicare Beneficiaries With Metastatic Breast Cancer, 2011 to 2014.
Read More >>

May 20; 4:00 PM
Hope Memorial Building, H-110
Gene-Wei Li
Learn More >>

Pathology Research in Progress Talks
May 21; 9:30 AM
The Anlyan Center, 1st floor, TAC Auditorium, N-107
Yuting Liu and Luke Batty
Learn More >>

Genetics Clinical Grand Rounds
May 21; 10:15 AM
Sterling Hall of Medicine, I-Wing, I-304
End of Year Review
Learn More >>

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds
May 21; 12:00 PM
55 Park Street, Park Street Auditorium
Cary Gross, MD and Roy H. Decker, MD/PhD
Learn More >>

Art Therapy and Palliative Care
May 21; 4:30 PM
Smilow Cancer Hospital, NP8 Conference Room
Sticking Together - Young Moms’ Collage Group
Learn More >>

CME Dinner
May 21; 5:00 PM
Westerly Yacht Club, 1 Watch Hill Drive, Westerly, RI
Targeted Options for Lung Cancer Treatment
Roy S Herbst, MD, PhD | Anne Chiang, MD, PhD | Daniel Boffa, MD | Roy H Decker, MD/PhD | Benjamin Newton, MD | Finbar Foley | Robert D. Legare, MD, FACP
Learn More >>
Yale Cancer Center Hosts
May 21; 5:30 PM
55 Park Street, Park Street Auditorium
A Thoughtful Approach in the Fight Against Brain Tumors: Personalizing Multidisciplinary Care for the Best Outcome
Antonio Omuro, MD, Jennifer Moliterno, MD, FAANS and Ranjit S. Bindra, MD, PhD
Learn More >>

Workshop on Splicing Factor Mutations and RNA Biology in Cancer
May 22; 5:00 PM and May 23; 8:00 AM
Edward P. Evans Hall, 165 Whitney Avenue
Learn More >>

Interventional Radiology Grand Rounds
May 22; 7:30 AM
Fitkin Memorial Pavilion, First Floor, Amphitheater, LMP 1094
Big Data Approaches to Advance Colorectal Cancer Prevention, Treatment, and Biology
Charles Fuchs, MD, MPH
Learn More >>

Chalk Talk
May 22; 10:30 AM
The Anlyan Center, N-107 Auditorium
Engineering Approaches to Lymphoid Malignancies
Marcus Muschen, MD-PhD
Learn More >>

Grand Rounds for Non-Clinicians
May 22; 12:00 PM
55 Park Street, Park Street Auditorium
The Role of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care for Oncology Patients
Rev. Luz Maiuri, M.Div., BCC, Women’s Oncology and Hispanic Chaplain and
Rev. Nicholas J. Sollom, M.Div., BCC, Oncology Chaplain
Learn More >>

Genetics Department Research in Progress
May 22; 12:15 PM
Sterling Hall of Medicine, I-Wing, I-304
Miao Liu and Sydney Muchnik
Learn More >>

Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
May 23; 2:30 PM
Orchard Medical Center, 107-109
Learn More >>

Submissions
Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette
Director, Public Affairs and Communications