March 30, 2012

**Announcements**

Yale Cancer Center Members Present at AACR
I am pleased that Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital will have good representation at the annual American Association for Cancer Research meeting in Chicago this weekend. Please take time to attend the presentations by your colleagues while at the meeting.

**Presentations and Symposia**

**Saturday, March 31**

*Educational Session: Cancer Survivorship: Role of Nutrition, Dietary Supplements, Physical Activity, and Weight Loss*

10:15 AM - 12:15 PM
McCormick Place West (Level 1), Room W178

**Session Chair: Susan T. Mayne**

*Nutrient supplements for cancer prevention: Friend or foe?*
10:15 AM - 10:40 AM
Susan T. Mayne

*Beneficial effects of exercise after a cancer diagnosis*
10:45 AM - 11:10 AM
Melinda L. Irwin

**Sunday, April 1**

*Science Policy Session: Challenging Conventional Cancer Care: The Untold Story of Tobacco's Effect on Cancer Biology, Treatment Response, and Survival*

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM
McCormick Place West (Level 1), Room W178

**Session Chair: Roy S. Herbst**

*Assessing tobacco use in clinical trials and research: current status and policy*
4:05 PM - 4:20 PM
Benjamin A. Toll

**Monday, April 2**

*Professional Advancement Session: Career Mentoring*

from the desk of
Thomas J. Lynch, Jr., MD
Director, Yale Cancer Center
Physician-in-Chief Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven
8:30 - 10:30 AM  
Hilton Chicago Hotel, Continental Ballroom B-C  
Daniel C. DiMaio  

Minisymposium: miR-34 prevents in vivo lung tumor initiation and progression in the therapeutically resistant Kras;p53 mouse model  
4:05 - 4:20 PM  
McCormick Place South (Level 1), Room S103  
Andrea L. Kasinski, Frank J. Slack  

Tuesday, April 3  

Science Policy Session: Early Phase Testing of Two Drugs - Practical Challenges  
11:05 - 11:25 AM  
McCormick Place West (Level 1), Room W178  
Roy S. Herbst  

Forum: What Can We Learn About Cancer From Nonmammalian Models?  
5:00 - 6:30 PM  
McCormick Place South (Level 1), Room S103  
Tian Xu  

Wednesday, April 4  

Plenary Session: Cell signaling by receptor tyrosine kinases: From basic principles to cancer therapy  
8:00 - 8:30 AM  
McCormick Place South (Level 1), Room S100 (Grand Ballroom)  
Joseph Schlessinger  

Poster Sessions  
Sunday, April 1; 1:00 - 5:00 PM; Hall F  

In vivo targeting of CD44+ ovarian cancer stem cells (CSC) by Clostridium Perfringens Enterotoxin binding domain (CPE-peptide) conjugated to poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) nanoparticles (NP)  
Emiliano Cocco, Stefania Bellone, Dana Roque, Federica Guzzo, Sara Gasparini, Sergio Pecorelli, Dan-Arin Silasi, Masoud Azodi, Elena Ratner, Thomas Ruterford, Peter Schwartz, Caroline E. Weller, W. Mark Saltzman, Alessandro D. Santin  
Poster Section 13  

Induction of activation-induced cytidine deaminase (AID) by dendritic cells leads to genomic instability in human myeloma  
Srinivas Koduru, Ellice Wong, Till Strowig, Ranjini Sundaram, Lin Zhang, Matthew P. Stout, Richard A. Flavell, David G. Schatz, Kavita M. Dhodapkar, Madhav V. Dhodapkar  
Poster Section 11
Synergistic interplay between long-term overweight and long menstrual years in endometrial cancer
Lingeng Lu, Shanming Lee, Susan Mayne, Melinda Irwin, Brenda Cartmel, Harvey Risch, Herbert Yu
Poster Section 23

Indoor tanning and risk of early-onset basal cell carcinoma
Leah M. Ferrucci, Brenda Cartmel, Annette M. Molinaro, David J. Leffel, Allen E. Bale, Susan T. Mayne
Poster Section 23

Estrogen receptor mRNA level in breast cancer predicts response to tamoxifen
Jennifer Bordeaux, Huan Cheng, Allison Welsh, Bruce Haffty, Donald Lannin, Xingyong Wu, Nan Su, Xiaojun Ma, Yuling Luo, David Rimm
Poster Section 25

HER2 assessment to define outcomes for breast cancer patients treated with neoadjuvant therapy
Huan Cheng, Yalai Bai, William Sikov, Natalie Sinclair, Maysa Abu-Khalaf, Lyndsay N. Harris, David L. Rimm
Poster Section 25

Loss of miR-34a as measured by quantitative in situ hybridization on a tissue microarray is associated with poor outcome in breast cancer
Seema Agarwal, Jason A. Hanna, David L. Rimm
Poster Section 25

Implementing CAD cells quantify the relationships between Ig-CAM-mediated adhesion, force transduction, and actin dynamics
Miles H. Fuller, Andrew Schaefer, Cecile Mejean, Paul Forscher
Poster Section 2

Flavonoid intake and risk of pancreatic cancer in the National Institutes of Health-AARP Diet and Health Study Cohort
Hannah Arem, Gerd Bobe, Joshua Sampson, Amy F. Suba3, Yikyung Park, Harvey Risch, Albert R. Hollenbeck, Susan T. Mayne, Rachael Stolzenberg-Solomon
Poster Section 23

Tobacco assessment in actively accruing Cooperative Group clinical trials
Poster Section 23

Validation of antibodies to Estrogen Receptor β and quantitative assessment of ERβ1 and ERβ5 expression in breast cancer
### Targetome profiling and genetic association analyses implicate miR-202 in follicular lymphomagenesis
Aaron E. Hoffman, Ran Liu, Tongzhang Zheng, Alan Fu, Frank Slack, Yong Zhu
Poster Section 23

### Triapine sensitizes ovarian cancer cells to platinum drugs and PARP inhibitors
Z. Ping Lin, Elena S. Ratner, Alan C. Sartorelli
Poster Section 29

### Genetic association analysis of the AMP dependent protein kinase complex and NHL risk
Aaron E. Hoffman, Kathryn C. Demanelis, Tongzhang Zheng, Yong Zhu
Poster Section 23

### Characterization of the effects of PLX4720 in the immunocompetent BRAF/PTEN mouse melanoma model
Alexander Marzuka, Marcus Bosenberg
Poster Section 31

### Paclitaxel selects and enriches for CD44+/MyD88+ ovarian cancer stem cells
Ayesha B. Alvero, Vinicius Craveiro, Jennie Holmberg, Yang Yang, Gil Mor
Poster Section 18

### Circulating sEGFR arises through a fibronectin/integrin-regulated proteolytic cleavage event: Analogy to HER2 shedding?
Jason A. Wilken, Marianela Perez-Torres, Rene Nieves-Alicea, Elsa M. Cora, Trace A. Christensen3 Andre T. Baron, Nita J. Mabie
Poster Section 23

### Quantitative analysis of microRNAs by in situ hybridization reveals prognostic value of microRNAs in melanoma and breast cancer
Jason A. Hanna, Hallie Wimberly, Salil Kumar, Seema Agarwal, David L. Rimm
Poster Section 23

### Stem cell-associated gene Lin-28B genotype and phenotype in epithelial ovarian cancer and their associations with disease

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**April 10; 12:00 PM**
**Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds**
55 Park Street
Dr. Joseph R. and Nancy Bove Transfusion Medicine Visiting Professorship
**Enhancing T Cell Therapies for the Treatment of Cancer**
Cliona Rooney, PhD
[Learn More >>](https://example.com)

**March 12; 8:00 AM**
**Schwartz Center Rounds**
55 Park Street
**No Good Deed Goes Unpunished**
[Learn More >>](https://example.com)

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**New Faculty Recruits**
(May 2009 - Present)

- **Alexander Au**  
  Plastic Surgery
- **Anees Chagpar**  
  Surgical Oncology
- **Sandy Chang**  
  Lab Medicine
- **Anne Chiang**  
  Medical Oncology
- **Lieping Chen**  
  Immunobiology
- **Deborah Chirnomas**  
  Pediatric Oncology
- **Joseph Contessa**  
  Therapeutic Radiology
- **Shari Damast**  
  Therapeutic Radiology
- **Suzanne Evans**  
  Therapeutic Radiology
- **Leonard Farber**  
  Medical Oncology
- **Bonnie Gould Rothberg**  
  Medical Oncology
- **Valentina Greco**  
  Genetics
**In the News**

**Immune system turning on itself may trigger melanoma growth**
A new study by researchers from Yale and Johns Hopkins reveals the molecular pathway by which the body’s inflammatory immune response may trigger its own inhibition, protecting tumor cells from destruction and allowing the growth of melanoma - the deadliest form of skin cancer. The study...
currently appears in Science Translational Medicine.

Although it occurs less often than other skin cancers, melanoma causes the majority of skin cancer deaths. It is often curable in its early stages, but once it has spread invasively, it is very difficult to treat.

Led by Lieping Chen, Co-Director of the Yale Cancer Center Cancer Immunology Research Program, the researchers focused on a specific immune-inhibiting molecule in melanoma tumors known as B7-H1. They found that in patients whose tumors expressed B7-H1, suppression of the inflammatory immune response promoted the growth and aggressiveness of their melanoma tumors.

Read More >>

Notables

Dr. Ronald Salem has been awarded the 2011 Leffell Prize for Clinical Excellence at Yale School of Medicine. Each year, the award recognizes a faculty member who best exemplifies clinical expertise, a commitment to teaching and the highest standards of care and compassion for patients. Dr. Salem has been a member of Yale Cancer Center and an oncology surgeon at Yale for over 20 years.

Read More >>

Dr. Raymond Russell recently presented at the American College of Cardiology Annual Scientific Sessions. The title of the talk was "Cellular basis of myocardial injury and left ventricular dysfunction with cancer chemotherapy."

Dr. Maysa Abu-Khalaf served as the guest editor for the November 2011 issue of Current Cardiology Reviews highlighting Cancer Therapy-Related Cardiotoxicity.

Employee Profile: Monica Fradkin

The Employee Profile recognizes the diverse contributions made by Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital staff to meet our patient care, research, education, and outreach goals. The staff profiled are examples of the great work being done here, and the dedication and values we possess. To suggest someone to be profiled, please contact Emily Fenton.
Oncology Nursing Education Coordinator, Monica Fradkin, RN, MPH, is responsible for the education of the oncology nurses within Smilow Cancer Hospital. Through planning and scheduling of oncology programs as well as hospital recommendations, Monica moves the education of the nurses forward in order to improve patient care.

Monica coordinates in-services, lunch & learns, and Journal Clubs to make sure everyone is on the same page. Oftentimes it is difficult to find a time when everyone is available, since Smilow is a 24/7 facility. Therefore, she must make use of technology to reach out to those that might not be able to attend the programs. Webinars and video conferencing are tools that she utilizes. These are especially helpful in reaching out to the new Smilow Cancer Hospital Cancer Care Centers and keeping them educated and informed. In addition, incorporating simulation into practice has been valuable for staff. Smilow nurses utilize simulation for chemotherapy administration and management as well as annual competency validation for chemotherapy recertification. It gives nurses a chance to practice different scenarios in a controlled setting and feedback is very positive.

"It is great to be a part of helping our nurses grow professionally, seeing them advance on the clinical ladder or go on to receive their certifications and then pass that knowledge onto patients. This job gives me the opportunity to work with all the different areas in Smilow, and the field is
constantly changing and advancing," said Monica.

Monica's supervisor, Catherine Lyons, RN, MS, Clinical Program Director of Smilow Cancer Hospital, commented, "Monica has changed the landscape of oncology staff education and development in Smilow. She is constantly striving for innovative ways to provide educational content in ways that are meaningful and memorable. We are lucky to have her as part of our leadership team."

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**Funding Opportunities**

**Breast Cancer Alliance Young Investigator Grant Program**

The Breast Cancer Alliance invites clinical doctors and research scientists who have been appointed to a position equivalent to Assistant Professor within three years of the appointment, and whose primary focus is breast cancer research, to apply for funding for the Young Investigator Grant. Grant applications will be available on the BCA website on May 4, 2012.

- **Application Deadline:** July 31, 2012
- [Learn More >>](#)

**Breast Cancer Alliance Education/Outreach Grant Program**

The Breast Cancer Alliance offers grants to support programs directly related to outreach and case managerial breast cancer services, including education, counseling and mammograms for the uninsured/underserved. The programs must be located in mid to southern Connecticut and/or Westchester County, New York.

Grant applications will be available on the BCA website on May 4, 2012.

- **Application Deadline:** July 31, 2012
- [Learn More >>](#)

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**Recent Publications**

**Raising the bar for breast health care in the United States.**
Moran MS, Knobf MT.
[Learn More >>](#)

**Q Histone ubiquitination and deubiquitination in transcription, DNA damage response, and cancer.**
EGFR/HER-targeted therapeutics in ovarian cancer.

Endothelial-derived neuregulin is an important mediator of ischaemia-induced angiogenesis and arteriogenesis.

Profound Depletion of Host Conventional Dendritic Cells, Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cells, and B Cells Does Not Prevent Graft-versus-Host Disease Induction.


Venous thromboembolism risk factors in breast cancer patients undergoing deep inferior epigastric perforator flap reconstruction.
Craig ES, Walker ME, Fusi S.
Microsurgery. 2012 Mar 22.

Transcervical Double Mandibular Osteotomy Approach to the Infratemporal Fossa.
Judson BL, Adam S, Lowlicht R, Bulsara KR.

Lifestyle interventions for cardiovascular risk reduction in
women with breast cancer.
Knobf, MT, Coviello, J.

Volkova M, Russell R.

Cardiotoxicity of molecularly targeted agents.
Hedhli N, Russell KS.

Clinical vignettes: Integrated care of cancer patients by oncologists and cardiologists.
Hofstatter E, Saadati H, Russell K, Russell R.