December 2, 2016

Announcements

Yale Cancer Center at ASH and SABCS
We are pleased to have an increasing presence at our oncology annual meetings, both on the podium and in the poster presentation rooms. The 58th annual American Society of Hematology annual meeting begins this weekend in San Diego and Yale Cancer Center has 27 presentations or abstracts participating in the meeting. Dr. Madhav Dhodapkar will present during a Scientific Session on New and Emerging Immune-Based Approaches. Learn More >>

Next week, members of the Breast Center team at Smilow Cancer Hospital will travel to San Antonio for AACR's annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium. The Symposium will include 13 presentations from Yale, including an Educational Session by Melinda Irwin, PhD, MPH on Energy Balance: The New Adjuvant Therapy? Learn More >>

Dr. Herbst Honored by IASLC
Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD will receive the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) Paul A. Bunn, Jr. Scientific Award tomorrow at the opening ceremony of the 17th annual World Conference on Lung Cancer. The award is given to an IASLC scientist for lifetime scientific contributions in thoracic malignancy research and who has also contributed to the

from the desk of
Peter G. Schulam, MD, PhD
Director, Yale Cancer Center
and Physician-in-Chief,
Smilow Cancer Hospital (Interim)

Yale NewHaven Health
Smilow Cancer Hospital

Recent News
Read recent articles featuring experts from Yale Cancer Center
News Center >>

LATEST ARTICLES:
Transfusion Service Switches to a Safer Product

Earlier this year, the FDA issued a draft guidance stating that it will soon require hospitals to incorporate more stringent transfusion safety procedures for platelets to address the risk of bacterial contamination. YNHH determined that pathogen-reduced platelets would offer the simplest method for meeting the new guidelines, and for increasing the overall safety of the platelets used at YNHH. Therefore, the blood bank began integrating the use of psoralen-treated pathogen reduced platelets into the hospital blood supply. Because this technology is new, there will be a dual inventory of psoralen treated and conventional platelets for a period of time, with the goal of full conversion to pathogen treated platelet components later in 2017. Please contact Edward Snyder, MD in the Blood Bank (203-688-2441) if you have any questions.

Nominations for the Ruth McCorkle APP Award

Nominations are due today for the Ruth McCorkle Oncology Advanced Practice Provider award, which will be presented at the Conclave on January 23, 2017. Please consider taking the time to nominate an APP from your practice today.

Notables

Melinda Irwin, PhD, MPH presented as an international invited speaker last month at the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia’s Annual Meeting on weight loss and risk reduction in cancer survivors.

Janaki Parameswaran, MD, an oncology fellow, received the ECOG-ACRIN Young Investigator Symposium Award for Translational Research and presented Novel Combination and WEE1 and Aurora Kinase A inhibition in HPV negative Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma at their meeting. Dr. Parameswaran worked in collaboration with Jong Woo Lee, PhD, Teresa Sandoval-
Schaefer, PhD, Barbara Burtness, MD, and Peter Koo, MD.

**New Member Highlight: Clare Flannery, MD**

The Signal Transduction (ST) Research Program welcomes Clare Flannery, MD, to its ranks. Dr. Flannery is an endocrinologist with a focus on reproductive endocrinology, especially in the endometrium. Over the last four years, her lab has pursued endometrial tissue and in vitro based experiments to understand whether high levels of insulin play a role in endometrial adenocarcinoma pathogenesis. Her work has been funded by an NIH-NICHD K08 Award and includes a clinical-translational study of women with endometrial hyperplasia and adenocarcinoma.

**Employee Profile: Orissa Laaser**

Orissa Laaser, a Patient Care Associate (PCA) on NP 11, strives to be a positive force in the lives of her patients and their families every day. Working on the Hematology/Oncology inpatient unit, many of her patients are there for several days while they receive treatment, some for months. No matter the duration of their stay, Orissa makes sure they are comfortable and cared for while they are there.

Weight loss can help cancer survivors reduce risk

Read More >>

Optimizing Frontline Immunotherapy in NSCLC

Read More >>

Yale Stem Cell Center celebrates ten years
While patients are receiving treatment, which can include chemotherapy or a stem cell transplant, Orissa takes vitals and makes sure the family is involved and aware of what is going on. Taking care of patients' basic needs is also an important part of what she does. She commented that she enjoys being by the bedside to care for patients, not only physically, but mentally and emotionally as well. "It is hard when patients have to stay here for long durations, so I try to have a positive attitude and get them up and moving as much as possible," said Orissa. "The biggest reward is when patients come to visit once they have left and are doing well. It makes me happy to see them out of the hospital and to know that I had a part in that. You take a part of each patient with you when they leave."

Dawn Blake-Holmes, MSN, APRN, CCNS, Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist, commented, "Orissa is a kind, caring, and compassionate caregiver. She engages with her patients on a professional and personal level and is always looking for ways she can help to support the members of the team, especially the nurses. She is also one of the unit mobility champions. In that role, she continuously and effortlessly goes above and beyond to assist in getting our patients up and moving as soon as possible."

Funding and Award Opportunities

All current funding opportunities are archived on the Yale Cancer Center website, and searchable by topic, funding agency, and due date. Please check the site often for new opportunities.

Ruth McCorkle Oncology Advanced Practice Provider Award

Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for this award. It is a unique opportunity to recognize the contributions of our Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant colleagues who contribute so much to oncology patient care.

Application Deadline: December 2, 2016

Join Smilow Cancer Hospital on Facebook

We are happy to report that the American Cancer Society of Connecticut announced $1.7 million in new research grants to Yale Cancer Center in 2017. We are incredibly grateful for the continued support we receive from the ACS, and could not do the work we do without the grants we receive from organizations that share our goal of defeating cancer.

Tune in to the latest podcast of Yale Cancer Answers for a discussion of the latest
Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program

The 2016 Defense Appropriations Act provides $120 million to the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP) to support innovative, high-impact breast cancer research to accelerate progress toward ending breast cancer.

**Application Deadline:** December 8, 2016

Learn More >>

Tina Brozman Foundation Ovarian Cancer Research Pilot

YSPH is pleased to announce the 2016 Ovarian Cancer Research Pilot from the Tina Brozman Foundation to provide funding for a pilot project in ovarian cancer early detection and prevention. One PDF file of the complete application should be emailed to Yong Zhu.

**Application Deadline:** December 16, 2016

Learn More >>

ALSF Research Grants 2017 Funding Opportunities

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) has evolved from the front yard lemonade stand of cancer patient Alexandra "Alex" Scott (1996-2004) into a national fundraising movement for childhood cancer research.

- Epidemiology Grants
  **Deadline:** Dec. 15, 2016
- Young Investigator Grants
  **Deadline:** Dec. 15, 2016

Learn More >>

Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation

2016 YITA Request for Applications

The YITA awards provide $500,000 over 2-3 years to TEAMS of young investigators for projects that are out-of-the-box, collaborative, translational and multi-disciplinary.

**Deadline for Applications:** January 3, 2017

Learn More >>

NCCN Request for Proposals (RFP): Phase I/II Clinical Trials, Preclinical and Correlative Studies of TAGRISSO™ (osimertinib) for Systemic or CNS EGFRm+ Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)

research on glioblastomas, the most common type of brain cancer. Dr. Chagpar will be hosting David Hafler, MD, Chief of Neurology at Yale New Haven Hospital. As always, submit your questions about cancer by emailing them to canceranswers@yale.edu

Learn More >>

The holidays can be a stressful time, especially for our cancer patients. Our Integrative Medicine Program, led by Dr. Ather Ali, can help provide some relief. Among the services offered are reiki, massage, bedside yoga, and meditation.
National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) has received a research grant from AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, LP to support NCCN investigator initiated clinical, preclinical and correlative studies of TAGRISSO™ (osimertinib) in the treatment of systemic or CNS EGFRm+ non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

**Application Deadline:** January 12, 2017
Learn More >>

**NCCN Foundation 2017 Young Investigator Award**
Through its Young Investigator Award (YIA) Program the NCCN Foundation invites proposals from young investigators with innovative ideas and an interest in improving the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of care provided to cancer patients.

**Application Deadline:** January 16, 2017
Learn More>>

**Pancreatic Cancer Action Network Early Detection Targeted Grant**
Supports studies utilizing NCI/NIDDK cohort of new onset diabetics with high risk of sporadic pancreatic cancer; projects will focus on blood biomarkers.

**Application Deadline:** February 1, 2017
Learn More>>

**Pancreatic Cancer Action Network Precision Medicine Targeted Grant**
Supports translational and clinically relevant projects that are identified as next steps for our Precision Promise initiative

**Application Deadline:** February 1, 2017
Learn More>>

**Recent Publications**

**Polymerase ε (POLE) ultra-mutation in uterine tumors correlates with T lymphocyte infiltration and increased resistance to platinum-based chemotherapy in vitro.**
Gynecol Oncol. 2016 Nov 25.

Traditional cancer treatment, in its imprecise destruction of both good and bad cells, often causes debilitating side effects and isn't always effective against the cancer it’s directed at. We’re proud to be one of the cancer centers around the world that’s focusing on targeted cancer treatment, directed at specific genes in order to treat every cancer individually. Check out this video from WebMD with Dr. Roy Herbst and Dr. Pat LoRusso discussing how targeted therapies are changing the way we treat cancer, and how they have helped two patients at Smilow.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in Van Wilgen's Garden Center's flamingo adoption - together, the garden center and those who adopted lawn flamingoes raised over $21K! Upon Bill Van Wilgen's request, we've designated that this and future donations from Van Wilgen's will go directly to male breast cancer research, a cause that Bill feels passionately about due to his own experience with the disease.
Effect of the LIVESTRONG at the YMCA exercise program on physical activity, fitness, quality of life, and fatigue in cancer survivors.

Role of Adjuvant Therapy for Node-Negative Lung Cancer Invading the Chest Wall.

Patient-reported quality of life after stereotactic body radiation therapy versus moderate hypofractionation for clinically localized prostate cancer.

Novel biomarker identification using metabolomic profiling to differentiate radiation necrosis and recurrent tumor following Gamma Knife radio surgery.


Molecular determinants of KA1 domain-mediated autoinhibition and phospholipid activation of MARK1 kinase.
Read More >>

Wide variations in blood product transfusion practices among providers who care for patients with acute leukemia in the United States.
Read More >>

Methyltransferase-like protein 16 binds the 3'-terminal triple helix of MALAT1 long noncoding RNA.
Read More >>

Systematic drug screening identifies tractable targeted combination therapies in triple-negative breast cancer.
Read More >>

Interventional Oncology in Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Progress Through Innovation.
Read More >>

Preparing for Value-Based Payment: A Stepwise Approach for Cancer Centers.
Adelson KB, Velji S, Patel K, Chaudhry B, Lyons C, Lilienbaum R.
Read More >>

Preclinical Advances with Multiphoton Microscopy in Live Imaging of Skin Cancers.
Sun TY, Haberman AM, Greco V.

During this holiday season, enjoy #healthy snack #recipes courtesy of our dietitians.

"Thank you for helping my heroes, the patients" Dr. Patricia LoRusso thanks @SU2C for their support of research at @YaleCancer

We're transforming an acute disease into a chronic one -Dr. Patricia LoRusso on #CuttingEdgeofCancer @WebMD

@DrRoyHerbstYale talks about @LungMAP #clinicaltrial in a new video with our patient, Mr. Ardito #LCSM #LCAM

Closer to Free
The fund to advance cancer research and enhance patient care

Upcoming Events

December 2; 7AM
Yale Digestive Diseases Program
TAC N-107
Yale Liver Update 2016
Read More >>

December 5; 11AM
YCC Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program
SHM I-304
Overcoming Receptor Tyrosine Kinase Acquired Resistance in Lung Cancer by Oligosaccharyltransferase Inhibition
Cecilia Lopez Sambrooks, PhD
Read More >>

December 5; 12PM
YCC Epigenetics Interest Group Seminar Series
BCMM 206/208
Chromatin Regulation of DNA Replication and Genome Engineering in Plants
Yannick Jacob, PhD
Read More >>

December 6; 9:30AM
Pathology Research in Progress Talk
TAC N-107
Regulation of Calcium by BCL-2 Family Member BOK
Marcos Carpio, PhD
Neural Progenitor-like Stem Cells in Salivary and Breast Cancers
Sergey Ivanov, PhD
Read More >>

December 6; 12PM
YCC Grand Rounds
Park Street Auditorium
The Melanoma ‘Epidemic’: How and Why it is Not
Earl Glusac, MD
mRNA Reprogramming for Cell Based Immunotherapy
Samuel Katz, MD, PhD
Read More >>

December 8; 9AM
Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds
Smilow LL-505
Role of Chemo-Selection in Head and Neck Cancer
Aarti Bhatia, MBBS, MPH
Read More >>

December 8; 12:30PM
Pathology Grand Rounds
LMP 1094
Traumatic Brain Injury Augments Host Defenses
Daniel Remick, MD
Read More >>

December 8; 12:30PM
Pharmacology Seminar Series/Arnold Welch Lecture
Brady Auditorium
STAT3 in Cancer: Can it be Inhibited?
James E. Darnell, Jr., MD
Read More >>
December 9; 8AM
Neurosurgery Grand Rounds
NIHB E-02
Evolution of Brain Metastasis Management in the Past Decade
Veronica Chiang, MD
Read More >>

December 9; 7:30PM
Yale Medical Symphony Orchestra
Winter 2016
Harkness Auditorium
Read More >>

December 12; 11AM
YCC Radiobiology and Radiotherapy Research Program
SHM I-304
Exploiting Gene Amplification in Cancer Using a Novel Therapeutic Strategy
Faye Rogers, PhD
Read More >>

December 13; 9:30AM
Pathology Research in Progress Talk
TAC N-107
TBA
Susan Scanlon
Read More >>

December 13; 12PM
YCC Grand Rounds / 10th Annual Paul Calabresi Memorial Lecture
Park Street Auditorium
A Discussion of the Book "The Death of Cancer"
Vincent T. DeVita, Jr., MD and Elizabeth DeVita-Raeburn
Read More >>

December 13; 5PM
Digestive Disease Research Seminar Series
TAC S-247
Discovery & Characterization of a Novel Hereditary Pancreatic Cancer Gene
Sahar Nissim, MD, PhD
Read More >>
December 15; 12:30PM
Pathology Grand Rounds
LMP 1094
Use of Immunohistochemistry and other Special Techniques Applied to the Diagnosis of Melanocytic Lesions
Victor Prieto, MD, PhD
Read More >>

December 15; 2PM
Yale Cooperative Center of Excellence in Hematology 2016 Seminar Series
300 George St., 1st Floor
The Genetics of Myeloid Neoplasia: from Premalignancy to Acute Leukemia
Benjamin Ebert, MD, PhD
Read More >>

December 15; 2:30PM
Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program Seminar
330 Orchard St., Suites 107-109
Illuminating the Molecular Functions of BRCA2 Variants in Cancer
Ryan Jensen, PhD
Read More >>

December 16; 1PM
YCC Developmental Therapeutics Research Program SHM I-304
Negative Regulation of Inflammation
Carla Rothlin, PhD
Read More >>

Submissions
Please submit your recent publication and grant announcements to:

Renee Gaudette
Director, Public Affairs and Marketing
renee.gaudette@yale.edu