

DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

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

Yale **CANCER
CENTER**

A Comprehensive Cancer Center Designated
by the National Cancer Institute

Recent News

Read recent articles featuring experts from
Yale Cancer Center

[News Center >>](#)

LATEST ARTICLES:

organization's development.

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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Earlier this year, the FDA issued a draft guidance stating that it will soon require hospitals to incorporate more stringent transfusion safety procedures for platelets to address the risk of bacterial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.

[Learn More >>](#)

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-



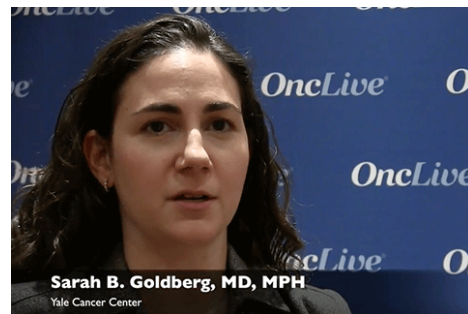
New Drug for Patients with Late-Stage Lung Cancer

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Lung-MAP Clinical Trial is Helping Patients with Lung Cancer

[Read More >>](#)



Dr. Goldberg on PD-L1 as a Biomarker in Lung Cancer

[Read More >>](#)

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.



Weight loss can help cancer survivors reduce risk

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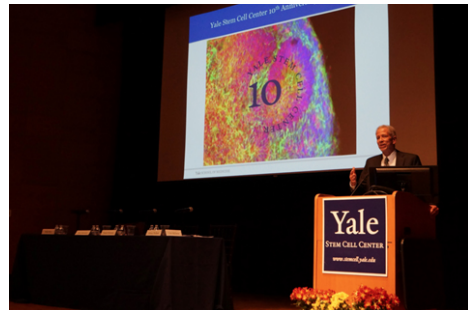


Optimizing Frontline Immunotherapy in NSCLC

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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.



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.

[Learn More >>](#)

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

[Learn More >>](#)

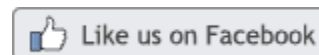
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Cancer Society grants \$1.7 million to Yale

[Read More >>](#)

Join Smilow Cancer Hospital on Facebook



LATEST POSTS:

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.



[Learn More >>](#)

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](mailto: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



*The Immunobiology
Behind Glioblastomas*

Hosted by: [Anees Chagpar, MD](#)
Director, The Breast Center at Smilow Cancer Hospital

canceranswers@yale.edu

[Learn More >>](#)

Interested in learning how to cook? Wanted to make it to our last cooking class but couldn't? We have great news! The Smilow Cancer Genetics and Prevention program is hosting another cooking class with Chef Anne Gallagher, co-founder of Plow to Plate and owner of Gallagher Catering. Join us for an afternoon of friendship and good food.



[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.

Bellone S, Bignotti E, Lonardi S, Ferrari F, Centritto F, Masserdotti A, Pettinella F, Black J, Menderes G, Altwerger G, Hui P, Lopez S, de Haydu C, Bonazzoli E, Predolini F, Zammataro L, Cocco E, Ferrari F, Ravaggi A, Romani C, Facchetti F, Sartori E, Odicino FE, Silasi DA, Litkouhi B, Ratner E, Azodi M, Schwartz PE, Santin AD.

Gynecol Oncol. 2016 Nov 25.



[Learn More >>](#)

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.



[Learn More >>](#)

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.

[Read More >>](#)

Effect of the LIVESTRONG at the YMCA exercise program on physical activity, fitness, quality of life, and fatigue in cancer survivors.

Irwin ML, Cartmel B, Harrigan M, Li F, Sanft T, Shockro L, O'Connor K, Campbell N, Tolaney SM, Mayer EL, Yung R, Freedman RA, Partridge AH, Ligibel JA. *Cancer*. 2016 Nov 28.

[Read More >>](#)

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

Gao SJ, Corso CD, Blasberg JD, Detterbeck FC, Boffa DJ, Decker RH, Kim AW. *Clin Lung Cancer*. 2016 Oct 17.

[Read More >>](#)

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

Johnson SB, Soulos PR, Shafman TD, Mantz CA, Dosoretz AP, Ross R, Finkelstein SE, Collins SP, Suy S, Brower JV, Ritter MA, King CR, Kupelian PA, Horwitz EM, Pollack A, Abramowitz MC, Hallman MA, Faria S, Gross CP, Yu JB. *Radiother Oncol*. 2016 Nov 24.

[Read More >>](#)

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

Lu AY, Turban JL, Damisah EC, Li J, Alomari AK, Eid T, Vortmeyer AO, Chiang VL. *J Neurosurg*. 2016 Nov 25:1-9.

[Read More >>](#)

High Endothelial Venules and Lymphatic Vessels in Tertiary Lymphoid Organs: Characteristics, Functions, and Regulation.

Ruddle NH. *Front Immunol*. 2016 Nov 9;7:491.

[Read More >>](#)

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



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LATEST TWEETS:

Saying yes to #palliative care doesn't say no to anything else. Treatment and therapy continues. @ACSCANCT #Personalized Medicine Forum

"I've never seen progress move faster than it is now - we're all working together & it's all about the patient." @DrRoyHerbstYale @ACSCANCT

If we can identify the right patients, why subject them to the toxicities of chemo? #immunotherapy @DrRoyHerbstYale

Tune in now to .@FOX61News with @TimLammersFox61 to hear the latest on #lung cancer with @DrRoyHerbstYale #lscsm

Tune in today at 9am to @FOX61News Good Day CT for an interview with @DrRoyHerbstYale on the latest advances in #lungcancer #LCSM #LCAM

Our latest @YaleCancer Answers #podcast discusses research in #glioblastomas, the most common form of #braincancer

Emptage RP, Lemmon MA, Ferguson KM. *Biochem J*. 2016 Nov 22.

[Read More >>](#)

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

Pine AB, Lee EJ, Sekeres M, Steensma DP, Zelterman D, Prebet T, DeZern A, Komrokji R, Litzow M, Luger S, Stone R, Erba HP, Garcia-Manero G, Lee AI, Podoltsev NA, Barbarotta L, Kasberg S, Hendrickson JE, Gore SD, Zeidan AM. *Transfusion*. 2016 Nov 22.

[Read More >>](#)

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

Brown JA, Kinzig CG, DeGregorio SJ, Steitz JA. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2016 Nov 21.

[Read More >>](#)

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

Wali VB, Langdon CG, Held MA, Platt JT, Patwardhan GA, Safonov A, Aktas B, Pusztai L, Stern DF, Hatzis C.

Cancer Res. 2016 Nov 21.

[Read More >>](#)

Interventional Oncology in Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Progress Through Innovation.

Mu L, Chapiro J, Stringam J, Geschwind JF. *Cancer J*. 2016 Nov/Dec;22(6):365-372.

[Read More >>](#)

Preparing for Value-Based Payment: A Stepwise Approach for Cancer Centers.

Adelson KB, Velji S, Patel K, Chaudhry B, Lyons C, Lilenbaum R.


J Oncol Pract. 2016 Oct;12(10):e924-e932.


[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

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

J Invest Dermatol. 2016 Nov 12.

[Read More >>](#)

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, Ph

[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

 [Forward to a Friend](#)