

September 4, 2015

Announcements

Continuing our Momentum

The transition over the last few weeks has been busy for the leadership team at Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven, and I would like to thank you all for your continued hard work during this time. I am committed to building on the strong foundation that Dr. Lynch and our colleagues have created for us over the last 5 years, and I will work to maintain our momentum to continue to achieve new successes and goals. I truly believe that the best way to honor the hard work we have put forth is to move forward with our strategic plan and to look ahead to identify other areas of opportunity that need attention. Please contact me directly if you have any concerns at any time. I look forward to working with each of you to continue to make sure Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital achieve our goals to provide very best in cancer research and care.

Yale Cancer Center receives NCI SPORE for Lung Cancer

Led by Dr. Roy Herbst, MD, PhD, I am pleased to announce that Yale Cancer Center has been awarded its second SPORE grant from the NCI. The \$11 million grant will launch a new research program in non-small cell lung cancer.

Known as a Specialized Program of Research Excellence, or SPORE, the new research program harnesses the strengths of academic cancer centers by bringing together experts in oncology, immunobiology, pharmacology,

from the desk of

Peter G. Schulam, MD, PhD

Director, Yale Cancer Center
and Physician-in-Chief,
Smilow Cancer Hospital (Interim)

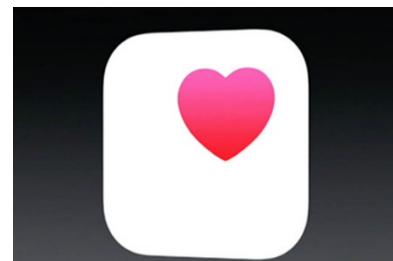


Recent News

Read recent articles featuring experts from Yale Cancer Center

[News Center >>](#)

LATEST ARTICLES:



App helps connect Yale breast cancer patients, caregivers

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molecular biology, pathology, epidemiology, and addiction science to collaborate on projects.

"The only way to approach a problem as big as lung cancer is to have experts in basic, translational, and clinical research working on several fronts taking the research from the lab to the clinic and back again to develop even newer insights," Dr. Herbst said. The Yale SPORE will conduct projects in immunotherapy, precision medicine, drug development, and smoking cessation. Teams will also work to identify new translational research avenues, and train young physician-researchers for careers in lung cancer.

[Learn More >>](#)



Scott Huntington Joins Hematology

Please join me in welcoming Scott Huntington, MD, MPH, to the section of Hematology. At Smilow, he will focus on the care of patients with lymphoma and conduct research alongside the Yale Cancer Outcomes, Public Policy, and Effectiveness Research (COPPER) center. Dr. Huntington's research interests include comparative-effectiveness and value-based assessment of oncologic

treatments and diagnostics, with particular attention to optimizing care for patients with lymphoma.

Dr. Huntington is originally from Western Massachusetts and received his undergraduate education at Hamilton College in Chemistry. He completed a combined MD-MPH program at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, followed by an Internal Medicine residency at Vanderbilt University. He recently completed Hematology-Oncology training and a Masters of Health Policy Research at the University of Pennsylvania.

5th Annual Closer to Free Ride

The 5th anniversary of our Closer to Free Ride is next Saturday, September 12th! 2015 will prove to be a great 5th anniversary year for both Smilow Cancer Hospital and our ride! Please consider joining us, either as a rider, a volunteer, or supporter. Every dollar raised through the Closer to Free Ride supports patient care at Smilow Cancer



Yale Cancer Center receives \$11 million from National Cancer Institute for lung cancer research

[Read More >>](#)

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LATEST POSTS:

Thanks to the Make-A-Wish foundation, 5-year-old Jessica Martinez had a dream princess theme doll party this past Saturday at the Beardsley Zoo in Bridgeport. Arriving in a limousine, Jessica was greeted with cheers and received a behind-the-scenes tour before enjoying the Carousel, hotdogs, and face painting.



[Read More >>](#)

Immune and tumor cells battle each other for survival. In a new study, Yale researchers reveal a new way to give immune cells an

Hospital and cancer research at Yale Cancer Center.
[Learn More >>](#)

Nominations for Annual YCC Awards

Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce our call for nominations for our annual awards in the areas of excellence in research and clinical care. Each award will be announced at the Yale Cancer Center Conclave on Monday, November 23, 2015. The nomination deadline for all awards is Friday, October 16, 2015.

Yale Cancer Center Research Prizes

Three Research Prizes will be awarded in support of excellence in the areas of basic science, clinical research, and cancer prevention and control. One award will be chosen in each area for a paper that is considered to have had the greatest impact on the field this year. The applicant must be a current member of the Cancer Center. The science in the publication must be cancer-focused. Please submit a PDF of your best publication (publication date from October 2014 to Sept 2015). To be eligible you must be either the first or last author of the publication. Email your publication to christen.ruff@yale.edu

Yale Cancer Center Award for Clinical Excellence

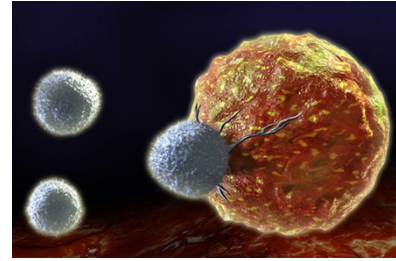
This award will be given to the physician who best exemplifies excellence in clinical care including superb clinical skills, use of a patient- and family-centered approach to care, and inclusion of a multi-disciplinary care model. Nominee must be a current member of Yale Cancer Center. Please nominate yourself or a peer and send a brief nomination letter (one page maximum) to christen.ruff@yale.edu

Yale Cancer Center Lifetime Achievement Award

Yale Cancer Center recognizes the achievements of one of our senior members through our annual Lifetime Achievement award. Please send nomination suggestions for the award to christen.ruff@yale.edu

Notables

upper hand to defeat the cancerous tumors...



[Read More >>](#)

Christian, a little boy in Smilow Cancer Hospital recently diagnosed with leukemia, has a lot of fans cheering him on through Fire Trucks for Christian, a Facebook page that's bringing the firefighting community together to rally for him. Thank you to the CT fire departments who have brought gifts and to the departments from near and far who have sent well wishes and photos to bring a smile to Christian's face!



[Read More >>](#)

Dr. Gary Kupfer, Chief of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at Smilow Cancer Hospital, recently returned from a trip to the Republic of Georgia, where he consulted on the creation and building of pediatric oncology infrastructure in the country...

Doximity.com has ranked **The Radiation Oncology Residency Program #13** in the nation for reputation in its annual ranking of residency programs.

[Learn More >>](#)

The International Journal of Radiation Oncology, aka **The Red Journal**, named their top downloaded articles of 2014 and 2 of the top 3 publications were from Yale:

#2: J.M. Brown, D.J. Carlson, D.J. Brenner

The tumor radiobiology of SRS and SBRT: Are more than the 5 Rs involved?

Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys, 88 (2014), pp. 254-262

[Learn More >>](#)

#3: M.S. Moran, S.J. Schnitt, A.E. Giuliano, et al.

Society of Surgical Oncology-American Society for Radiation Oncology consensus guideline on margins for breast-conserving surgery with whole-breast irradiation in stages I and II invasive breast cancer

Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys, 88 (2014), pp. 553-564

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale Cancer Center has received a supplemental grand to our cancer center support grant to support a **Community Health Educator** to provide clinical trial education and disparity outreach in the New Haven community. The program will be under the direction of **Andrea Silber, MD**, **Beth Jones, PhD**, and **Melinda Irwin, PhD**.

Research in the News

Study reveals new way to 'rewire' immune cells to slow tumor growth

Inside a tumor, immune cells and cancer cells battle for survival. The advantage may go to the cells that metabolize the most glucose, say Yale researchers who have identified a new way to boost immune response by metabolically "rewiring" immune cells. Their research may provide a novel approach to cancer immunotherapy.





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LATEST TWEETS:

 The Yale team will be presenting interesting findings.

 In #breastcancer, pathologic complete response (pCR) is just part of the story in predicting survival, Yale study <http://bit.ly/1PJ4h2E>

 MT Wise words on coping with a diagnosis. Everyone does it differently: Was It Cancer? Getting the Diagnosis <http://nyti.ms/1Ur0AjD>

 @howardhochster on Frontline Treatment Selection in RAS Wild-Type mCRC <https://shar.es/1vjJ2h> via @Onclive

 Americans are ditching cigarettes as smoking rate hits new low, CDC says <http://fw.to/wyz69BK>

Researchers have long known that specific immune cells known as T cells infiltrate tumors. But tumor-infiltrating T cells fail to destroy cancer cells, in part, because inside the tumor they are deprived of glucose, a nutrient essential to T cell function. The research team, led by professor of immunobiology Susan Kaech and postdoctoral fellow Ping-Chih Ho, theorized that metabolic reprogramming of T cells could enhance their anti-tumor response.

[Learn More >>](#)

Yale team sheds light on century-old biochemical mystery

Given plenty of glucose and oxygen, yeast and cancer cells do not burn it all to produce energy but convert much of it to the byproducts ethanol and lactate, respectively. In a recent study, two Yale scientists have used magnetic resonance measurements showing how glucose is metabolized in yeast to answer the puzzle of the "Warburg Effect."

The production of these byproducts is a result of the cell's need to keep its internal state constant during glucose consumption, they reported their work in the August 17 issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

[Read More >>](#)

Employee Profile:

Donna Snedeker

Celebrating 30 Years at Yale

1985 when Donna Snedeker, Senior Administrative Assistant for Medical Oncology, began her career at Yale as a temp, she could not have predicted the major advances and growth she would witness. 30 years later, Donna is still working tirelessly to support her physicians; Drs. Jill Lacy, Hari Deshpande, Stacey Stein, John Roberts, and Joseph Kim. Along with her normal administrative tasks, Donna helps with various projects as well.



What to watch for after skin cancer <http://on.wsj.com/1JxBZXs> via @WSJ

pCR a good surrogate for longterm survival in #breastcancer patients but not the whole story. <http://bit.ly/1PJ4h2E> @AACR @YaleMed @YNHH

#breastcancer patients: Yale texting app helps them comply w/ treatment <https://bitly.com/shorten/> @nhregister @EdStannardNHR @YNHH @YaleMed

Closer to Free

closer to free

The fund to advance cancer research and enhance patient care

Events

September 6; 6PM

Yale Cancer Center Answers

WNPR

Healthcare and Cancer

Howard Forman, MD

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September 8; 12PM

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Park Street Auditorium

Exploiting the Interactions of AML Biology and AML Treatment: An Ongoing Challenge

"I have had the pleasure and good fortune of working with Donna for many years. Her dedication, work ethic, adaptability, positive attitude, sense of responsibility, and passion have been consistently impressive over the decades," Dr. Lacy said.

When Donna accepted a position as a clinical secretary in medical oncology, there were only 4 other secretaries, now there are 16 administrative assistants. For two years, Donna left medical oncology and worked in the department of neuro-surgery. When she returned in 2000, she supported Dr. Jill Lacy and Dr. John Murren. In 2005, Dr. Murren passed away from melanoma. Donna commented, "I had known John since he started as a fellow in 1988. He was a wonderful doctor, and person. He was one of the great doctors of the time and it was a huge loss."

Now supporting five physicians, Donna has a lot on her plate. She assists Dr. Lacy in her role as Director of the Medical Oncology/Hematology Fellowship Training Program, schedules students for Dr. Deshpande's Student Shadowing Program, bringing in students from around the world, and enjoys learning about sickle cell disease from Dr. Roberts, something she knew little about before. Dr. Kim and Dr. Stein both have rapidly growing practices, and she enjoys working with them on a daily basis. She is also responsible for the administrative part of the GI and GU Tumor Board Conferences.

"I am very fortunate to work with some of the most dedicated and caring doctors I have ever known. The empathy they have for their patients is evident, and that is one of the many reasons why I have stayed all these years," said Donna.

Dr. Roberts said, "Donna is wonderful to work with! Always cheerful - always interested to help. She is able to solve most problems, and is willing to seek advice when she can't. I just hope she keeps working as long as I do."

"Donna has been a great help to me since she became my administrative assistant," said Dr. Deshpande. "I am responsible for the oncology elective and the Yale Affiliated Hospital lectures. She has managed to organize both programs in a manner that now makes them run much better than before."

Funding and Award Opportunities

Judith E. Karp, MD
[Read More >>](#)

September 8; 5PM

**YNHH Transforming Healthcare
Grand Rounds Fitkin
Amphitheater**

*The Conversation: A Revolutionary
Plan For End-Of-Life Care*

Angelo Volandes, MD, MPH
[Read More >>](#)

September 10; 9AM

**Therapeutic Radiology Grand
Rounds**

SHM, B-201

*Breast Cancer Bioinformatics Tumor
Heterogeneity*

Christos Hatzis, PhD
[Read More >>](#)

September 10; 12PM

**YCC/Schwartz Center Rounds
Park Street Auditorium**

TBA

[Read More >>](#)

September 10; 12:30PM

**Pathology Grand Rounds
Fitkin Amphitheatre, LMP 1094**

Enhancer Malfunction in Cancer

Ali Shilatifard, PhD
[Read More >>](#)

September 10; 5PM

**Yale Cancer Center Evening
Oncology Series**

NP4-101A&B

Hematology
[Read More >>](#)

September 11; 8AM

Elsa U. Pardee Foundation Grants

The Elsa U. Pardee Foundation funds research to investigators in United States non-profit institutions proposing research directed toward identifying new treatments or cures for cancer. The Foundation particularly encourages grant applications for a one year period which will allow establishment of capabilities of new cancer researchers, or new cancer approaches by established cancer researchers. It is anticipated that this early stage funding by the Foundation may lead to subsequent and expanded support using government agency funding. Project relevance to cancer detection, treatment, or cure should be clearly identified.

Application Deadline: October 1, 2015

[Learn More >>](#)

Assay Validation For High Quality Markers For NCI-Supported Clinical Trials

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to improve the development and validation of molecular diagnostics for the treatment, control, or prevention of cancer. This FOA includes, but is not limited to, the validation of prognostic, predictive or response markers for treatment and markers for cancer control or prevention trials. Applicants should have an assay that works in human samples and whose importance is well justified for development into a clinical assay. In addition, analytical validation of assays for these markers should be achieved when the application is submitted so that clinical validation may be achieved with little further analytical validation needed. This supplement may be used to support acquisition of specimens from retrospective or prospective studies from NCI-supported or other clinical trials. Clinical laboratory staff, technical and other needs must be an integral part of the application. Assays proposed for this FOA may be used to validate existing assays for use in other cancer clinical trials, observational studies or populations. Projects proposed for this FOA will require multi-disciplinary interaction and collaboration among scientific investigators, clinicians, statisticians and clinical laboratory scientists and staff. This FOA is not intended to support trials that assess the clinical utility of a marker/assay but is intended to develop assays to the point where their clinical utility could be assessed in other trials.

Application Deadline: October 7, 2015

[Learn More >>](#)

YCC / Smilow 5th Anniversary Symposium

Yale's West Campus

A Personalized Medicine Approach to Cancer Care

Lillian Siu, MD

[Read More >>](#)

September 13; 6PM

Yale Cancer Center Answers

WNPR

Cervical Cancer Prevention and the Role of HPV

Sangini Sheth, MD, MPH

[Read More >>](#)

September 15; 9:30AM

Pathology Research in Progress Talks

TAC N-107

TBA

Jun Lu, PhD

[Read More >>](#)

September 15; 12PM

Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds

Park Street Auditorium

Comprehensive Somatic Profiling in Support of Genomics Enabled Medicine

John Carpten, PhD

[Read More >>](#)

September 17; 9AM

Therapeutic Radiology Grand Rounds

SHM, B-201

Emerging Techniques in Stereotactic Body Irradiation

Yoshiya (Josh) Yamada, MD

[Read More >>](#)

September 17; 12:30PM

Pathology Grand Rounds

Fitkin Amphitheatre, LMP 1094

Smoking Cessation within the Context of Lung Cancer Screening

The goal of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to improve the effectiveness and/or implementation of smoking cessation interventions delivered to current smokers who undergo low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) lung cancer screening. The proposed projects must be aimed at determining:

- a) the key components and characteristics of an effective smoking cessation intervention delivered in the LDCT setting; and/or
- b) characteristics of an implementation strategy to optimally incorporate existing evidence-based smoking cessation intervention(s) into the LDCT setting.

Application Deadline: October 8, 2015

[Learn More >>](#)

National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) /ImmunoGen Inc. Grants

National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) is pleased to announce that it has received a research grant from ImmunoGen Inc. to support NCCN investigator initiated pre-clinical studies of mirvetuximab soravtansine (previously known as IMG853) in the treatment of solid tumors of special interest.

Application Deadline: October 26, 2015

[Learn More >>](#)

Melanoma Research Alliance Grants

The Melanoma Research Alliance (MRA) is pleased to announce a Request for Proposals (RFP) for high-impact translational research that has the potential to lead to near-term clinical application in melanoma prevention, detection, diagnosis, staging, and treatment. This cycle, proposals will be accepted for Team Science Awards, Young Investigator Awards, Academic-Industry Partnership Awards (for Established Investigators), and Special Opportunity Awards. Team Science Letter of Intent Due: October 12, 2015 Young Investigator Award and Academic-Industry Partnership

Proposals Due: November 16, 2015

[Learn More >>](#)

Exosome-mediated Cell-Cell Communications in Cancer Progression

Lucia Languino, PhD

[Read More >>](#)

**September 17; 5PM
Free Prostate Cancer Screening**

YNHH McGivney Center for Cancer Care, Saint Raphael Campus

[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

Leslie H. Warner Postdoctoral Fellowships

Yale Cancer Center is pleased to announce the Leslie H. Warner Postdoctoral Fellowships to be awarded for one year commencing December 1, 2015, to fellows conducting cancer research with a Yale Cancer Center member. The Fellowships will support innovative basic, translational, clinical, or population-based cancer research. Candidates who began postdoctoral studies on or after December 1, 2014 are eligible for this award. Up to four applications will be funded.

Application Deadline: October 29, 2015

[Learn More >>](#)

Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian Cancer (PLCO) Screening Trial Funding Opportunity

Briefly, this funding opportunity is aimed at advancing research in cancer etiology and early detection biomarkers, utilizing the advantages of the unique biorepository resources of the NCI-sponsored Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian Cancer (PLCO) Screening Trial. The PLCO biorepository offers high quality, pre diagnostic, serial blood samples (serum/plasma/DNA/red cells/cryo-preserved whole blood) ideal for investigation of the causes and the natural history of various cancers and for pivotal validation of promising blood-based early detection biomarkers. The FOA supports biochemical and genetic analysis of cancer risk as well as discovery and validation of early detection biomarkers. The proposed research must involve the use of PLCO biospecimens.

Application Deadline: February 17, 2016

[Learn More >>](#)

Recent Publications

Complexity in the Gastric Cancer Genome and a Biomarker-Driven Trial of Poly (ADP-Ribose) Polymerase Inhibition in Gastric Cancer.

Burtness B. J Clin Oncol. 2015 Aug 17.

[Learn More >>](#)

Chae, W.-J. and Bothwell, A.L.M. (2015). Spontaneous intestinal tumorigenesis in Apc/Min+ mice requires

altered T cell development with IL-17A.

J. Immunol. Res. dx.doi.org/10.1155/2015/860106.

[Learn More >>](#)

Phospho-T356RB1 predicts survival in HPV-negative squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck.

Beck TN, Kaczmar J, Handorf E, Nikonova A, Dubyk C, Peri S, Lango M, Ridge JA, Serebriiskii IG, Burtness B, Golemis EA, Mehra R. Oncotarget. 2015 Aug 7;6(22):18863-74.

[Learn More >>](#)

Targeted Doxorubicin Nanotherapy Strongly Suppressing Growth of Multidrug Resistant Tumor in Mice.

Nguyen DH, Lee JS, Bae JW, Choi JH, Lee Y, Son JY, Park KD. Int J Pharm. 2015 Aug 28.

[Learn More >>](#)

Primary Breast Cancer Decision-making Among Chinese American Women: Satisfaction, Regret.

Katie Lee SC, Knobf MT. Nurs Res. 2015 Sep-Oct;64(5):391-401.

[Learn More >>](#)

PIK3CA oncogenic mutations represent a major mechanism of resistance to trastuzumab in HER2/neu overexpressing uterine serous carcinomas.

Black JD, Lopez S, Cocco E, Bellone S, Altwerger G, Schwab CL, English DP, Bonazzoli E, Predolini F, Ferrari F, Ratner E, Silasi DA, Azodi M, Schwartz PE, Santin AD. Br J Cancer. 2015 Sep 1.

[Learn More >>](#)

Recommendations for Obesity Clinical Trials in Cancer Survivors: American Society of Clinical Oncology Statement.

Ligibel JA, Alfano CM, Hershman D, Ballard RM, Bruinooge SS, Courneya KS, Daniels EC, Demark-Wahnefried W, Frank ES, Goodwin PJ, Irwin ML, Levit LA, McCaskill-Stevens W, Minasian LM, O'Rourke MA, Pierce JP, Stein KD, Thomson CA, Hudis CA. J Clin Oncol. 2015 Aug 31.

[Learn More >>](#)

Phosphoenolpyruvate Is a Metabolic Checkpoint of Anti-tumor T Cell Responses.

Ho PC, Bihuniak JD, Macintyre AN, Staron M, Liu X, Amezquita R, Tsui YC, Cui G, Micevic G, Perales JC, Kleinstein SH, Abel ED, Insogna KL, Feske S, Locasale JW, Bosenberg MW, Rathmell JC, Kaech SM. Cell. 2015 Aug 26.

[Learn More >>](#)

Immune Modulation in Hematologic Malignancies.

Dhodapkar MV, Dhodapkar KM. Semin Oncol. 2015 Aug;42(4):617-25.

[Learn More >>](#)

Cancer Immunotherapy: Past Progress and Future Directions.

Atkins MB, Sznol M. Semin Oncol. 2015 Aug;42(4):518-22.

[Learn More >>](#)

Viewing Lung Cancer in Color Instead of Black and White.

Detterbeck FC. Ann Am Thorac Soc. 2015 Aug;12(8):1118-9.

[Learn More >>](#)

The Effect of Menopausal Hormone Therapies on Breast Cancer: Avoiding the Risk.

Flores VA, Taylor HS. Endocrinol Metab Clin North Am. 2015 Sep;44(3):587-602.

[Learn More >>](#)

Copy number changes are associated with response to treatment with carboplatin, paclitaxel, and sorafenib in melanoma.

Wilson MA, Zhao F, Khare S, D'Andrea K, Wubbenhorst B, Roszik J, Woodman SE, Rimm DL, Kirkwood JM, Kluger HM, Schuchter LM, Lee SJ, Flaherty KT, Nathanson KL. Clin Cancer Res. 2015 Aug 25.

[Learn More >>](#)

An Advanced Practice Nurse Coordinated Multidisciplinary Intervention for Patients with Late-Stage Cancer: A Cluster Randomized Trial.

McCorkle R, Jeon S, Ercolano E, Lazenby M, Reid A, Davies M, Viveiros D, Gettinger S. J Palliat Med. 2015 Aug 25.

[Learn More >>](#)

Herpesvirus saimiri microRNAs Preferentially Target Host Cell-Cycle Regulators.

Guo YE, Oei T, Steitz JA. J Virol. 2015 Aug 19.

[Learn More >>](#)

Riding the R Train into the Cell.

DiMaio D, Burd CG, Goodner K. PLoS Pathog. 2015 Aug 20;11(8):e1005036.

[Learn More >>](#)

Relationship between complete pathologic response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy and survival in triple negative breast cancer.

Hatzis C, Symmans WF, Zhang Y, Gould R, Moulder S, Hunt KK, Abu-Khalaf MM, Hofstatter E, Lannin DR, Chagpar AB, Pusztai L. Clin Cancer Res. 2015 Aug 18.

[Learn More >>](#)

Biological and Clinical Significance of MAD2L1 and BUB1, Genes Frequently Appearing in Expression Signatures for Breast Cancer Prognosis.

Wang Z, Katsaros D, Shen Y, Fu Y, Canuto EM, Benedetto C, Lu L, Chu WM, Risch HA, Yu H. PLoS One. 2015 Aug 19;10(8):e0136246.

[Learn More >>](#)