

# DirectConnect

Inside Yale Cancer Center

May 26, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

I want to wish all of you a happy Memorial Day weekend. Whether you stay close to home or travel, have a great weekend, enjoy some time off, and be safe. This weekend marks the beginning of our summer, and I am looking forward to the warm weather and the slightly slower pace.

For those of you attending ASCO next week, I guarantee it will be a phenomenal few days, with many practice-changing presentations. There were more abstracts submitted, and higher quality abstracts than ever before. Cancer research and clinical care is evolving more rapidly than ever, and there is good reason to be very optimistic as we look to the future.

In two weeks, I will write about patient access and our efforts to ensure that everyone can be seen by the right doctor(s) with the shortest possible delay. More to come, but for now, focus on your weekend ahead.

Eric

## Announcements



Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital scientists and clinicians will present new research at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), June 2nd to June 6th at McCormick Place in Chicago. This year's scientific program will feature more than 200 sessions and 2,900 abstracts, covering all major diseases and research areas.

Dr. Eric Winer, the 2022-23 ASCO President, will host the 2023 ASCO Meeting opening session and educational sessions highlighting his presidential theme, **"Partnering with Patients: The Cornerstone of Cancer**

**Eric P. Winer, MD**

Director, Yale Cancer Center  
Physician-in-Chief, Smilow Cancer Network  
Deputy Dean, Cancer Programs

Yale  
NewHaven  
Health  
Smilow Cancer  
Hospital

Yale CANCER CENTER  
A Comprehensive Cancer Center Designated  
by the National Cancer Institute

## News Center



**I'm a Breast Cancer Surgeon. Here's What I Think of the New Screening Guidelines.**



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presidential theme, “Partnering with Patients: The Cornerstone of Cancer Care and Research.”

Congratulations to the Yale Medical Oncology-Hematology Fellowship Program 2023 recipients of Conquer Cancer®, the ASCO Foundation, Young Investigator Awards: **Curt Perry, MD, PhD** (mentor: Jeff Ishizuka, MD, DPhil); **Jeremy Jacox, MD, PhD** (mentor: Mandar Muzumdar, MD); and **Adriana Kahn, MD** (mentor: Lajos Pusztai, MD, DPhil).

The full list of Yale Cancer Center presenters can be accessed [here](#).

Please join Eric Winer, MD, Roy Herbst, MD, PhD, and our colleagues and former fellows and trainees during ASCO for a Dessert Reception on Sunday, June 4 at 8:30pm CST at Normandie Lounge, Hilton Chicago. All are welcome to attend!

[Register](#)

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## Notables

**Akiko Iwasaki, PhD**, Sterling Professor of Immunobiology and Professor of Dermatology; of Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology; and of Epidemiology, and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Immunology Research Program, has been selected as the 2023 recipient of the **Connecticut Medal of Science**. Dr. Iwasaki has also been named **President of the American Association of Immunologists (AAI)**. She will begin her term in July 2023. The AAI is a group of nearly 8,000 professionally trained scientists from all over the world dedicated to advancing the knowledge of immunology.

**Christi Kim, MD, FACP**, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Medical Oncology) and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Developmental Therapeutics Research Program, has been appointed as a member of the **NRG Publications Committee** effective immediately. NRG Oncology is a clinical cooperative group including the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG), and the Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG).

**Xiaolei Su, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Immunology Research Program, has received a **Pershing Square Sohn Prize for Young Investigators in Cancer Research**, which is awarded each year to cancer research scientists and physician-scientists based in the greater New York City area.

**Stavroula Hatzios, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology and of Chemistry and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Cancer Immunology Research Program, has received a **2023 American Chemical Society Infectious Diseases Young Investigator Award**. The honor recognizes outstanding early career investigators conducting infectious disease research.

On May 25, **Ranjit Bindra, MD, PhD**, Harvey and Kate Cushing Professor of Therapeutic Radiology, Scientific Director of the Chênevert Family Brain Tumor Center, Professor of Pathology, and a member of Yale Cancer Center’s Radiobiology and Genome Integrity Research Program, participated

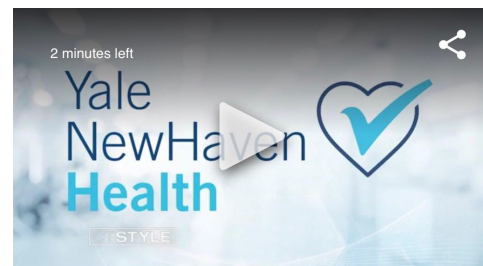
[Cancer and Fertility: Everyone deserves Hope](#)



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[Yale New Haven Health Check: Dr. Monica Valero, Breast Surgeon](#)



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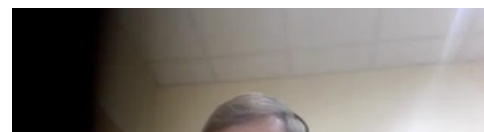
[Battling Self-Blame and Misconceptions About Renal Cancer as a Black American](#)



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[Various Cancer Treatment Drugs Experiencing Nationwide Shortage](#)



## In a **Cancer Brain Tumor Stains Forum on Glioblastoma Multiforme and Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma** at the White House.

The **Radiobiology and Genome Integrity Research Program** welcomes **Gigi Galiana, PhD**, Associate Professor of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging. Dr. Galiana is actively pursuing research in prostate cancer imaging and deployment of AI-based tools to enhance interoperability of MR imaging. She is exploring development of technology to improve diffusion imaging, a key contrast for non-invasive imaging of tumors, with planned deployment for prostate cancer imaging. In addition, her group works on MRI reconstruction to demonstrate the utility of quantized imaging in prostate cancer.



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## **Smilow Cancer Hospital at Guilford Welcomes Dr. Johanna LaSala**

**Smilow Cancer Hospital at Guilford Welcomes Dr. Johanna LaSala**

**Johanna LaSala, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine  
Medical Oncologist  
203-463-9192  
jlasala@yale.edu

**Location:**  
Smilow Cancer Hospital at Guilford  
100 North Street  
West of Center  
111 Corporation Lane 1100  
Guilford, CT 06437

Smilow Cancer Hospital at Guilford welcomes Dr. Johanna LaSala, an experienced medical oncologist at the Connecticut Cancer Center. Dr. LaSala brings extensive experience in medical oncology and cancer management. In 2019, Dr. LaSala received the Smilow Cancer Hospital at Guilford Award for Excellence in Patient Care for her commitment to patient care and her dedication to providing the highest quality of care for patients. Dr. LaSala, and the health system through her research, leadership, and research interests. Dr. LaSala has been recognized as a Connecticut Negative Impact Scholar.

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## **Yale Researchers Say Customized Cancer Vaccine Shows Promise**



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## **Dr. Mehra Golshan on CBS Radio Los Angeles**



[Listen Now](#)

## **Employee Profile: Elina Tannenbaum, APRN**

Elina Tannenbaum, a nurse practitioner in the division of plastic surgery, meets with patients scheduled for breast reconstruction surgery at Smilow Cancer Hospital. She joined the team in 2020 after her own experience undergoing a preventive surgery. In addition to her independent and shared clinics, she focuses on patient education and communication materials. She also performs nipple and areolar tattooing, often the last step in breast reconstruction.



Elina created videos that are posted to MyChart to help prepare patients for their post-operative recovery.

The videos help patients understand what to expect throughout their recovery, as well as how to prepare pre-operatively. “Many women go into this process not fully understanding what their options are and what the surgeries entail,” said Elina. “Patients are focused on the removal of the cancer itself, and they don’t always have the time to research reconstruction

## **Study Identifies Bereaved Parents’ Medical Priorities for Children With Advanced Cancer**

options. Having been through the process myself, I aim to be a resource and a space of support for my patients. I think back on my own journey, and try to emulate the experiences that were helpful and made a difference.”

In her own clinic, Elina sees patients before and after their surgeries and provides pre-op and post-op education. She commented that good communication across disciplines allows everyone to stay informed of a patient's progress no matter what stage of treatment they are in. Elina is also working with Dr. Paris Butler to secure funding for education and resources for women who are disproportionately affected by breast reconstruction. She is passionate in ensuring women know their options for reconstruction, and have access to reconstruction. “Reconstruction is a journey that can feel lonely and scary at times. I want my patients to know that I will walk with them through their journey, and hopefully, can make them feel less alone, and more empowered.”

Bohdan Pomahac, MD, Frank F. Kanthak Professor of Surgery (Plastics) and Chief of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, commented, “Elina has been a tremendous advocate for our patients, provides outstanding care, and is always available and makes everything work. She is such a resource for both plastic as well as breast surgeons. Thanks to her we have seamless care of our patients as they transition from oncology to reconstructive surgery.”

## Recent Publications

Lustberg, MB, Kuderer, NM, Desai A, Bergerot, C, Lyman, GH.  
**Mitigating long-term and delayed adverse events associated with cancer treatment: implications for survivorship**  
*Nat Rev Clin Oncol* (2023). 25 May.  
[Read More](#)

Grant MJ, Woodard GA, Goldberg SB.  
**The Evolving Role for Systemic Therapy in Resectable Non-small Cell Lung Cancer.**  
*Hematol Oncol Clin North Am.* 2023 Jun;37(3):513-531.  
[Read More](#)

Paneru B, Karmacharya A, Bharati A, Makaju S, Adhikari B, Kafle D, Shakya S, Spiegelman D, Seth S, Stangl A, Shrestha AD, Shrestha A.  
**Association between cancer stigma and cervical cancer screening uptake among women of Dhulikhel and Banepa, Nepal.**  
*PLoS One.* 2023 May 18.  
[Read More](#)

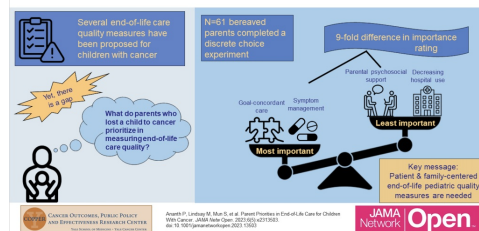
Barden MM, Omuro AM.  
**Top advances of the year: Neuro-oncology.**  
*Cancer.* 2023 May 15.  
[Read More](#)

Ramaswamy M, Manz C, Kouyoumdjian F, Vest N, Puglisi L, Wang E, Salyer C, Osei B, Zaller N, Rebbeck TR.

**Cancer equity for those impacted by mass incarceration.**  
*Journal of the National Cancer Institute.* 2023 May 23.  
[Read More](#)

Chan VHY, Heller DR, Sanft TB.  
**ASO Author Reflections: Ancillary Treatment After Breast Cancer Surgery: Who are We Missing?**  
*Annals of Surgical Oncology.* 2023 May 13

### Parent Priorities in End-of-Life Care for Children With Cancer



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We are excited to announce that two of our locations, Smilow Cancer Hospital at Guilford and The Center for Breast Cancer at Smilow Cancer Hospital, recently achieved certification through the ASCO Patient-Centered Cancer Care Certification pilot. Both sites met rigorous, expert-backed oncology medical home standards and throughout the following year will continue quality assessment and improvement efforts.



[Read More](#)

Celebrating all these beautiful smiling faces from Smilow Cancer Hospital in Trumbull today!



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Fanucci KA, Bai Y, Pelekanou V, Nahleh ZA, Shafi S, Burela S, Barlow WE, Sharma P, Thompson AM, Godwin AK, Rimm DL, Hortobagyi GN, Liu Y, Wang L, Wei W, Puzstai L, Blenman KRM.

**Image analysis-based tumor infiltrating lymphocytes measurement predicts breast cancer pathologic complete response in SWOG S0800 neoadjuvant chemotherapy trial.**

*NPJ Breast Cancer.* 2023 May 13.

[Read More](#)

Gersekowski K, Ibiebele TI, Doherty JA, Harris HR, Goodman MT, Terry KL, Wu AH, Bandera EV, Qin B, Ong JS, Tyrer JP, Dixon-Suen SC, Modugno F, Risch HA, Webb PM.

**Folate intake and ovarian cancer risk among women with endometriosis: a case-control study from the Ovarian Cancer Association Consortium.**

*Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention.* 2023 May 23.

[Read More](#)

El Zarif T, Nassar AH, Adib E, Fitzgerald BG, Huang J, Mouhieddine TH, Rubinstein PG, Nonato T, McKay RR, Li M, Mitra A, Owen DH, Baiocchi RA, Lorentsen M, Dittus C, Dizman N, Falohun A, Abdel-Wahab N, Diab A, Bankapur A, Reed A, Kim C, Arora A, Shah NJ, El-Am E, Kozaily E, Abdallah W, Al-Hader A, Abu Ghazal B, Saeed A, Drolen C, Lechner MG, Drakaki A, Baena J, Nebhan CA, Haykal T, Morse MA, Cortellini A, Pinato DJ, Dalla Pria A, Hall E, Bakalov V, Bahary N, Rajkumar A, Mangla A, Shah V, Singh P, Aboubakar Nana F, Lopetegui-Lia N, Dima D, Dobbs RW, Funchain P, Saleem R, Woodford R, Long GV, Menzies AM, Genova C, Barletta G, Puri S, Florou V, Idossa D, Saponara M, Queirolo P, Lamberti G, Addeo A, Bersanelli M, Freeman D, Xie W, Reid EG, Chiao EY, Sharon E, Johnson DB, Ramaswami R, Bower M, Emu B, Marron TU, Choueiri TK, Baden LR, Lurain K, Sonpavde GP, Naqash AR.

**Safety and Activity of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors in People Living With HIV and Cancer: A Real-World Report From the Cancer Therapy Using Checkpoint Inhibitors in People Living With HIV-International (CATCH-IT) Consortium.**

*Journal of Clinical Oncology.* 2023 May 16.

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Haggood G, Civallero M, Stepanishyna Y, Vose JM, Cabrera ME, Advani RH, Pileri SA, Manni M, Horwitz SM, Foss FM, Hitz F, Radford J, Dlouhy I, Chiattono CS, Kim WS, Skrypets T, Nagler A, Trotman J, Luminari S, Federico M.

**The SALENTO prognostic model for limited-stage peripheral T-cell lymphoma from the International T-Cell Project Network.**

*Blood Advances.* 2023 May 10.

[Read More](#)

Armstrong AJ, Iguchi T, Azad AA, Villers A, Alekseev B, Petrylak DP, Szmulewitz RZ, Alcaraz A, Shore ND, Holzbeierlein J, Gomez-Veiga F, Rosbrook B, Zohren F, Haas GP, Gourgiotti G, El-Chaar N, Stenzl A.

**The Efficacy of Enzalutamide plus Androgen Deprivation Therapy in Oligometastatic Hormone-sensitive Prostate Cancer: A Post Hoc Analysis of ARCHES.**

*European Urology.* 2023 May 11. Epub ahead of print.

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Chow RD, Long JB, Hassan S, Wheeler SB, Spees LP, Leapman MS, Hurwitz ME, McManus HD, Gross CP, Dinan MA.

**Disparities in immune and targeted therapy utilization for older US patients with metastatic renal cell carcinoma.**

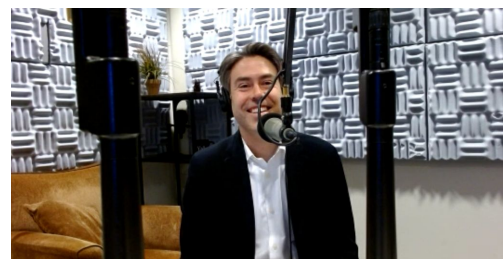
*JNCI Cancer Spectrum.* 2023 May 18. Epub ahead of print.

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Recently on Yale Cancer Answers, Matthew Croasmun with the Yale Divinity School, discussed ways to find meaning in life while living with cancer. Listen on Connecticut Public Radio or download our podcast from iTunes.



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Register today for the first webinar in a four-part series, Smilow Shares: Survivorship starting June 7. Join us at 6:30pm for 'Restoring Your Body to Integrity After Cancer' featuring presentations from five Smilow experts, and have the opportunity to submit questions live throughout the program.

**Smilow Shares**  
Survivorship Series

In honor of National Cancer Survivors Month in June  
June 7 at 6:30pm [Register via Zoom](#)

**Restoring Your Body to Integrity After Cancer**

 Body Image and Self-Esteem  
Melanie Lynch, MD

# Funding and Award Opportunities

## Entry-Level Modules (ELM) for Training the Genomics Research Workforce (R25)

The purpose of this PAR is to develop, implement, and evaluate modules of genomics-related curriculum for the entry-level biomedical research workforce by supporting lead sites teamed with partner sites, such as community, technical, or tribal colleges. The training modules will be made freely available, at no cost to the broader community.

**Application Deadline: June 1, 2023**

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## Liver Cancer Collaborative Projects with the Liver Cirrhosis Network (U01)

Through this NOFO, the NCI intends to establish collaborations between liver cancer investigators and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)-funded Liver Cirrhosis Network (LCN) members to advance our understanding of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) as the result of liver cirrhosis and its etiologic risks, development, progression, early diagnosis, and treatment.

**Application Deadline: June 2, 2023**

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## Victoria's Secret Global Fund for Women's Cancers Career Development Award, in partnership with Pelotonia & AACR

This funding opportunity is for female investigators researching breast and gynecologic cancers that focus on prevention, detection, diagnostic, and treatment innovations for breast and gynecologic cancers and advancing outcomes for cancer health disparities. Proposals focused on cancer health disparities and applicants belonging to racial or ethnic groups shown to be underrepresented in the cancer-related sciences workforce are especially encouraged.

**Application Deadline: June 7, 2023**

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## American Cancer Society TheoryLab Collaborative Grant (TLC Grant)

For past and current ACS awardees only. **Amount:** \$30,600 for each Co-PI for a 1-year period, which includes \$600 for travel (\$61,200 total award). Requires that both co-PIs on the project be part of the ACS scientific ecosystem, including current and former grantees, ACS scientists, and ACS peer reviewers. We highly encourage investigators to form new collaborations; current or former collaborators may apply for a TLC Grant, but their proposed project must be different from their previous collaborative project(s). In addition, Co-PI's may be at the same institution but must be in a different department/discipline.

**Letter of Intent Due: June 12, 2023**

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## Revision Applications to Support Research on Prevention and Cessation of Menthol Cigarette Use in Populations that Experience Health Disparities (R01)

As part of the ADVANCE: Advancing Prevention Research for Health Equity

program, the NIH Office of Disease Prevention (ODP) within the Office of the Director Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives (DPCPSI) is soliciting revision applications (formerly called "competitive revisions") to active R01 grants to support studies that develop and evaluate menthol cigarette smoking cessation and prevention interventions for populations that experience health disparities.

**Application Deadline: June 19, 2023**

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## AACR-Lung Cancer Initiative at Johnson & Johnson Stimulating Therapeutic Advances Through Research Training (START) Grant

These grants, which will provide support to postdoctoral or clinical research

**Hair Loss**  
Andrea Torre, Licensed Cosmetologist and Master Wig Fitter  
Cingari Boutique at Smilow Cancer Hospital

**Sexual Health**  
Johanna Daddario, MHS, PA-C

**Oncoplastics for Scarring**  
Haripriya Ayyala, MD

**Dermatology**  
Jonathan Leventhal, MD

YaleNewHavenHealth  
Smilow Cancer Hospital

Yale CANCER CENTER  
A Comprehensive Cancer Center Recognized by the National Cancer Institute

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Wendy Marin is the spirit of NP11 and our #SmilowStar. A Patient Care Associate on the unit, the enthusiasm and pride Wendy displays daily is equal to what she shows her patients. Each encounter she has with her patients is filled with compassion, joy, and laughter. She is forever seeking that little something special that she can do for her patients to make their day a little brighter. The direct care she provides her patients is exceptional. She is always collaborating with her peers to ensure that every patient care need is met, while continually striving to assist with reaching patient and unit outcomes.

Wendy's mission is to make everyone smile. It is a joy to watch her work. Her enthusiasm and pride in our unit brings everyone together. Wendy embodies the spirit of Smilow, demonstrating all the different ways we can make our patients' and colleagues' lives a little better every day. Thank you, Wendy!

## Smilow Star



Thank you,  
Wendy Marin,  
PCA on NP11  
at Smilow Cancer Hospital!

YaleNewHavenHealth

Yale CANCER CENTER

These grants, which will provide support to postdoctoral or clinical research fellows who are females or are from underrepresented groups, combine research experiences in both academic and industry settings, following a research timeline that will be of greatest benefit to the proposed work. The training provided through this grants program will be invaluable to young investigators by providing fellows with a comprehensive research experience that will make them highly desirable to potential employers in either academic research or the pharmaceutical industry.

**Application Deadline:** June 21, 2023

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### MMRF 2023 Research Fellows Award Program

Supporting early career researchers at the post-doctorate, medical fellow, or junior faculty levels currently active or interested in research in multiple myeloma. The goal of this initiative is to engage and support early career investigators interested in basic and clinical research focused on myeloma and its precursor conditions, with the goal of advancing our understanding of myeloma disease biology, disease risk, and treatment response and relapse.

**Application Deadline:** June 23, 2023

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### Integrating Health Disparities into Immuno-Oncology (HDIO) (P20)

Through this FOA, the NCI intends to support planning and feasibility studies to integrate cancer health disparities into immuno-oncology research studies. This FOA is expected to enable complementary, multi-disciplinary research teams to address interdisciplinary research to integrate cancer health disparities into immuno-oncology research. It is anticipated these feasibility or pilot studies will support the exploration of novel or high-risk research hypotheses.

**Application Deadline:** June 30, 2023

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### Addressing the Primary Care Needs of Cancer Survivors (U01)

The purpose of this FOA is to support the development and testing of primary care practice (PCP)- and health system-level interventions and strategies to promote high quality care for adult cancer survivors during and/or after cancer treatment. The overall goal of this opportunity is to support high quality care for cancer survivors that integrates primary care from the point of diagnosis forward.

**Application Deadline:** July 24, 2023

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### Understanding Persistent Oral Human Papillomavirus and Human Immunodeficiency Virus Co-infection and Its Role with Oropharyngeal Cancer Induction (R01)

The purpose of this NOFO is to solicit research to better understand the mechanisms of persistent oral human papillomavirus (HPV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) co-infection as well as its role in the induction and pathogenesis of HPV-associated oropharyngeal cancers (HPV-OPC).

**Application Deadline:** July 24, 2023

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### DoD Prostate Cancer Research Program Funding Opportunities for FY23

- **Early Investigator Research Award (EIRA)** - supports research opportunities focused on prostate cancer for individuals in the early stages of their careers. **LOI Due:** August 3, 2023
- **Exploration – Hypothesis Development Award (EHDA)** - supports the exploration of highly innovative, untested, potentially groundbreaking concepts in prostate cancer. **LOI Due:** June 22, 2023
- **Idea Development Award (IDA)** - supports new ideas that represent innovative, high-risk/high-gain approaches to prostate cancer research and have the potential to make an important contribution to one or more of the FY23 PCRP Overarching Challenges. **LOI Due:** June 29, 2023
- **Physician Research Award (PRA)** - supports a mentored research experience to prepare physicians with clinical duties for careers in

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Dr. Roy Herbst, Deputy Director of Yale Cancer Center and Chief of Medical Oncology at Smilow Cancer Hospital, was on Capitol Hill earlier today to advocate for [#cancerresearch](#) funding and support with colleagues and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). Thank you, Dr. Herbst for your advocacy!



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We kicked off the month of May with Smilow's annual celebration of Oncology Nursing Month on Wednesday, May 3, and our presentation of awards. Thank you to our entire team of dedicated nurses for their commitment to our patients and families, cancer treatment and care, and one another.

The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation Smilow Cares Scholarships  
RN Smilow Cares and PCA/ACA Cares Scholarship Awards



Congratulations to our RNs and PCA/ACAs!

YaleNewHavenHealth  
Smilow Cancer Hospital

Yale  
CANCER  
CENTER  
A Comprehensive Cancer Center Designed  
by the National Cancer Institute

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### Understanding Persistent Oral Human Papillomavirus and Human Immunodeficiency Virus Co-infection and Its Role with Oropharyngeal Cancer Induction (R01)

The purpose of this NOFO is to solicit research to better understand the mechanisms of persistent oral human papillomavirus (HPV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) co-infection as well as its role in the induction and pathogenesis of HPV-associated oropharyngeal cancers (HPV-OPC).

**Application Deadline:** July 24, 2023

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### R50 NCI Specialist - Clinician Scientist - Clinical Trial Not Allowed (PAR-21-306)

Through this FOA, the NCI invites applications for the Research Specialist Award (R50) specifically for clinician scientists supporting NCI-funded clinical trials research. The Research Specialist Award is designed to encourage the development of stable research career opportunities for exceptional clinician scientists who want to continue to participate in the NCI clinical trials networks through leadership in the 1) development of national clinical trials, 2) implementation of NCI clinical trials in their institutions, and 3) national service to the NCI clinical trials networks through participation in the scientific review committees, monitoring committees and other activities, but not serve as principal investigators of research project grants.

**Internal Submission Deadline:** August 3, 2023

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### DoD Melanoma Research Program Funding Opportunities

The FY23 Defense Appropriations Act provides funding for the Melanoma Research Program (MRP) to support innovative, high-impact melanoma research.

- **Idea Award:** to generate novel research avenues for investigation; therefore, novelty and innovation should be key aspects of the proposed research.

**Pre-Application Deadline:** July 10, 2023

- **Melanoma Academy Scholar Award:** to develop a network of successful, highly DOD FY23 Melanoma Academy Scholar Award 5 productive melanoma researchers in a collaborative research and career development environment.

**Pre-Application Deadline:** August 31, 2023

- **Mid-Career Accelerator Award:** to support investigators who have laid the foundation for becoming leaders in the melanoma field and who intend to advance the state of the science in melanoma.

**Pre-Application Deadline:** August 31, 2023

- **Team Science Award:** to bring together investigators from divergent disciplines to achieve innovations and advancements in melanoma research and/or patient care that could not be achieved by any one investigator working independently.

**Pre-Application Deadline:** August 31, 2023

- **Focused Program Award – Rare Melanomas:** to support a multidisciplinary research program of at least two, but not more than three, distinct but complementary projects addressing an overarching question relevant to rare melanomas

**Pre-Application Deadline:** August 31, 2023

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### NIH Institutional Excellence in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Biomedical and Behavioral Research Prize Competition

The prize competition goals are as follows:

1. To recognize and reward institutions whose biomedical, social, and behavioral science schools, departments, centers, or divisions have identified gaps with respect to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) and have designed, implemented, and evaluated interventions to address these gaps to achieve sustained improvement in DEIA within their faculty, postdoctoral scholars, and student bodies.

2. To identify effective practices for enhancing DEIA within faculty, postdoctoral scholars, and student bodies that are feasible and can be

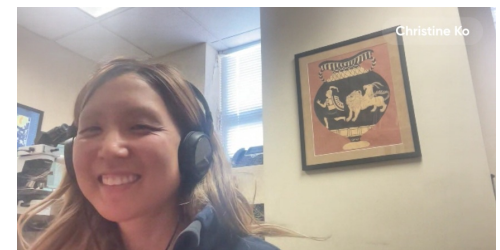
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Congratulations to Christina Holt, MSN, APRN (BC), ACHPN, OCN, named a 2023 recipient of The Hastings Center Cunniff-Dixon Nursing Award, which honors nurses for outstanding care provided to patients nearing the end of life. Christina is a nurse practitioner with the Smilow Cancer Hospital Palliative Care Program. She received her undergraduate and graduate nursing degrees from Fairfield University, where she trained as a family nurse practitioner. She holds certifications as an advanced certified hospice and palliative nurse and an oncology certified nurse.



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Recently on Yale Cancer Answers, dermatologist and dermatopathologist Dr. Christine Ko discussed the care of patients with melanoma and other skin cancers in honor of Melanoma/Skin Cancer Awareness Month. Listen on Connecticut Public Radio or download our podcast from iTunes.



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Dr. Norin Ansari @NorinAnsariMD shares an #opinion piece advocating



postdoctoral scholars, and student bodies that are feasible and can be disseminated for adoption by other institutions.

**Application Deadline:** September 26, 2023

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for passage of HB6617, a #Connecticut state bill that would mandate state #Medicaid cover #fertility preservation for patients with #cancer.



Drs. Elena Ratner and Alessandro Santin gave an informative joint-#GrandRounds discussing new innovations in the care of #gynecologiccancers and exciting new research. Watch their talk now



Congratulations to Dr. Rachel Perry @RachelPerryLab1 recipient of the Endocrinology and Metabolism Section #NewInvestigatorAward from the American Physiological Society @APSP Physiology.



We're proud to welcome Barbara Ward, MD, to Yale Cancer Center and @SmilowCancer as an Associate Professor of Surgery @YaleMed @YaleSurgery.



Congratulations to Dr. @MathieuBakhoum , recipient of a Department of Defense #grant to study the molecular mechanism underlying #uvealmelanoma progression.



Congratulations to Curt Perry, MD, PhD @curtperrymdphd; Jeremy Jacox, MD, PhD @DrJeremyJacox; & Adriana Kahn, MD @adrianaKahnmd, @YaleHemOnc recipients of Conquer Cancer®, @ConquerCancerFd 2023 Young Investigators Awards.



Anna Marie Pyle, PhD, @pylelab Sterling Professor of @MCDB\_Yale, Professor of Chemistry and a member of our Cancer Immunology Research Program, has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences.



"It's a very serious situation & one never knows when these shortages will alleviate themselves," said Dr. Daniel Petrylak @DanielPetrylak in reference to shortages of some #cancer drugs, including #cisplatin.



Drs. Elena Ratner and Alessandro Santin will present "Novel and Personalized Treatment for #GynecologicCancers" at our #GrandRounds

#GynecologicCancers at our #GrandRounds today at 12pm.



We are pleased to share that two of our sites achieved certification through @ASCO's Patient-Centered Cancer Care Certification pilot, meeting rigorous #qualityassessment and qualityimprovement standards. Congratulations!



.@DrRoyHerbstYale will chair the PER #LungCancer Tumor Board: Multidisciplinary Care for EGFR Mutation-Positive #NSCLC, at #ASCO23, June 4 at 6pm CT.



Congratulations to Dr. Xiaolei Su @KinesinSu for being one of seven recipients of the 2023 Pershing Square Sohn Prize!



Tonight at 7:30pm on Yale Cancer Answers, Matthew Croasmun with the Yale Divinity School @YaleDivSchool, discusses ways to find meaning in life while living with cancer. Listen live on @wnpr or download our podcast from iTunes.



.@TranMDPhD discusses a new #clinicaltrial using a customized #mRNA vaccine for patients with #melanoma and are at high risk for reoccurrence with @FOX61News

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## Calendar

### Endocrinology Clinical Dilemma

**May 26, 12:00 PM**

**Boyer Center for Molecular Medicine**

Oyunbileg Magvanjav

[Learn More](#)

### Digestive Diseases Pathophysiology Seminar

**May 26, 1:00 PM**

*Pancreatic Cancer: An Ounce of Detection is Worth a Pound of Cure*

Meagan Alvarado, MD | Karen Xiao

[Learn More](#)

### Yale Cancer Answers

**May 28; 7:30 PM**

**WNPR**

*Brain Cancer Awareness Month*

Mary Barden, MD

[Learn More](#)

**Yale Cancer Center Grand Rounds**

**May 30, 12:00 PM**

**Auditorium, 55 Park Street**

*Paul Calabresi, MD Memorial Lectureship:*

*Lymphocytes as a 'Living Drug' for the*

*Treatment of Cancer*

Steven Rosenberg, MD

[Learn More](#)

**Human and Translational Immunology**

**Seminar Series**

**May 30, 4:00 PM**

**Brady Memorial Laboratory**

*Regulation of antibody production: From cells*

*to human populations*

Luis Graça, MD, DPhil

[Learn More](#)

**2023 Yale Innovation Summit: Expanding  
Impact**

**May 31, All Day**

**Edward P. Evans Hall**

[Learn More](#)

**General Internal Medicine Grand Rounds**

**June 1, 7:30 AM**

*What the Primary Care Provider Needs to*

*Know About the Department of Public Health*

Manisha Juthani, MD

[Learn More](#)

**Immunobiology Seminar Series**

**June 1, 10:30 AM**

**The Anlyan Center**

*Environmental and internal modifiers of  
autoimmunity*

Alexander Chervonsky, MD, PhD

[Learn More](#)

**Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program  
Seminar**

**June 1, 2:30 AM**

**Tumor Profiling (Part 2)**

Zenta Walther, MD, PhD | Karin Finberg, MD,

PhD

[Learn More](#)

**Center for GI Cancers Seminar Series**

**2022-2023**

**June 1, 4:15 PM**

[Learn More](#)

**PeerVoice Head and Neck Cancer CME  
Hybrid Symposium**  
**June 3, 6:30 PM**  
**Continental A, South Michigan Avenue  
720, Chicago, IL**  
*After More Than a Decade: Can We Now  
Enhance Treatment of Patients with LA  
SCCHN?*  
**Learn More**

**Yale Cancer Answers**  
**June 4; 7:30 PM**  
**WNPR**  
*The Role of a Registered Dietician*  
Natalie Smith, RDN, CSO  
**Learn More**

**Yale at ASCO Dessert Reception**  
**June 4, 8:30 PMCT**  
**The Normandie Lounge, South Michigan  
Avenue 720, Chicago, IL**  
Eric P. Winer, MD | Roy S. Herbst, MD, PhD  
**Learn More**

**VBT Program and YCVRC Seminar Series**  
**June 5, 4:00 PM**  
**The Anlyan Center**  
*Building and Maintaining Biological Tubes*  
Ondine Cleaver, PhD  
**Learn More**

**Connecticut Cancer Partnership Summit**  
**June 7, 8:30 AM**  
**Asylum Avenue 1555, West Hartford, CT**  
*HPV Vaccination: Progress and Challenges*  
**Learn More**

**Bereavement Seminar**  
**June 7, 4:30 PM**  
*Understanding and Managing Grief - How  
Long Am I Going to Feel Like This?*  
**Learn More**



**Share your news!**

Please submit your recent publications, awards,  
and grant announcements to:

**Renee Gaudette**

Director, Public Affairs and Communications

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