APRIL 2023

DCI E-news

Duke Cancer Institute

DCI E-News is a monthly newsletter sharing the latest DCI and oncology-related announcements, feature stories, and news updates. For more, visit the DCI Blog.

In the Spotlight

Secord Named SGO President, Receives Best Clinical Science Award

DCI gynecologic oncologist and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology Angeles Alvarez Secord, MD, MHSc, was installed as president of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology at their March 2023 Annual Meeting. Also, she received the Best Clinical Science Award for her abstract "Genomic Alterations, Molecularly Targeted Therapy and Race: Real World Data from the (DCI-based) Endometrial Cancer Molecularly Targeted Therapy Consortium." READ

Biomarkers Show Promise for Early ID of Pancreatic Cancer Risk

The Allen Lab has identified a set of biomarkers that could help distinguish whether cysts on the pancreas are likely to develop into cancer — eventually, potentially enabling their removal before they begin to spread. The finding appears in the journal Science Advances. READ

New Providers, Faculty, Join DCI

Todd Frieze, MD, FACP, FACE, ECNU

Instructor in the Dept. of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Nutrition

Veteran Thyroidologist Joins Growing Endocrine Neoplasia Team

Joel Rivera Concepcion, MD, JD

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Dept. of Medicine, Division of Medical Oncology

Lung Cancer Specialist Bolsters Raleigh Thoracic Oncology Team

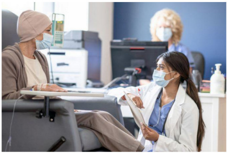
Aman Opneja, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Dept. of Medicine, Division of Medical Oncology

Colorectal Cancer Specialist Joins Raleigh GI Oncology Team; Plans New Trials

Clinic & Community News

STUDY: Pandemic Has Lasting Effects On Cancer Care



A new study confirms the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted cancer care. Faced with infection fears, visitor restrictions and other concerns, many patients delayed doctor visits and had less access to clinical trials and support programs.

"The pandemic elicited a lot of uncertainty and dread and made people feel vulnerable," said lead author **Mustafa Khasraw, MD**. READ

All Hands on Deck for Women's Health Awareness Day Conference

The annual Women's Health Awareness Day event, sponsored by the NIH National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences, will be held at North Carolina Central University on April 15. Providers from DCI, Duke Dermatology, Duke GI, the Duke Center for Smoking Cessation (Quit at Duke), the Duke Women's Health Community Engagement Task Force, Duke Heart, and team members from the DCI Community Outreach, Engagement, and Equity (COEE), are supporting NIEHS, NCCU, and local co-sponsors, with health education talks and screening support. READ

Duke providers include: Shelley Hwang, MD, MHS; Jennifer Plichta, MD, MS; Connie Kim, MD; Kathy Trotter, DNP; James Davis, MD; Trinitia Cannon, MD; Betty Tong, MD; Sarah Wolfe, MD; and Bradi Granger, MSN, PhD.

DCI Colorectal Cancer Patient Leads From Behind

38-YEAR-OLD RALEIGH TECH ENTREPRENEUR BEATS COLON CANCER
WRAL NEWS
WRALTV @WRAL

LFB
LEADFROMBEHIND

Raleigh tech entrepreneur and Duke graduate Brooks Bell beat colorectal cancer and launched a non-profit "Lead From Behind" with actors Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney to urge early detection and remove stigma. Bell was diagnosed at age 38 in 2019 and treated at Duke Cancer Center. WATCH & READ

Cancer Care
APRIL 2023

VIEW the Duke Cancer Patient Support Program's **APRIL Cancer Support Calendar**, which includes the story of 28-year old leukemia patient who received a bone marrow transplant at Duke Blood Cancer Center at DCI.
In May, she celebrates her one-year transplant birthday. (click this box)

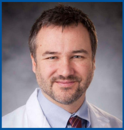
BLOOD CANCERS: NCI Funds Mindfulness-based Sleep & Symptom Management Study

Hannah Fisher, PhD, has been conducting a National Cancer Institute-funded study to develop and test a mindfulness-based sleep and symptom management intervention for patients with

ONCO-PRIMARY CARE in Clinical Practice Today

Cancer treatment can be so focused on overcoming the disease that other aspects of a patient's health receive insufficient attention. A relatively new field, the idea of onco-primary care grew out of this realization.

QUIT AT DUKE: Expert Insights on Tobacco Use & Cessation



The 2020 Surgeon General's report identified 70 carcinogens in tobacco smoke. James Davis, MD, director of the Duke Smoking Cessation Program at DCI, notes some of the most harmful. READ

hematologic cancer who have completed inpatient treatment.

Fisher is a clinical psychologist and postdoctoral scholar in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Now in the grant's final year, Fisher will share some early findings from that research project at an in-person Leukemia & Lymphoma Society event in Charlotte on May 13 for cancer patients and survivors. She will also demonstrate techniques.

TYAO: NCI Funds Symptom Management Research

DCI member Caroline Dorfman, PhD, has been awarded a National Cancer Institute grant for her project: "Improving Symptom Management for Adolescents and Young Adults with Advanced Cancer: Development and Pilot Testing of a Novel Intervention."

Dorfman is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and a member of the department's "Pain Prevention and Treatment Research Program and Cancer Symptom Management and Control Program." READ

"When people are in cancer treatment, they tend to not see their primary care providers, so co-morbidities often go unmanaged," says **Kevin C. Oeffinger, MD**, director of the Duke Center for Onco-Primary Care and a family physician at Duke. READ

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Survivorship Days at DCI

Duke Cancer Center North Durham (Duke Regional)
June 6, Noon to 2 p.m.

Duke Cancer Center Durham
June 7, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

via ZOOM
June 7, 9 a.m. to 4:50 p.m.

Duke Raleigh Cancer Center
June 8, Noon to 3 pm

Duke Women's Cancer Care Raleigh
June 8, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteer!

More Information!

Smoking is a cause of colorectal cancer. Rachael Joyner, DNP, FNP-BC, APRN, a nurse practitioner with the Duke Smoking Cessation Program, reminds patients about the benefits of smoking cessation to lower their risk. READ

Duke Student Group Raises $142K for TYAO

The Shave and Buzz Club (presented by the PIKES) raised $142,972.05 at Duke to support fertility preservation services for adolescent and young adult cancer patients at Duke & the Bobby's Coaches peer support program. More than 75 students got their heads shaved for the cause at the March 25 fundraiser.

MORE

WATCH: HER2-Positive Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Roundtable *(The ASCO Post)*
Features **John Strickler, MD**

Gayle DiLalla, MD Appointed Duke Surgery's First Vice Chair of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion *(Duke Surgery)*

FDA Panel Endorses New First-Line Lymphoma Regimen *(Medpage Today ASCO Reading Room)*
Features **Anthony Sung, MD**

Grid Therapeutics Initiates a Phase 2 Investigator-Sponsored Trial of GT103 in Combination with Merck's Pembrolizumab in Patients with Advanced Stage Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer *(Business Wire/Grid Therapeutics Press Release)*
Features **Jeffrey Clarke, MD**

PCORI launches healthcare innovation collaborative with 42 health systems *(Health Leaders)*
Features DUHS

Research News

STUDY: The High Cost of First-Line Treatment for Metastatic Prostate Cancer (for the Insured)

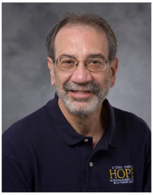
A team led by DCI urologic oncologist **Deborah Kaye, MD, MS**, examined and compared gross payments (made by insurance companies) and out-of-pocket patient costs for the six approved first-line mCRPC treatments, analyzing private insurance claims data for 4,298 patients treated during 2013-2019. The study, which showed that even privately insured patients may have high out-of-pocket costs, was published in JCO Oncology Practice. Kaye is an assistant professor of Surgery and core faculty in the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy. A Q & A with Kaye about the team's findings was featured in Medpage Today's ASCO Reading Room. READ

Brain Tumor Discovery Paves the Way for New Drug Treatments

A University of Nottingham (UK)/Duke Department of Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science (MEMS) study found high levels of LDL receptors on blood vessels supplying gliomas. DCI's **David Needham, PhD**, study co-author, is investigating a new formulation of an old tapeworm drug to target the receptors using nanoparticles. READ

Dean's Distinguished Research Series: Lowe Presents on Genome Evolution

One of the talks featured in Duke University Medical School Dean's Lecture Series last month featured **Craig Lowe, PhD,** an assistant professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, assistant professor of Cell Biology, and DCI member. Lowe spoke about his work identifying the fastest-evolved regions of the human genome, called Human Ancestor Quickly Evolved Regions (HAQERs), which appear to be a new regulatory element "born" in humans. READ



New Law the Beginning of the End of Animal Research? Friedman Says 'Not for the Forseeable Future'

"I am a passionate believer in the safe, secure, honorable way of doing research involving animals that does not produce any kind of unacceptable harm to them ... But I'm totally of the belief that the notion there will be a day when we won't need animal models is absolute nonsense."

*— **Henry Friedman, MD**, James B. Powell, Jr, Distinguished Professor of Pediatric Oncology and a deputy director of the Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center, weighs in on a new FDA law that could speed up the acceptance and use of non-animal methods, for toxicology, safety, and effectiveness testing of pharmaceuticals.*

READ

SSO 2023: Rhodin Receives Award for Melanoma Presentation

Duke Surgery Resident Kristen Rhodin, MD, was honored with the Dale Han, MD, Memorial Scholarship Award by the Sentinel Node Oncology Foundation for her presentation at #SSO2023 on the timing of adjuvant immunotherapy in stage 3 melanoma. Dale Han, MD, was a surgical oncologist with specialty focus in melanoma and sarcoma who placed paramount importance on scholarship, teaching, and mentorship. Rhodin's research interests are tumor immunology and immunotherapy; surgery and the immune system; and health disparities in surgery. READ

MORE

Current drug development and trial designs in neuro-oncology: report from the first American Society of Clinical Oncology and Society for Neuro-Oncology Clinical Trials Conference *(The Lancet)*
Features **Carey Anders, MD; Mustafa Khasraw, MD; Laura Alder, MD**

Antimicrobial resistance could kill more people than cancer by 2050, experts say *(The Straits Times)*
Features **Duke-NUS Medical School researchers**

Atorvastatin tied to cardioprotection for lymphoma patients on anthracyclines *(Medpage Today)*
Features **Manesh Patel, MD**

A New Approach to Identifying Patients Who May Benefit from PSMA-Targeted Therapy: On the horizon, a liquid biopsy of circulating tumor cells to help predict which men will benefit from PSMA-targeting treatment *(Prostate Cancer Foundation News)*
Features **Andrew Armstrong, MD, MSc**

National Academies calls for transforming use of racial and ethnic labels in genetics research *(STAT)*
Features **Duke University**

Vorasidenib delays disease progression or death in IDH+ low-grade glioma *(Targeted Onc)*
Features **Katy Peters, MD, PhD**

Events

Academic Events (strictly academic or clinical)

April

APRIL 6 (12p to 6 p): Center for Biomolecular and Tissue Engineering Symposium
including **(4p to 5p):** Keynote Kewaunee Lecture: "Designer Nanocarriers for Cancer Therapy" featuring Paula T. Hammond, Professor and Department Head, Department of Chemical Engineering, Hammond Lab, MIT
REGISTER
LOCATION: Penn Pavilion, Duke Campus

APRIL 13 (5p to 6p via Zoom): Black Men in Medicine "Moving Forward Together" (Zoom series) RSVP
*Calendar invites with Zoom details will be sent upon registration

APRIL 14 TO APRIL 19 (in-person): AACR Annual Meeting 2023 "Advancing the Frontiers of Cancer Science and Medicine"
LOCATION: Orange County Convention Center; Orlando, FL

Special Events (general public welcome)

April

APRIL 15 (in-person): Women's Health Awareness Day/Conference Sponsored by the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences, this event includes: breast health education sessions; lung screening education; colorectal cancer assessments; skin screening for cancer and diabetes; tobacco use/ prevention/ cessation/exposure assessments; patient navigation and healthcare barrier assessments; cardiovascular health equity/hypertension; and more.

Duke providers at the event include: **Shelley Hwang, MD, MHS; Jennifer Plichta, MD, MS; Connie Kim, MD; Kathy Trotter, DNP; Trinitia Cannon, MD; Betty Tong, MD; James Davis, MD; Sarah Wolfe, MD; Bradi Granger, MSN, PhD.**

Angelo Moore, RN, PhD, assistant director, DCI COEE, will chair two cancer sessions and the cardiovascular session and **Kearston Ingraham, MPH,** research program evaluator, DCI COEE, will chair a session on telehealth.

APRIL 20 (4p to 5p in-person): Faculty Lectures by **Kimberly Johnson, MD, and Lisa McElroy, MD, MS** (SoM Dean's Research Series)
LOCATION: Great Hall, Trent Semans Center for Health Education, and via Zoom

APRIL 21-23 (in-person): REGISTER: 23rd Annual Duke Debates: Controversies in the Management of Patients with Hematologic Malignancies presented by Duke Cancer Network in Collaboration with DCI
LOCATION: Westin Hilton Head Island Resort, South Carolina

*Speakers include **Therese Hennig, MPAS, PA-C; Scott Winkel, MHS, MSPH, PA-C; Donna Adams, NP; Emily Sellars, RN, MSN, ANP-C; Krista Rowe Nichols, RN, MSN, AOCNS; Tanya Helms, PA-C, R.Ph; Ahmed Galal, MD; Katharine Ciarrocca, DMD, MSEd; Kevin Oeffinger, MD; Harry Erba, MD, PhD**; Emily Curran, MD (Univ. of Cinn.); Patrick Stiff, MD (Loyola); **Lindsay Rein, MD; Mitch Horwitz, MD**; Richard Stone, MD (Harvard); **Harry Erba, MD, PhD; Cristiana Chase, DO**; Clifton Mo, MD (Harvard); **Taewoong Choi, MD; Cristiana Chase, DO; Yubin Kang, MD**; Bill Wierda, MD (MD Anderson); **Andrea Sitlinger, MD; Danielle Brander, MD; Andrea Sitlinger, MD; Bill Wierda, MD**; Mazyar Shadman, MD, MPH (Fred Hutch); **Basem William, MD, MRCP, FACP; Matthew McKinney, MD**

May

MAY 19: Hilliard Seigler Duke Melanoma Consortium The annual melanoma consortium will host providers, researchers, patients and supporters for a day of education.
LOCATION: Searle Conference Center.
Learn more and register

MAY 19: (for Duke colleagues, in-person) REGISTER: Duke Center for Brain and Spine Metastasis Inaugural Research Retreat (This event precedes and is separate from the DCBSM 3rd Annual Colloquium (see below) and also includes a poster session) Short talks by Duke colleagues will demonstrate some of the ongoing research projects and capabilities within the DCBSM and encourage new collaborations across campus for projects.
Register by May 12.
LOCATION: Trent Semans Center

MAY 19 at 2p to MAY 20 at 4p (national event held in-person and via Zoom): REGISTER: 2023 Duke Center for Brain and Spine Metastasis Third Annual Colloquium
Registration is $100. To inquire about potential discounts for students/trainees and for patients/advocates, please contact Brooke Taylor at heather.taylor@duke.edu
**Sessions include "Omics in 2023: Big data for the Big Problem of CNS Metastasis," "Outcomes in 2023: Maximizing survivorship for patients," and "Therapies in 2023: Leading and novel approaches for CNS Metastasis"
***An in-person poster session will take place during the evening of May 19. Submit abstracts for consideration here by April 7.
More Information
Contact heather.taylor@duke.edu with any questions
LOCATION: Trent Semans Center for Health Education and via Zoom.

MAY 31 (7:30a-9a): Inaugural Andrew Berchuck, MD, Gynecologic Oncology Endowed Lecture featuring Daniel Clarke-Pearson, MD, former chief of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology in the Duke Department of Ob/Gyn
LOCATION: Duke South Clinic Ampitheater & Via Zoom

June

JUNE 8 (5p to 6p via Zoom): Black Men in Medicine "Moving Forward Together" (Zoom series) RSVP here.
**Calendar invites with Zoom details will be sent upon registration*
Questions? Email johann@duke.edu

JULY 13 (5p to 6p via Zoom): Black Men in Medicine "Moving Forward Together" (Zoom series) RSVP here.
**Calendar invites with Zoom details will be sent upon registration*
Questions? Email johann@duke.edu

LOCATION: North Carolina Central University Campus, 1900 Concord St., Durham, NC

REGISTER

More Information & Event Agenda

APRIL 22 (in-person): Angels Among Us 5K and Walk of Hope, hosted by The Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center at DCI
LOCATION: Duke University Campus
SIGN UP

APRIL 29 Healthy Kappas/Healthy Communities Initiative: 2nd Annual 1911 Cycle Fest

APRIL 29 (3p): PanCAN PurpleStride Raleigh-Durham
REGISTER for the Duke Pancreas Protestors team (no donation necessary)
LOCATION: NC State University Centennial Campus Oval

May

MAY 6 (in-person): Komen Triangle Race for the Cure Presented by DCI
Join Team DCI
LOCATION: The Boxyard RTP/Research Triangle Park

MAY 13: (in-person 12p to 1:30p) LLS Presents: "Mind Yourself! Using Mindfulness to Manage Symptoms of Cancer Treatment, featuring **Hannah Fisher, PhD**.

LOCATION: Harris Conference Center
3216 CPCC Harris Campus Drive
Charlotte, NC 28208

MAY 20 (in-person): V Foundation Victory Ride cycling fundraiser
Support the DCI team, led by our captain, Michael B. Kastan, MD, PhD, by riding or donating, as we aim to raise $20,000.
REGISTER for TEAM DCI
LOCATION: Knightdale Station Park

MAY 22 (in-person; donations can be made online): Strike Out FORE Sarcoma Golf Tournament Fundraiser benefiting Duke Sarcoma Center
LOCATION: Club at 12 Oaks, Holly Springs,
*The course will include 18 holes of golf, as well as a scramble-style foursome tournament, and fun on-course games for exciting prizes. Learn more.

June

JUNE 3 & JUNE 4 (in-person): DCI COEE Men's Health Screening

June 3 | 8a to Noon
Lincoln Community Health Center
1301 Fayetteville St
Durham, NC 27707

June 4 | Noon to 4p
Duke Primary Care Croasdaile
1821 Hillandale Rd
Durham, NC 27705

*View the 2022 Men's Health Screening Report

JUNE 6 (Noon to 2 p.m.): Survivorship Day
LOCATION: Duke Cancer Center North Durham (Duke Regional)

JUNE 7 (10a to 3p): Survivorship Day
LOCATION: Duke Cancer Center Durham

JUNE 7 (9a to 4:50p): Survivorship Day
LOCATION: via ZOOM

JUNE 8 (Noon to 3p): Survivorship Day
LOCATION: Duke Raleigh Cancer Center

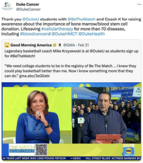
JUNE 8 (10a to 1p): Survivorship Day
LOCATION: Duke Women's Cancer Care Raleigh

VIEW & PRINT: APRIL to OCTOBER
Academic & Special Events

ICYMI @ DCI

Duke Raleigh "Team Duke PNEUMO-Uno" Rallies for LUNGe

It was great to see our DCI physicians (right) and other team members taking part in the Triangle LUNGe Forward 5K Run, Walk and Celebration, presented by Duke Raleigh, on March 25. There were 468 participants in the event, including 27 survivors. The event raised about $115K for the Lung Cancer Initiative. LCI gives grants to DCI researchers & hosts educational sessions for patients featuring DCI providers throughout the year.



Duke Cancer
@DukeCancer

Thank you @DukeU students with @BeTheMatch and Coach K for raising awareness about the importance of bone marrow/blood stem cell donation. Lifesaving #cellulartherapy for more than 70 diseases, including #bloodcancers! @DukeHMCT @DukeHealth

Good Morning America @GMA · Feb 21
Legendary basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski is at @DukeU as students sign up for #BeTheMatch!

"We need college students to be in the registry of Be The Match ... I knew they could play basketball better than me. Now I know something more that they can do." gma.abc/3xGEebi

ONE MATCH SECOND CHANCE
IN TEXAS LAST WEEK WAS 1,000-POUND METEOR
NEWS
'HILL STREET BLUES' ACTRESS BARBARA BO

Coach K & Robin Roberts Unite Behind BeTheMatch

On Feb. 21, Duke University students joined legendary Coach K on the quad to raise awareness about the importance of bone marrow/blood stem cell donation. These donations are lifesaving cellular therapy for more than 70 diseases, including blood cancers.

The event was held in conjunction with Good Morning America host Robin Roberts' 10-year anniversary undergoing a bone marrow transplant for her bone marrow myelodysplastic syndrome.

WATCH!

Burnout at work: How to spot it and take action
(Duke University School of Medicine)

SUBSCRIBE

Duke Cancer Institute 50th Anniversary | 50 Years of Life-Changing Care

Julie Poucher Harbin, Senior Writer, DCI, is Managing Editor of the DCI E-News & the DCI Blog.

FILL OUT THIS FORM to submit announcements of upcoming events; new faculty, fellows, or residents; honors, awards, recognitions, new roles, promotions; and other news you wish to share for potential inclusion in the next DCI E-news or internal channels.

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