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## News from the Association of American Cancer Institutes

June 2017

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### MISSION

The Association is dedicated to reducing the burden of cancer by enhancing the impact of the nation's leading academic cancer centers.

### ABOUT UPDATE

AACI *Update* is an e-newsletter for the cancer center directors and key contacts at AACI member institutions as well as individuals interested in the cancer center-related activities of AACI. AACI *Update* reports on the progress of AACI initiatives along with other AACI endeavors that benefit the cancer community and highlights important news and events at AACI member institutions.

## Headlines

### AACI Opposes President's Budget Blueprint, Highlights Impact to Cancer Research and Patient Care

The Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) has expressed its disapproval of President Trump's budget blueprint, released May 23, which aims to slash nearly one-quarter of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) budget in Fiscal Year 2018. The proposed cut of \$7.2 billion from the NIH would decimate cancer research and patient care, AACI noted, with the National Cancer Institute (NCI)—an arm of the NIH—facing a \$1.2 billion reduction from the allocation included in the Fiscal Year 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act. [more...](#)



### Cancer Immunotherapy, Translational Research Expert to Lead Abramson

**Robert Vonderheide, MD, DPhil**, a cancer immunotherapy and translational research expert, has been named the new director of the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania. He is the Hanna Wise Professor in Cancer Research at the Perelman School of Medicine, and currently serves as the Abramson Cancer Center's (ACC) Associate Director for Translational Research and Executive Director of its Translational Centers of Excellence program. He will begin his new role on July 1, 2017. [more...](#)



### Medical Oncologist Joins UAB as Cancer Center Director

**Michael J. Birrer, MD, PhD**, a leading medical oncologist and trailblazer in the early detection and treatment of gynecologic cancers, has been named director of the University of Alabama at Birmingham Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Birrer will succeed Edward E. Partridge, MD, who is retiring from UAB after a 48-year career, including 10 years as director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Birrer will join UAB on August 1. [more...](#)



### Federal Budget Analyst and Cancer Survivor to Open Annual Meeting

**Stan Collender**, a federal budget issues expert and Merkel cell carcinoma survivor, will be the keynote speaker at the 2017 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting, October 15-17, in Washington, DC. Mr. Collender's talk will focus in part on the impact of budget cuts to biomedical research and academic cancer centers. Details about the AACI/CCAF meeting and registration information are here: [aaci-cancer.org/annual\\_meeting](http://aaci-cancer.org/annual_meeting). [more...](#)



### Keynote Speaker Named for CRI Annual Meeting; Registration Ongoing

## SUBMISSIONS

AACI encourages member institutions to submit cancer center highlights to AACI *Update*. News briefs are linked to complete stories posted on individual cancer center websites. Please e-mail materials to [aaciupdate@aaci-cancer.org](mailto:aaciupdate@aaci-cancer.org). AACI reserves the right to decide whether or not materials are appropriate for inclusion.

To subscribe to AACI *Update*, please send an e-mail to [aaciupdate@aaci-cancer.org](mailto:aaciupdate@aaci-cancer.org) with your name, title, and telephone number asking to be added to the AACI's distribution list. To unsubscribe, please send an email with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

## FIND US ON:



Registration is ongoing for the 9th Annual AACI Clinical Research Initiative Meeting. The meeting will be held July 12-13, in Chicago, IL, at the Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel. [Register now!](#) This year's keynote speaker will be **Anna Beck, MD**. Dr. Beck is director of Supportive Oncology and Survivorship at the Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) and an associate professor of medical oncology at the University of Utah School of Medicine. [more...](#)



## Hill Day Advocates Heard as Congress Secures a \$2 Billion Increase



Clockwise from top left: Awardees Reps. André Carson (D-IN) and David McKinley (R-WV); Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) speaks at breakfast; Dr. Pat Loehr and patient advocate Gerald Green; Drs. Jill Gilbert and Charles Roberts meet with Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN); Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) meets with Jennifer Carlson, Dr. Michael Caligiuri and AACI President Dr. Stanton Gerson; New York delegation talks strategy for Hill meetings. *Photos by Alan Lessig*

Seventy cancer center directors, administrators, physicians, researchers, patient advocates and cancer survivors, representing 27 states plus the District of Columbia, visited Capitol Hill on May 4 to urge legislators to provide stable, predictable support for the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute in Fiscal Year 2018. Advocates participated in nearly 130 meetings with members of Congress and their staff, including leadership and key committee staff. [more...](#)

## News from the Centers

## Awards & Honors



### Loehrer Honored With Inaugural Lichter Visionary Leader Award

**Indiana University Melvin & Bren Simon Cancer Center**

Patrick J. Loehrer, MD, FASCO, director of the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center, is the first recipient of the Allen S. Lichter Visionary Leader Award and Lecture. The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) created the award in honor of 2006–2016 ASCO CEO Allen S. Lichter, MD, FASCO, in order to recognize members who have transformed the oncology field or significantly advanced the mission of ASCO, the Conquer Cancer Foundation, or CancerLinQ LLC through their leadership, vision, and ability to inspire. [more...](#)



### Beckerle Inducted Alongside President Obama to American Philosophical Society

**Huntsman Cancer Institute**

Mary Beckerle, PhD, CEO and Director of Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah, has been elected to highly distinguished membership in the American Philosophical Society, joining a group of 32 inductees that includes former United States president Barack Obama. In addition to Dr. Beckerle and President Obama, inductees this year include the secretary of the Smithsonian, the CEO of *The New York Times*, the Vice-Chancellor at the University of Oxford, and scientists from Stanford, Harvard, and Princeton Universities. [more...](#)

### Siteman Achieves Four-Year Accreditation for Radiation Oncology Services

**Siteman Cancer Center**

The radiation oncology program at Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine has received accreditation through the American Society for Radiation Oncology. The recognition through the Accreditation Program for Excellence is based on 16 evidence-based standards of radiation oncology practice. Those standards are focused on: the process of care, the radiation oncology team, safety, quality management and patient-centered care. [more...](#)

### VUMC Wins National Recognition for Employee Health Care Focus

**Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center**

The CEO Roundtable on Cancer has re-accredited Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) as a CEO Cancer Gold Standard employer for 2017 for VUMC's efforts to reduce the risk of cancer for employees and their families. In conjunction with Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, VUMC earned the Gold Standard accreditation for taking action in five areas of health and wellness, including discouraging tobacco use, promoting a healthy diet, encouraging physical activity, detecting cancer at its earliest stages and providing access to quality health care, including the ability to enroll in clinical research trials. VUMC has earned the CEO Cancer Gold Standard designation every year since 2008. [more...](#)

### Two Hopkins Researchers Elected to National Academy of Sciences

**Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center**

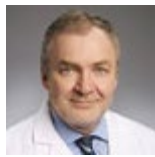
Two faculty members from the Johns Hopkins University, Stephen Baylin, MD, and Robert Siliciano, MD, PhD, are among the 84 new members and 21 foreign associates elected to the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of their achievements in original research. [more...](#)

## Grants & Gifts

### Winship Awarded NCI Comprehensive Designation

**Winship Cancer Institute**

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University has earned the prestigious



comprehensive cancer center designation from the National Cancer Institute (NCI), placing it in the top one percent of all cancer centers in the United States. Effective immediately, Winship becomes the newest NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center in the nation. Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD, FACR, has been executive director at Winship since 2009. [more...](#)

### **UVA's Excellence in Cancer Nets \$15 Million Grant**

#### **University of Virginia Cancer Center**

University of Virginia Cancer Center has again been honored as one of just 69 National Cancer Institute-designated cancer centers for its work researching new and better cancer treatments. Renewal as an NCI-designated cancer center includes a five-year, \$15 million grant to support research, recruitment of faculty, education and clinical trials. The previous five-year grant from NCI helped UVA recruit 10 new researchers as well as provide seed funding to launch new research projects that were then able to earn additional grant money from external sources. [more...](#)

### **Grant Awards Bring More Than \$6 Million to Projects**

#### **Roswell Park Cancer Institute**

Researchers at Roswell Park Cancer Institute have garnered \$6.4 million in new grant funding to support important investigations, including an award of more than \$2 million from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to Yuesheng Zhang, MD, PhD, for his research to improve colorectal cancer treatment. Dr. Zhang's five-year investigation aims to evaluate the ability of a recombinant human protein to overcome resistance to the cancer drug cetuximab, a common problem in the treatment of colorectal cancer. [more...](#)



### **Researchers Get \$2.9 Million to Study Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy**

#### **Indiana University Melvin & Bren Simon Cancer Center**

Indiana University cancer researchers led by Mark R. Kelley, PhD, have been awarded \$2.9 million to study the debilitating side effects caused by chemotherapy that affect a significant number of cancer patients. In previous work, Dr. Kelley and colleagues demonstrated both in the lab and in mice that increasing the repair activity of the APE1 protein decreases neurotoxicity. [more...](#)



### **\$2.1 Million Grant Awarded to Help Patients with Aggressive Brain Tumors**

#### **City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center**

When neurosurgeon Behnam Badie, MD, decided to take lunch a little bit earlier than normal back in 2005, he had no idea it would lead to a collaboration between his lab and diabetes researchers and scientists. That collaboration led to Dr. Badie's research focus on RAGE, a receptor of advanced glycation end product, a protein found in diabetes that causes inflammation when exposed to sugars. He was recently awarded a renewal of the R01 grant for an additional \$2.1 million to look further into RAGE and the tumor's microenvironment. [more...](#)



### **Atfi Receives NCI Grant**

#### **University of Mississippi Medical Center Cancer Institute**

A \$1.7 million grant from the National Cancer Institute will allow a University of Mississippi Medical Center Cancer Institute researcher to study the role of TGIF as a possible biomarker and drug target in osteosarcoma. Azeddine Atfi, PhD, was awarded the grant to continue his studies on the association between elimination of the TGIF gene and activation of Sleeping Beauty mutagenesis that has resulted in highly metastatic osteosarcomas. [more...](#)

### **Two Researchers Awarded ACS Grants Totaling \$1.58 Million**

#### **UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute**



Cancer researchers Aime Franco, PhD, and Ling Gao, MD, PhD, from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) have been awarded Research Scholar Grants from the American Cancer Society (ACS). Each received a four-year grant of \$791,000 to support their ongoing cancer research. The grants are among 109 ACS national research and training grants totaling more than \$45 million that will fund investigators at 75 institutions across the United States. [more...](#)

### **Karmanos Wins Grant Renewal for Membership in Clinical Trials Consortium**

**Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute**

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute has been selected by scientific peers for a four-year grant renewal from the Department of Defense to continue membership in the prestigious Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium (PCCTC) program. Elisabeth Heath, MD, FACP, will direct Karmanos' involvement in the consortium. Karmanos has been part of the consortium since 2008. The budget amount for the new four-year grant is \$1,232,000. [more...](#)

### **Researchers Receive NCI Grant to Advance the Detection of Ewing Sarcoma**

**The University of Kansas Cancer Center**

Yong Zeng, PhD, and Andrew Godwin, PhD, were awarded a \$1.2 million R33 grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to continue the development and clinical validation of an innovative lab-on-a-chip technology for non-invasive "liquid biopsy" based cancer diagnosis for children with Ewing Sarcoma. [more...](#)

## **Research Highlights**



### **HPV Vaccine May Reduce Oral Infections Up to 88 Percent**

**University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center**

Researchers have found that the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine may reduce the rate of oral HPV infections in young adults by as much as 88 percent. However, given the vaccine's low rate of uptake in the U.S. – especially in males – the impact of the vaccine on oral HPV infections remains low. This is the first study to explore the possible impact of HPV vaccination on oral HPV infections. The findings were presented by Maura L. Gillison, MD, PhD, in advance of the American Society of Clinical Oncology's 2017 Annual Meeting. [more...](#)



### **In Ovarian Cancer, Researchers Uncover New Drivers of Cell Division**

**UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center**

University of North Carolina Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center researchers have identified some of the bad actors that can step on the gas to help drive cells to replicate and divide abnormally in ovarian cancer. In a study, researchers report that they've discovered a key activator that can turn on FoxM1, a protein that drives expression of genes that help cells replicate and divide. They also discovered, paradoxically, that the activator for FoxM1 is also responsible for turning this protein off. The study's corresponding author is Michael J. Emanuele, PhD. [more...](#)

### **New Clinical Trial Framework Tests 'Natural' Cures for Cancer**

**University of Colorado Cancer Center**

A University of Colorado Cancer Center clinical trial is now recruiting prostate cancer patients who would otherwise be on a watch-and-wait protocol to test the ability of grape seed extract to slow the rise of prostate-specific antigen, a common marker of prostate cancer progression. The trial is the result of a series of CU Cancer Center studies demonstrating the promise of grape seed extract in preclinical models of prostate cancer, in collaboration with doctors at University of Colorado Hospital who treat the condition. In addition to testing grape seed extract, the trial provides the framework to test other promising compounds in this setting, potentially including additional compounds derived

from natural sources. [more...](#)

### **Number of Mutations in a Tumor Varies by Age and Type of Cancer**

**Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center**

A team of investigators led by researchers at Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center has found that the tumor mutation load, or TML, in a patient's cancer biopsy varied by age and the type of cancer, along with several other factors. Researchers say the findings are some of the most comprehensive analyses of TML to date as they include 14 types of solid tumors. Over 8,000 tissue samples were included in the study making this one of the larger collections of tumors examined for TML. Additional details will be presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology annual meeting in Chicago. [more...](#)

### **Research Backs Use of Enhanced Recovery Approaches in More Abdominal Surgeries**

**Roswell Park Cancer Institute**

In a new study, Roswell Park Cancer Institute researchers have demonstrated that an approach shown to improve outcomes for patients receiving colorectal surgery is just as effective in patients requiring many other abdominal and pelvic operations. Their findings support the conclusion that Enhanced Recovery After Surgery programs are safe and beneficial for a broad range of patients with surgically treatable diseases while also decreasing both length of stay and cost of care. [more...](#)

### **Study Finds First Possible Drug Treatment for Lymphedema**

**Stanford Cancer Institute**

A study led by scientists at the Stanford University School of Medicine has uncovered for the first time the molecular mechanism responsible for triggering lymphedema, as well as a drug with the potential for inhibiting that process. The researchers found that the buildup of lymph fluid is actually an inflammatory response within the tissue of the skin, not merely a "plumbing" problem within the lymphatic system, as previously thought. [more...](#)

### **Digital Pathology Could Improve Accuracy, Timeliness of Cancer Diagnosis**

**The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute**

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James) is implementing a long-term digital pathology workflow solution for the cancer program as well as the overall health system. All new patient pathology slides will be digitized along with the past five years of pathology slides processed at the hospital. In addition to improving pathology workflow and patient care implications, the OSUCCC – James effort will create a robust digital archive of pathology cases with associated clinical data for future research based on subsets of cancer. [more...](#)

### **Large Data Set Brings Precision to Breast Cancer Diagnosis and Care**

**The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center**

Although the odds of developing breast cancer are nearly identical for black and white women, black women are 42 percent more likely to die from the disease. A large, multi-institutional study was designed to understand this gap by beginning to unravel the germline genetic variations and tumor biological differences between black and white women with breast cancer. This is the first "ancestry-based comprehensive analysis of multiple platforms of genomic and proteomic data of its kind," the authors note. [more...](#)



### **Three-Week Radiation Therapy Post Mastectomy is Safe, Effective**

**Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey**

A shorter course of radiation therapy given to breast cancer patients following mastectomy is safe and effective and cuts treatment time in half. That is according to data from a phase II clinical trial conducted by Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey investigators and other colleagues who examined a hypofractionated regimen given over three weeks versus the traditional six week course of treatment. Bruce G. Haffty, MD, is senior investigator on the study. [more...](#)

## **New Imaging Technique Aims to Ensure Surgeons Completely Remove Cancer**

**Siteman Cancer Center**

Researchers at Siteman Cancer Center and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and at California Institute of Technology report that they have developed a technology to scan a tumor sample and produce images detailed and accurate enough to be used to check whether a tumor has been completely removed. Called photoacoustic imaging, the new technology takes less time than standard analysis techniques. [more...](#)



## **Study Finds One Breast Cancer Radiation Therapy Leads Others in Cost-Effectiveness, Quality of Life**

**University of Florida Health Cancer Center**

In a study of three radiation therapies for early-stage breast cancer, one treatment option stands out as offering the most value based on factors including health outcomes, cost-effectiveness and quality of life. The treatment, known as hypofractionated whole breast irradiation, or HF-WBI, also requires fewer patient visits. Ashish A. Deshmukh, PhD, MPH, is lead author of the study. [more...](#)

## **Underrepresentation of Racial, Ethnic Minorities Seen in Gynecologic Cancer Trials**

**VCU Massey Cancer Center**

A recent study underlines the ongoing need to improve representation of racial and ethnic minorities and elderly patients in national clinical trials. The research led by Sarah Temkin, MD, director of Gynecologic Oncology at VCU Massey Cancer Center, found significant disparities between demographic populations of patients diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer and participants in clinical trials for gynecologic cancers, most notably for ovarian cancer. [more...](#)

## **Strategy Significantly Boosts Colorectal Screening**

**UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center**

University of North Carolina Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center researchers have identified a strategy that doubled screening rates for colorectal cancer, the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States, among patient groups who historically have had lower rates. The researchers report that providing one-on-one support and customized tools for decision-making increased screening rates for patients at two community health centers in North Carolina and New Mexico. They were able to boost screening rates to 68 percent, which was 41 percentage points higher than the group who did not receive the intervention. [more...](#)

## **A Counterintuitive Finding That Could Benefit Younger Colorectal Cancer Patients**

**Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center**

Younger colon cancer patients appear to have more than three times as many mutations in their tumors as older patients, which could lead to more effective treatment decisions, say researchers at Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center. In the new study, they found that tumor mutation load, or TML, as well as gene mutations that play an important role in DNA repair, were more predominant in the younger patients. [more...](#)

## **Cancer Cells Shown to Co-Opt DNA “Repair Crew”**

**Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center**

In experiments with human colon cancer cells and mice, a team led by scientists at the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center say they have evidence that cancer arises when a normal part of cells' machinery generally used to repair DNA damage is diverted from its usual task. The findings, if further studies confirm them, could lead to the identification of novel molecular targets for anticancer drugs or tests for cancer recurrence, the investigators say. [more...](#)

## **Clock Mystery From 350 Years Ago Sheds Light on Human Health**

**University of Virginia Cancer Center**

A peculiar phenomenon observed in pendulum clocks in 1665 also explains how the body times the replacement of disease-preventing cells in our guts, researchers have found. The discovery could help doctors determine when to give drugs, cancer treatments, probiotics

and vaccines for best effect. [more...](#)

### **A New Hope for Bladder Cancer Patients**

**The University of Kansas Cancer Center**

A bladder cancer drug discovered and developed at The University of Kansas Cancer Center is set to become its first cancer drug to go from bench to bedside. KU Cancer Center's proof-of-concept center and product development arm, the Institute for Advancing Medical Innovation (IAMI), translates laboratory and bedside discoveries into new drugs, diagnostic tests and medical devices with the goal of advancing promising medical innovations to patients. Through a research effort led by IAMI, patients with bladder cancer may finally have a new treatment option. [more...](#)



### **Half of Breast Cancer Patients Pursue Reconstructive Surgery Without Understanding of Risks**

**The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute**

More than half of breast cancer patients (57 percent) undergoing mastectomy lack the necessary medical knowledge to make a high-quality decision about reconstructive surgery that aligns with their personal goals, suggesting a trend toward overtreatment, according to a new study conducted by researchers at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute. “High-quality” decisions were defined as those that demonstrated adequate medical knowledge of treatment choices – including associated risks – and that also matched with the patient’s specific goals and preferences for choosing whether or not to pursue reconstructive surgery. Clara Lee, MD, is principal investigator of the study. [more...](#)

### **New Immunotherapy Clinical Trial for Breast Cancer Patients Announced**

**Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health**

Patients with some types of breast cancer will have a new clinical trial option at Fox Chase Cancer Center. Medical oncologists Lori Goldstein, MD, and Elias Obeid, MD, MPH, are opening a phase 2 immunotherapy clinical trial for newly diagnosed, locally recurrent, or metastatic HER2-overexpressing breast cancer. [more...](#)

### **Study of Head and Neck Cancer Data Redefines HPV-Related Cancers**

**VCU Massey Cancer Center**

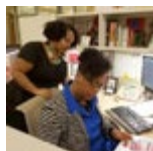
Much of what we thought we knew about the human papillomavirus (HPV) in HPV-related head and neck cancers may be wrong, according to a newly published study by Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) researchers that analyzed data from The Human Cancer Genome Atlas. Head and neck cancers involving HPV are on the rise, and many experts believe we are seeing the start of an epidemic that will only get worse in the coming years. [more...](#)

### **Study Stops Fat-Eating Prostate Cancer Cells**

**University of Colorado Cancer Center**

Patients with castration resistant prostate cancer usually have a poor prognosis. In part, this is due to the cancer’s ability to resist anti-androgen therapy. A University of Colorado Cancer Center study shows that combining a CPT1A inhibitors with anti-androgen therapy increases the cancer’s sensitivity to the anti-androgen drug enzalutamide. [more...](#)

## **Other News**



### **UAB Expands Cancer Navigation Program Nationally with Guideway Care**

**UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center**

The national implementation of the program will be led by Guideway Care, which provides knowledgeable cancer care guides, processes and technology to assist cancer patients, especially during the periods in between clinical visits. The UAB Patient Care Connect program succeeded locally by using nonclinical resources to resolve barriers patients encounter during their cancer



journey. Ramona Colvin and Myeisha Hutchinson are patient navigators with the program. [more...](#)

### **Brain Cancer Trial Marks Clinical Research Collaboration**

**University of Florida Health Cancer Center**

A new phase II clinical trial currently enrolling patients with glioblastoma is the first clinical research collaboration of University of Florida Health's joint oncology program with Orlando Health. The study builds on prior UF research that resulted in several patients with the disease living longer than average — and, in a few cases, markedly delayed tumor progression. The new trial will assess the intervention used in the prior study with a larger population. Over the next five years, 120 newly diagnosed glioblastoma patients are to be enrolled at UF Health, the Orlando Health UF Health Cancer Center and Duke University Medical Center. [more...](#)

### **American Dental Association and MD Anderson Announce Collaboration**

**University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center**

The American Dental Association and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center have announced a joint effort to improve patient outcomes through programs aimed at dental and medical professionals and the public to increase human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccinations and tobacco cessation for oral cancer prevention. Both organizations agree that increasing the percentage of children and young adults vaccinated for HPV is critical to improving their health and reducing risk of several related cancers, including those of the oropharynx. [more...](#)

### **Huntsman, Intermountain Launch Joint Program for Adolescents and Young Adults**

**Huntsman Cancer Institute**

Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah and Intermountain Cancer Centers have announced a new collaboration designed to meet the needs of adolescents and young adults between the ages of 15 and 39 who have been diagnosed with cancer. Each year over 1,000 adolescents and young adults in Utah are diagnosed with cancer, yet research has shown a number of gaps in their care. [more...](#)

## **Job Opportunities**

**Research Nurse - Oncology Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute**

[more...](#)

**Director, Oncology Clinical Trials Office University of Illinois Cancer Center**

[more...](#)

**Executive Director  
Siteman Cancer Center**

[more...](#)

**Director for the Office of Clinical Research  
University of Virginia Cancer Center**

[more...](#)

**Chief Administrative Officer/Associate Director of Administration  
Massey Cancer Center  
Virginia Commonwealth University**

[more...](#)

**Director - Clinical Research Quality Assurance  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center**

[more...](#)

**Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Cancer Services (CMO)  
UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center**

[more...](#)

## Meeting Announcements

### **Melanoma: Advances in Therapy and Biology**

On June 20, The Wistar Institute in Philadelphia will host a free scientific symposium: "The Noreen O'Neill Melanoma Research Symposium, Melanoma: Advances in Therapy and Biology" from 9am-4pm. Expanding our understanding of melanoma biology will help decode the mechanisms of innate and acquired resistance and drive the development of novel and improved targeted therapies. [Learn more](#). [Registration is required](#).

### **9th Annual AACI Clinical Research Initiative Meeting**

Register today: [aaci-cancer.org/cri\\_meeting](http://aaci-cancer.org/cri_meeting)

July 12-13, 2017

Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel

### **Advancing Cancer Care through Research Partnerships**

2017 ASCO Research Community Forum Annual Meeting:

Advancing Cancer Care through Research Partnerships

September 24-25, 2017

ASCO Headquarters, Alexandria, VA

Mark your calendar to join the conversation this September! Space is limited, so register early.

Registration will open on May 3, 2017. Stay tuned to the Forum [website](#) for meeting details.

### **Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy: From Conception to Delivery**

This two-day national symposium addresses recent advances in the field and should be an exciting forum for discussion and debate on the current understanding of cancer and immunology and immunotherapy.

October 12-13, 2017

NCI/National Institutes of Health

For more information visit: [ncifrederick.cancer.gov/events/CancerImmunology2017](http://ncifrederick.cancer.gov/events/CancerImmunology2017)

### **2017 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting**

Register now: [aaci-cancer.org/annual\\_meeting](http://aaci-cancer.org/annual_meeting)

October 15-17, 2017

Grand Hyatt Washington, DC