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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | September 2021

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[Awards & Honors](#) | [Grants & Gifts](#) | [Leadership Highlights](#) | [Research Highlights](#) | [Other News & COVID-19](#)

AACI HEADLINES

[AACI to Honor Winn With Inaugural Cancer Health Equity Award](#)



AACI will honor **Robert A. Winn, MD**, with the inaugural **AACI Cancer Health Equity Award** during the **2021 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting**, which will be held virtually **October 19-21**. Dr. Winn is AACI's vice president/president-elect and director of VCU Massey Cancer Center. [Read More](#)

[Promote Your Cancer Center With a Program Ad](#)



AACI invites you to promote your cancer center by purchasing an ad in the **2021 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting** program. The digital program book offers an excellent opportunity to showcase your center while supporting the annual meeting. Your cancer center's program ad may highlight a conference or a new initiative. Cancer centers may also include links to their website and any upcoming events. [Read More](#)

[AACI Joins Cancer Centers, Other Organizations to 'Get HPV Vaccination Back on Track'](#)

Last month St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 15 of AACI's leading academic and freestanding cancer center members, all National Cancer Institute (NCI)-Designated Cancer Centers—among them 70 AACI members—and other organizations issued a **joint statement** urging the nation's health care systems, physicians, parents, children, and young adults to get human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccinations and other

recommended vaccinations back on track. [Read More](#)



AACI Supporter Message: Patient Resource Navigator



Patient Resource Navigator System User Metrics

Of more than 80,000 patients surveyed:

- 94% reported that guides will influence their recommendation of a cancer center to friends & family
- 94% said the guides are comprehensive & easy to read
- 93% stated that the guides assist them in following their doctor's treatment plan

For more information, contact [Amy Galey](#). [Learn More](#)

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

Licht Receives ASH Mentor Award

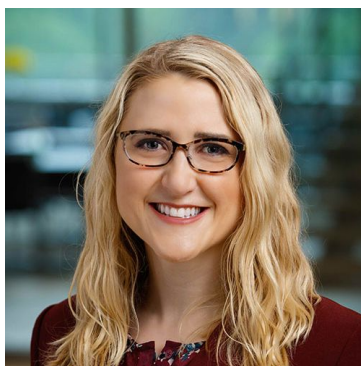
University of Florida Health Cancer Center



UF Health Cancer Center Director **Jonathan Licht, MD**, has received the 2021 American Society of Hematology (ASH) Mentor Award. The ASH Honorary Awards are the society's most prestigious awards, recognizing individuals within the global hematology community who have made significant contributions to the field. [Read More](#)

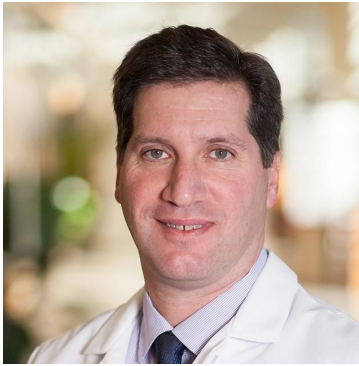
Bergom Elected Councilor-at-Large for Radiation Society

Siteman Cancer Center



Carmen R. Bergom, MD, PhD, a Washington University associate professor of radiation oncology at Siteman Cancer Center, has been elected to a three-year term as a councilor-at-large for the Radiation Research Society. [Read More](#)

Weinberg Named Co-Editor of Gastroenterology Journal



David S. Weinberg, MD, MSc, chair of the Department of Medicine at Fox Chase Cancer Center, was recently named one of two new editors-in-chief of *Gastroenterology*, the premier journal of the American Gastroenterological Association. [Read More](#)

Karlan Receives Lifetime Achievement Award for Contributions to Gynecologic Oncology

UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center



Beth Karlan, MD, director of cancer populations at the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, is being honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Gynecologic Cancer Society for her contributions to gynecologic cancer research and clinical practice. [Read More](#)

Fox Chase Staff Member Recognized for Advancing Patient-Centered Care

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health



Delinda Pendleton, BSN, MSN, staff liaison for the Fox Chase Patient and Family Advisory Council, has been named a Planetree Fellow in Person-Centered Care. The fellows program is operated by Planetree International, a leading person-centered care advocacy and standard setting organization. [Read More](#)

Camarata Named President of Neurosurgical Society

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Paul Camarata, MD, neurosurgery clinical service chief at The University of Kansas Health System, has been elected president of the Neurosurgical Society of America. [Read More](#)

GRANTS & GIFTS

Landmark Tisch Gift Announced

The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Baylor Receives More Than \$20 Million in CPRIT Funding

Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine

\$10 Million State Appropriation for Pediatric Cancer Will Advance Research and Treatment

Grant Awarded to Study Anal Cancer Screening in High-Risk Women

The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Researchers to Study Mechanisms Driving Uveal Melanoma Spread to Liver

University of Florida Health Cancer Center

\$3.6 Million Awarded to Expand HPV Cancer Vaccine Study

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Putting Cancer Screening on Wheels

Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health

NCI Names Fong Outstanding Investigator

UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Brentjens Joins Roswell Park as Deputy Director, Chair of Medicine

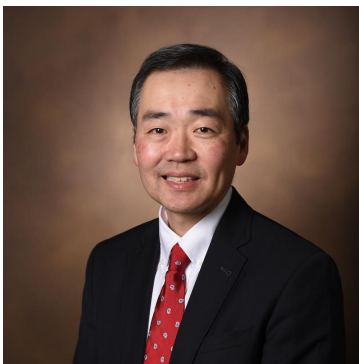
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center



An influential figure in cancer immunotherapy has returned to his Western New York roots to take on leadership roles at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. **Renier Brentjens, MD, PhD**, starts in September as deputy director and chair of medicine. He joins Roswell Park from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where he served as director of cellular therapeutics. [Read More](#)

Park Named to New Role as Deputy Director

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center



Ben Ho Park, MD, PhD, has been named deputy director of Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. His elevation to deputy director follows his promotion to director of the Division of Hematology and Oncology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in October 2020. He will continue to lead the division in addition to serving in the new position. [Read More](#)

Hwang Named Interim Director of Breast Cancer Disease Group

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center

Shelley Hwang, MD, MPH, has been named interim director of the Breast Cancer Disease Group at Duke Cancer Institute. In 2016, Time magazine named Dr. Hwang one of the 100 most influential people for her work in reframing the problem of pre-invasive breast cancer. [Read More](#)



Katzenellenbogen is Cancer Prevention and Control Co-Leader

Indiana University Melvin and Bren Comprehensive Cancer Center

Rachel Katzenellenbogen, MD, has joined Susan Rawl, PhD, and Todd Skaar, PhD, as a co-leader of the Cancer Prevention and Control research program. She is the Chuck and Tina Pagano Scholar at the IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center. [Read More](#)

Hugo Named Medical Physics Director

Siteman Cancer Center



Geoffrey Hugo, PhD, a Washington University professor of radiation oncology at Siteman Cancer Center, has been named director of the Medical Physics Division in the Department of Radiation Oncology. Dr. Hugo is recognized for his role in developing the use of radioablation to treat patients with cardiac arrhythmias, and for his work advancing adaptive radiotherapy. [Read More](#)

Kheterpal Leads New DCI Oncodermatology Clinic

Duke Cancer Institute, Duke University Medical Center



The Duke Cancer Institute Melanoma (and advanced skin cancers) Disease Group has expanded clinic services at its Duke Cancer Center Durham location to include dermatological cancer care for those patients who require multidisciplinary care. **Meenal Kheterpal, MD**, leads the new clinic. [Read More](#)

Finance Professional Moves Into Executive Role for Cancer Center

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center



Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center announces the promotion of **Todd Maier, CPA**, to vice president of finance. Maier joined Roswell Park in 2014 and has previously served as manager of finance transformation and, more recently, director of financial analytics and planning. [Read More](#)

Bladder Cancer: New Subtype Discovery May Offer Better Treatment Options

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Statins May Improve Survival for Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Patients

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Blood Pressure Drugs Could Improve Colorectal Cancer Survival

University of Virginia Cancer Center

Lasofloxifene Shows Promise for Therapy-Resistant Breast Cancer Treatment

The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center

Anti-Parasitic Drug Slows Pancreatic Cancer in Mice

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

Model Developed to Predict Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Outcomes With Immunotherapy

Moffitt Cancer Center

Study Identifies Biomarker for Breast Cancer Response to Immunotherapy

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Using AI to Personalize Cancer Care

Stanford Cancer Institute

Entinostat Primes Body to Better Respond to Anti-Cancer Treatment With Immunotherapy

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

Genomic Markers of Aggressive Childhood Leukemias Identified

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah

Researchers Harness Power of Immunotherapy for Advanced Prostate Cancer

University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

Immunotherapy May Be Effective for Subgroup of Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Patients

City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

Low-Dose, Four-Drug Combo Blocks Cancer's Spread in Mice

The University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center

Study Predicts Who May Benefit From CAR T-Cell Therapy for Blood Cancers

Stanford Cancer Institute

Adoptive Cell Therapy Plus Checkpoint Inhibitors Show Promise in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Moffitt Cancer Center

Discovery Suggests Potential New Treatment for Deadly Blood Cancer

University of Virginia Cancer Center

Feeling the Impact of Pancreatic Disease

[Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health](#)

Physically Active Women With Breast Cancer Have Less Brain Fogginess

[Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine](#)

Inhibition of Key Pathway Promotes Iron-Dependent Cell Death in Pancreatic Cancer Cells

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

Study Confirms Effectiveness of New Personalized Approach for Radiation Therapy

[Case Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

OTHER NEWS & COVID-19

New Affiliate Delivers Cancer Care Closer to Home

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)

The University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center launched a new initiative to create a connected, integrated statewide cancer provider network. The initiative, which include upgraded cancer conference facilities and a comprehensive cancer care platform, will help ensure the delivery of quality cancer care close to home. [Read More](#)

Cancer Coalition Praises Passage of First in the Nation California Cancer Patients Bill of Rights

[City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Cancer Care Is Different, a coalition-based campaign effort to improve patient access to advanced cancer care in California, applauds the state Assembly's unanimous passage of the Cancer Patients Bill of Rights on August 19, joining the state Senate in adopting this resolution. [Read More](#)

Smoking Cessation Program Most Successful With Four or More Visits

[Wilmot Cancer Institute, UR Medicine](#)

When Tracy Downs decided to quit smoking, she had little faith that it would actually happen. Having smoked for 26 years, including while she received treatment for breast cancer in 2020, she had tried a lot of tactics but nothing seemed to stick. [Read More](#)

Pediatric Neuroendocrine Tumor Program Launched

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)

UK HealthCare recently launched a new Pediatric Neuroendocrine Tumor Clinical and Research Program to improve treatment for children diagnosed with or at high risk for developing rare neuroendocrine tumors. This program, a joint effort between the University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center and the Kentucky Children's Hospital, is one of only a handful of centers specializing in this field. [Read More](#)

New Concerns About Coronavirus Evolution in Immunosuppressed Patients

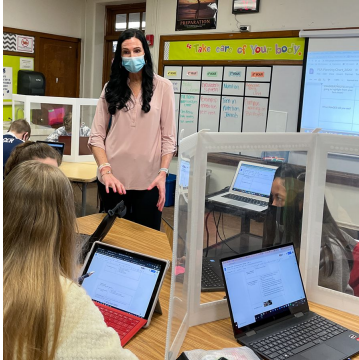
[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center](#)

In the wake of findings that COVID-19 virus variants are more likely to spring from patients with weakened immune systems, **Lawrence Corey, MD**, and other leading medical experts are calling for heightened precautions in the treatment of such individuals and better, more intensive therapies to help them fully recover from their disease. [Read More](#)



Vaping Prevention Critical as Teens Head Back to School During Ongoing Pandemic

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute



The global COVID-19 pandemic has forced many people to live in relative isolation for more than a year. As adolescents return to school, public health experts caution parents to pay close attention to signs of tobacco use among teens. [Read More](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Research Auditor

Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center

Associate Director, Cancer Clinical Trials Office

Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center at Weill Cornell Medicine

Co-Director, Cancer Control Program

Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

Biostatistics Shared Resource Director

VCU Massey Cancer Center

Deputy Director

Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina

Director, Office of Clinical and Translational Research

UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Division Chair, Hematology, Oncology, and Palliative Care

VCU Massey Cancer Center

Senior Administrator, Quality Assurance

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Research Program Manager, PRMS

GW Cancer Center

Senior Director, Clinical Trials Office

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Clinical Research Specialist I Protocol Review and Management System (PRMS)

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Industry Contract Specialist

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Program Manager, Cancer Clinical Trials Office

Cedars-Sinai Cancer

Study Activation Coordinators

Moffitt Cancer Center

MEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS



Affordable Cancer Technologies (ACT) Conference 2021

VIRTUAL EVENT

Case Western Reserve University

September 23-24, 2021



Artificial Intelligence in Oncology Symposium: Precision Medicine and Cancer Disparities

VIRTUAL EVENT

Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

November 8-9, 2021

AACI MEETINGS AND EVENTS



2021 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

VIRTUAL EVENT | REGISTER TODAY

October 19-21, 2021

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