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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | February 2025

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Awards & Honors | Grants & Gifts | Leadership Transitions | Research Highlights | Other News Job Opportunities | Meeting Announcements

AACI HEADLINES

AACI CADEx Meeting Highlights Power of Data



Pictured: AACI CADEx Planning Committee members Photo credit: Randy Belice

AACI convened the 2025 AACI Catchment Area Data Excellence (CADEx) Conference, January 29-31, in Coronado, CA. Participants included cancer center catchment area data scientists, geospatial statisticians, and other experts, who addressed emerging topics in cancer prevention and control analytics. *Read More*

AACI 2024 Report: Better Together



In 2024, AACI helped advance the goals of the oncology ecosystem through collaborations with cancer centers and other stakeholders from government and industry. The association's 2024 report highlights how AACI is connecting members of the cancer center network so we can all work better together. *Read the Report*

Winkfield to Keynote 2025 AACI Leadership Workshop

Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD, will deliver the opening keynote, "Crafting Your Career Path: A Strategic Planning Workshop," at 8:00 am central time on **Tuesday, March 11**, to kick off AACI's 2025 leadership workshop. Drawing from last year's inspirational keynote, Dr. Winkfield will guide attendees as they explore a variety of opportunities within the



oncology field and learn how to navigate their personal career journey. Read More

Federal Grant Freeze Causes Confusion for Cancer Centers

In a week marked by a flurry of executive actions and legal challenges, the White House's funding freeze directive triggered widespread concern throughout the cancer center community. The rapidly evolving situation, which stems from a series of executive orders issued by President Trump, has raised critical questions about the day-to-day operations of government-funded health agencies. *Read More*

Abstract Submission Tool Open for 17th Annual AACI CRI Meeting



Abstract submissions are now being accepted for the 17th Annual AACI Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) Meeting, June 23-25, 2025, at the Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont, IL. Completed abstracts are due by 5:00 pm Pacific time on Monday, March 3. *Read More*

AACI Welcomes Advarra to Tech Gold



AACI welcome Advarra to its Tech Gold members. For over 35 years, Advarra has been dedicated to advancing clinical research. From its origins in ethical review, Advarra has grown to provided institutional review board, institutional biosafety committee, data monitoring committee, endpoint adjudication committee, site and sponsor technology solutions, and research quality and compliance consulting services. *Read More*

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

Blau Awarded National Medal of Science

Stanford Cancer Institute

Often called "America's Nobel Prize," the National Medal of Science honors the country's leading researchers. Stem cell biologist and Stanford Cancer Institute faculty member **Helen Blau, PhD** (pictured, right), was recognized for her work on cellular plasticity and aging. *Read More*



Chhabra Honored With AACR Award

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health



Yash Chhabra, PhD, assistant professor in the Cancer Signaling and Microenvironment Research Program at Fox Chase Cancer Center, was recently honored with the American Association for Cancer Research's (AACR) NextGen Stars Award. *Read More*

CoC Accreditation Earned Again

Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Cancer Center

Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Cancer Center (MECCC) continues to rank among the nation's top cancer centers, earning three-year accreditation again from the Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons. The accreditation builds on MECCC earning comprehensive status from the National Cancer Institute in 2023. *Read More*

New American Statistical Association President Says Statisticians Can Change the World

University of Florida Health Cancer Center



Ji-Hyun Lee, DrPH, became the 120th president of the American Statistical Association (ASA) on January 1. She is the first Korean American statistician, the first woman statistician from Florida, and the first cancer center applied biostatistician in the history of the ASA presidency. *Read More*

Center Honored Among Best in Nation

University of Virginia Cancer Center

Becker's Hospital Review has named UVA Cancer Center to its 2024 list of 100 hospitals and health systems with great oncology programs. *Read More*

GRANTS & GIFTS

ARPA-H Awards up to \$17.6 Million to Innovate Cancer Surgery, Improve Outcomes Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

Multicenter Trial Addresses Food Insecurity, Malnutrition in Cancer Patients

The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Donations Support Glioma Research

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

DOD Grant Awarded to Develop Immunotherapy for Small-Cell Lung Cancer

UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

Davis Named Surgical Oncology Lead

Stephenson Cancer Center, University of Oklahoma



Jeremy L. Davis, MD, has been appointed the new surgical oncology lead for University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center and chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology in the Department of Surgery at University of Maryland School of Medicine. *Read More*

Dunbrack Appointed Co-Leader of the Cancer Signaling and Microenvironment Program

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health



Roland Dunbrack, PhD, professor in the Cancer Signaling and Microenvironment Research Program at Fox Chase Cancer Center, has been appointed co-leader of the program alongside its current leader, **Edna (Eti) Cukierman, PhD**. *Read More*

<u>Co-Leader of Cancer Control and Population Sciences Research</u> <u>Program Named</u>

University of Florida Health Cancer Center

Sulma Mohammed, DVM, PhD, a cancer biology and health disparities researcher, has been named co-leader of the UF Health Cancer Center's Cancer Control and Population Sciences research program. She will also serve as co-director of the National Cancer Institute-funded Florida-California Cancer Research, Education and Engagement CaRE2 Health Equity Center. *Read More*



Woyach Named Director of Hematology

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



Jennifer Woyach, MD, a blood cancer doctor and researcher who has been with Ohio State for more than 12 years, has been named director of the Division of Hematology at OSUCCC – The James. *Read More*

Mericliler Joins GW Cancer Center GW Cancer Center



Meric Mericliler, MD, has joined the George Washington (GW) University Cancer Center and the GW Medical Faculty Associates as a hematologist-oncologist specializing in benign hematology. *Read More*

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

People Find Medical Test Results Hard to Understand, Increasing Overall Worry

University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

Breast Cancer Drug Could Also Treat Some Blood Cancers Siteman Cancer Center

Advanced Imaging Uncovers Hidden Metastases in High-Risk Prostate Cancer Cases

UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center

A Battle of Rafts: How Molecular Dynamics in CAR T Cells Explain Their Cancer-Killing Behavior

Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine

Can You Steam Away Prostate Cancer?

USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center

Scientists Identify New Epigenetic Approach to Target Colorectal Cancer

Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University

Changes in Microbiome Predict Risk for Sexually Transmitted Disease

Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Cancer Center

<u>New Cause of Chemotherapy Resistance in Triple-Negative Breast</u> <u>Cancer Identified</u>

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Drug Designed to Treat Neuropathy Advances in Clinical Trials <u>Stony Brook Cancer Center</u>

Al Tool Created to Democratize Access to Cancer Immunotherapy The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai

Study Highlights New Target, Potential Therapy for Treatment-Resistant Cancers UK Markey Cancer Center

New Al Platform Identifies Which Patients Are Likely to Benefit Most From a Clinical Trial

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University

<u>Treatment for Liver Cancer Shows Big Promise in Global Study</u> <u>The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai</u>

Unique Al Predicts Cancer Prognoses, Responses to Treatment Stanford Cancer Institute

First-of-Its-Kind Blood Test for Head and Neck Cancer University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center

New Approach Shows Promise for B-Cell Lymphoma Siteman Cancer Center

U.S. Soldiers Ten Times More Likely to Use Addictive Nicotine Pouches

University of Virginia Cancer Center

ZIC1 Gene Drives Distinct Medulloblastoma Types in Different Ways

Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine

OTHER NEWS

Physicians Begin Prescribing FDA-Approved Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Device to Treat Advanced Liver Cancer

Karmanos Center Institute, Wayne State University

Karmanos Cancer Institute has announced that the TheraBionic P1 device, an FDA-approved, at-home treatment, is now available to treat advanced liver cancer. Karmanos is the first institution worldwide to prescribe this treatment. *Read More*

New Mobile Cancer Screening Clinic Launched

Huntsman Center Institute at the University of Utah



Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah hosted a ribbon cutting for its second mobile screening clinic in collaboration with the Utah County Health Department. **Peter Huntsman**, chairman and CEO of Huntsman Cancer Foundation, spoke at the event. *Read More*

Partnership Advances Targeted Therapies for Blood Cancers

Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah

Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah has joined other institutions on an innovative clinical trials program designed to match patients with acute myeloid leukemia and myelodysplastic syndromes with a clinical trial specifically designed for the genetic signature of their disease. Sponsored by the National Cancer Institute, the myeloMATCH program aims to improve precision medicine. *Read More*

Karmanos Opens Clinic in Dearborn

Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University



Karmanos Cancer Institute has cut the ribbon on its 17th clinic, in Dearborn, Michigan. To read an article about the center in Arabic, click here. *Read More*

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Chief Quality Officer

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Manager, SCC Clinical Research Office, Training Development

Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center, UT Southwestern Medical Center

Hematologist/Oncologist, Racine

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Director, Bioinformatics Shared Resource

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Faculty or Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Oncology-Focused Pharmacoepidemiology

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School

Assistant Director of Finance

The University of Arizona Cancer Center

Chair, Department of Internal Medicine

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

Leukemia Program Head

Fred Hutch Cancer Center

Senior Director Cancer Research Operations I - Research Division

Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center

Grant Support Specialist

UK Markey Cancer Center

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Frontiers Symposium on Transformation in Cancer Care Delivery

Hosted by Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah REGISTER TODAY February 17-19, 2025 Marriott Downtown City Creek Salt Lake City, UT

2025 AACI MEETINGS

2025 AACI Leadership Diversity and Development Workshop

REGISTER TODAY March 11-12, 2025 Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel Rosemont, IL

2025 AACI/AACR Hill Day

SAVE THE DATE May 22, 2025 Washington, DC

17th Annual AACI CRI Meeting

SAVE THE DATE June 23-25, 2025 Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel Rosemont, IL

2025 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting

SAVE THE DATE October 19-21, 2025 Salamander Washington DC

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