Adoptive Cellular Therapies Workshop

Sept. 5 – 6, 2019 • Royal Sonesta Houston • Houston, Texas

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Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

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Message from the Organizers

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 2019 Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) Adoptive Cellular Therapies Workshop.

Much has taken place in recent years involving the development of CAR T cell therapies since the U.S. Food and Drug Administration first approved treatments for lymphoma and leukemia patients, thanks in part to substantial contributions of SITC members.

In response to this interest, SITC called upon leading experts for this workshop to share data and other information that can lead us to achieve further progress in the field. In the next two days, you will listen to presentations and contribute to discussions on a wide array of topics, including the development of novel strategies to improve the overall risk and benefit profile for adoptive cellular therapies; clinical development and regulatory challenges and more.

It is anticipated that the efforts of this workshop and potential post-workshop outputs, will help fuel innovative collaborative efforts of others around the field of cancer immunotherapy. At SITC, we are committed to advancing the field by bringing experts on cellular therapy research together to promote discussion and provide education on the current status of ACT. While you are here, we encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity for professional networking with those in attendance.

Thank you to all of our faculty for sharing your expertise during this workshop, and thank you for attending this program.

Sincerely,

Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD
ESSA Pharma Inc.

Katayoun Rezvani, MD, PhD
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Program Information

Program Purpose

In the wake of the 2017 U.S. Food and Drug Administration approvals for Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T cell therapies for the treatment of patients with lymphoma and leukemia, adoptive cellular therapies have rapidly become a focal point for stakeholders across the field of cancer immunotherapy.

As this treatment modality has displayed unprecedented patient response and offers significant curative potential for cancer patients across the globe, SITC is proud to host an Adoptive Cellular Therapies Workshop to support both continued momentum and clinical advancement.

This two-day workshop will bring together cancer immunotherapy experts to discuss and address challenges concerning the use and development of adoptive cellular therapies for the treatment of cancer patients.

Throughout seven didactic sessions and participation in collaborative working groups, attendees will discuss a number of topics, including:

- Development of novel strategies to improve the overall risk/benefit profile for adoptive cellular therapies
- Clinical development and regulatory challenges
- Real world hurdles that impact scalability and patient access

It is anticipated that the efforts of this workshop, and the resulting manuscript, will help fuel innovative collaborative efforts as well as the dissemination of knowledge throughout the field.

Program Organizers

Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD – *ESSA Pharma Inc.*
Katayoun Rezvani, MD, PhD – *The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Intended Audience

The intended audience for this two-day workshop includes clinicians and researchers from academia, non-profit organizations, and industry as well as regulators and reimbursement experts.

Educational Objectives

Upon completion of this meeting, participants will be able to:

- Explain the status and direction of the field of adoptive cellular therapy.
- Identify highly relevant challenges and questions from science to real world clinical application of ACT.
- Describe the challenges related to cost, monitoring and safety concerns regarding genetically modified products.
- Summarize manufacturing scalability, patient access, product cost and treatment reimbursement concerns.

Schedule

Wednesday, September 4

Reception

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Champions Balcony

Thursday, September 5

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center AB Pre-Function

Breakfast

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center B

Opening Remarks

Time: 8:00 – 8:05 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center A
Organizer: Francesco M. Marincola, MD – *Refuge Biotechnologies*

Session I: State of the Field of Adoptive Cellular Therapy

Time: 8:05 – 9:35 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center A
Co- Chairs: Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD – *ESSA Pharma Inc.*
Katayoun Rezvani, MD, PhD – *The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

8:05 a.m. **Introduction**
Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD – *ESSA Pharma Inc.*
Katayoun Rezvani, MD, PhD – *The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

8:25 a.m. **T cells Recognizing Antigen Through Native or Chimeric Receptors**
Helen E. Heslop, MD – *Baylor College of Medicine*

9:15 a.m. **Q&A**

9:35 a.m. **Break**

Session II: External Circumstantial Factors

Time: 9:50 – 11:40 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center A
Co-Chairs: Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD – *ESSA Pharma Inc.*
Christine Spencer, PhD – *Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy*

9:50 a.m. **CAR T cell Product Heterogeneity and Response to Treatment**
J. Joseph Melenhorst, PhD – *University of Pennsylvania*

10:10 a.m. **Effects of Co-Morbidities and Concomitant Medications on Immunotherapy Efficacy and Safety**
Michael N. Liebman, PhD – *IPQ Analytics, LLC*

10:30 a.m. **Learning to Harness Cancer-Curing Poop as a Group: Collaborative Microbiome Research and Beyond at the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy**
Christine Spencer, PhD – *Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy*

10:50 a.m. **Microbiome: Methods and New Technologies for Sample Collection and Assay Standardization**
Tessa Andermann, MD, MPH – *Stanford University*

Schedule

Thursday, September 5

11:10 a.m. **Panel Discussion**
Moderators: Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD – *ESSA Pharma Inc.*
Panelists: Tessa Andermann, MD – *Stanford University*
Michael N. Liebman, PhD – *IPQ Analytics, LLC*
J. Joseph Melenhorst, PhD – *University of Pennsylvania*
Christine Spencer, PhD – *Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy*

11:40 a.m. **Break**

Session III: Emerging Ideas and New Concepts

Time: 11:55 a.m. – 12:55 p.m.
Location: Discovery Center A
Co-Chairs: Kyung-Ho Roh, PhD – *The University of Alabama in Huntsville*
Francesco M. Marincola, MD – *Refuge Biotechnologies*

11:55 a.m. **Detection and Activation of CAR-T Cells Using Standardized Models**
Kyung-Ho Roh, PhD – *The University of Alabama in Huntsville*

12:15 p.m. **Conditional Regulation of CAR T**
Stanley Qi, PhD – *Stanford University*

12:35 p.m. **T cell Reprogramming**
Luca Gattinoni, MD – *National Cancer Institute*

Lunch

Time: 12:55 – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Discovery Center B

Session IV: Improving Risk and Benefit Profile of Adoptive Cellular Therapy

Time: 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Discovery Center A
Co-Chairs: David M. Barrett, MD, PhD – *Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*
Prasad S. Adusumilli, MD, FACS, FCCP – *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*

2:00 p.m. **Understanding the Biology of CAR T Resistance**
Nathan Singh, MD – *Washington University*

2:20 p.m. **Optimizing Synthetic Receptors to Prevent Relapse after Genetically Modified T Cell Therapy for Leukemia**
Terry J. Fry, MD – *University of Colorado School of Medicine, Children's Hospital Colorado*

2:40 p.m. **Beyond CAR T 2.0: Strategy to Reduce Toxicity – Safety Switches and Synthetic Biology**
Julien Valton, PhD – *Cellectis, Inc.*

3:00 p.m. **Beyond CAR T 2.0: Off the Shelf CAR T**
Christopher M. Haqq, MD, PhD – *Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.*

3:20 p.m. **Break**

3:35 p.m. **Beyond CAR T: NKT Cell Platform for Adoptive Cell Therapy**
Leonid S. Metelitsa, MD, PhD – *Baylor College of Medicine*

3:55 p.m. **Manufacturing and Analytics in CAR T cell Technology: CAR T cell Product Characterization and Function**
Xiuyan Wang, PhD – *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*

4:15 p.m. **Impact of the Tumor Microenvironment for CAR-T cell Therapy Efficacy**
Jérôme Galon, PhD – *INSERM, Sorbonne Universites Paris*

Schedule

Thursday, September 5

4:35 p.m. **Panel Discussion**
Moderators: David M. Barrett, MD, PhD – *Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*
Prasad S. Adusumilli, MD, FACS, FCCP – *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*
Panelists: Terry J. Fry, MD – *University of Colorado School of Medicine, Children's Hospital Colorado*
Jérôme Galon, PhD – *INSERM, Sorbonne Universites Paris*
Christopher M. Haqq, MD, PhD – *Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.*
Leonid S. Metelitsa, MD, PhD – *Baylor College of Medicine*
Nathan Singh, MD – *Washington University*
Julien Valton, PhD – *Cellectis, Inc.*
Xiuyan Wang, PhD – *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*

4:55 p.m. **Closing Remarks**

5:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

Friday, September 6, 2019

Registration

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center AB Pre-Function

Breakfast

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center B

Opening Remarks

Time: 8:00 – 8:05 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center A
Organizer: Katayoun Rezvani, MD, PhD – *The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Session I: Adoptive Cellular-Specific Clinical Development and Regulatory Challenges

Time: 8:05 – 9:05 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center A
Co-Chairs: Rayne Helen Rouce, MD – *Baylor College of Medicine*
John M. Rossi, MS – *Kite, A Gilead Company*

8:05 a.m. **Institution Readiness for Operationalizing CAR T cell Trials: Regulatory and Logistic Challenges**
Elizabeth J. Shpall, MD – *The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

8:25 a.m. **Regulatory Considerations for CAR T Cell Clinical Studies**
Andrew W. Harmon, PhD – *U.S. Food and Drug Administration*

8:45 a.m. **Discussion**

Schedule

Friday, September 6, 2019

Session II: Real World Implementation and Scalability Challenges

Time: 9:05 – 10:05 a.m.
Location: Discovery Center A
Co-Chairs: Marco L. Davila, MD, PhD – *H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center*
Adrian P. Gee, PhD, MIBiol – *Baylor College of Medicine*

9:05 a.m. **Process Optimization of Antigen Specific T cells for Clinical Applications**
Juan F. Vera, MD – *Baylor College of Medicine*

9:25 a.m. **Affordable CARs: Challenges to Accessibility**
Stephanie Farnia – *Blue Cross Blue Shield*

9:45 a.m. **Discussion**

10:05 a.m. **Break**

Working Group Breakouts

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Group: **Working Group 1: Improving Benefit Profile of Adoptive Cellular Therapy**
Chair: May Daher, MD – *The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*
Location: Champions I & II

Group: **Working Group 2: Improving Risk Profile of Adoptive Cellular Therapy**
Chair: Prasad S. Adusumilli, MD, FACS, FCCP – *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*
Location: Champions III

Group: **Working Group 3: Clinical, Regulatory, Implementation and Scalability Challenges of Adoptive Cellular Therapy**
Chair: John M. Rossi, MS – *Kite, A Gilead Company*
Location: Champions V

Lunch
Time: 1:00 – 1:45 p.m.
Location: Discovery Center B

Working Group Presentations
Time: 1:45 – 3:30 p.m.
Location: Discovery Center A

1:45 p.m. **Working Group 1: Improving Benefit Profile of Adoptive Cellular Therapy**
May Daher, MD – *The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

2:15 p.m. **Working Group 2: Improving Risk Profile of Adoptive Cellular Therapy**
Prasad S. Adusumilli, MD, FACS, FCCP – *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*

2:45 p.m. **Working Group 3: Clinical, Regulatory, Implementation and Scalability Challenges of Adoptive Cellular Therapy**
John M. Rossi, MS – *Kite, A Gilead Company*

3:15 p.m. **Closing Remarks**

3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Organizers and Faculty

Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD
ESSA Pharma Inc.
Organizer, Co-Chair

Dr. Cesano recently joined ESSA as Chief Medical Officer. Previously she was the Chief Medical Officer of NanoString Inc from July 2015 until June 2019 where she focused on the development of translational and diagnostic multi-plexed assays for the characterization and measurement of mechanisms of immune response/resistance.

Prior to joining NanoString, Dr. Cesano was Chief Medical Officer at Cleave Biosciences, Inc. and prior to that she served as Chief Medical Officer and Chief Operations Officer at Nodality, Inc., where she built and led the R and D group, while providing the overall clinical vision for the organization. Between 1998 and 2008, Dr. Cesano held various management positions at Amgen, Biogen Idec and SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, where she helped to advance various oncology drugs through late stage development and FDA approvals.

Early in her professional career Dr. Cesano spent 12 years conducting research in tumor immunology, including nine years at the Wistar Institute, an NCI Basic Cancer Center connected with the University of Pennsylvania.

She also holds membership in several professional and scientific societies including ASCO, ESMO, ASH, EHA, AACR and SITC. In the latter she serves as co-chair in the SITC Industry Committee, Associate Editor for the Biomarker section of JITC and is an active member of the SITC Biomarker Working Group. She has authored over 100 publications.

Dr. Cesano received an MD summa cum laude, a Board Certification in Oncology and a PhD in Tumor Immunology from the University of Turin.

Katayoun Rezvani, MD, PhD
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Organizer, Co-Chair

Dr. Rezvani is Professor of Medicine, Director of Translational Research, Medical Director of the MD Anderson GMP and Cell Therapy Laboratory and Chief, Section of Cellular Therapy, Department of Stem Cell Transplant and Cellular Therapy, MD Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Rezvani has an active research laboratory program in tumor immunology where the focus of her research group is to study the role of natural killer cells (NK) cells in mediating immunity against cancer, and to understand the mechanisms of tumor-induced NK cell dysfunction. The goal of these studies is to develop strategies to enhance NK cell effector function against tumors by genetically engineering the cells to enhance their in vivo anti-tumor activity and persistence. Dr. Rezvani leads the NK immunotherapy program at MD Anderson and has translated multiple innovative strategies from bench to bedside. She is co-leader of the Adoptive Cell Therapy platform for the MD Anderson Moonshots Program.

Prasad S. Adusumilli, MD, FACS, FCCP
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Co-Chair, Working Group Chair

My research focuses on tumor immunology, chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy, and combination immunotherapy for solid tumors. Over the years, our research has yielded mechanistic data that has been translated to CAR T-cell and combination immunotherapy clinical trials for patients with lung cancer, mesothelioma, and breast cancer. Our laboratory research has been funded by >70 grant awards resulting in >200 publications. In addition to serving on medical journal editorial boards, I am the Deputy Editor for *Molecular Therapy Oncolytics.*

Tessa Andermann, MD, MPH
University of North Carolina School of Medicine
Faculty

Dr. Tessa Andermann is a physician-scientist with a strong commitment to applying translational approaches to better understand the microbially-related complications of hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) and cellular immunotherapy. In addition to her other contributions to microbiome research, Dr. Andermann worked under the mentorship of Dr. Ami Bhatt at Stanford to develop the Stanford Blood and Marrow Transplant Division biobank of over 1800 stools from more than 800 HCT patients that continues to serve as an essential resource for ongoing research in the Bhatt Lab. She has also designed the stool and urine biobanking collection and processing protocols for the new multi-institutional Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network study 1703/1801. In her new role as Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, she will continue her work investigating the role of the gut microbiome in chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell persistence and therapeutic efficacy in patients with treatment-refractory acute leukemia and lymphoma. Through her research, she hopes to understand how broad-spectrum antibiotics impact intestinal microbiome structure and function to influence clinical outcomes and infectious complications in patients with hematologic malignancies. Ultimately, she aims to develop microbiome-targeted therapies for the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases in these and other immunocompromised patient populations.

Organizers and Faculty

David M. Barrett, MD, PhD
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Co-Chair

Dr. Barrett graduated from Princeton University with a BA in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in 1995. He first completed a Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering in 1997 before going on to complete his combined MD/PhD (Molecular Biology and Genetics) at Virginia Commonwealth University in 2004. He moved to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia for his residency in pediatrics, completed in 2007, and his fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology, which he finished in 2010. He is currently an Assistant Professor in Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania and an attending physician in the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Division of Oncology, Transplant and Cellular Therapy Section.

Dr. Barrett is interested in the translational development of immune therapies for pediatric cancers. In preclinical studies, chimeric antigen receptors expressed in T cells are effective in eliminating chemotherapy resistant cancers. This translated to single institution trials and ultimately the first FDA approved gene modified cell therapy, Kymriah. Dr. Barrett now focuses on understanding mechanisms of failure in and toxicity to improve the efficacy and safety of these therapies.

May Daher, MD
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Working Group Chair

Dr. May Daher received her M.D. degree at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon with Distinction, after which she completed a three-year Internal Medicine residency program at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and a three-year fellowship training program in Hematology and Medical Oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center with a focus on cancer immunology, cellular immune therapy and hematopoietic transplantation. Dr. Daher also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the translational laboratory of Dr. Katy Rezvani where she helped advance the CAR-NK cell therapy platform. Dr. Daher is currently a physician scientist at the rank of Assistant Professor in the Stem Cell Transplant and Cellular Therapy Department at MD Anderson. Her laboratory research focuses on developing novel cellular engineering strategies to enhance potency of cellular therapy products, decrease toxicity, surmount the immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment and circumvent immune evasion mechanisms developed by tumors. For example, Dr. Daher has developed a novel strategy combining CAR engineering (CAR19/IL-15) and Crispr-Cas9 gene editing to delete CIS, a potent immune checkpoint in NK cells. By redirecting the specificity of NK cells and overcoming this inhibitory pathway, Dr. Daher was able to demonstrate that the doubly engineered NK cells have significantly enhanced functionality and killing capacity against B cell malignancies in vitro and in-vivo. Dr. Daher is currently in the process of translating this therapy to the clinic to treat patients with relapsed refractory B cell hematologic malignancies.

Marco L. Davila, MD, PhD
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center
Co-Chair

Dr. Marco Davila is a medical oncologist that specializes in the treatment of patients with cell therapies. He received his medical degree from Duke University and medical training at the New York Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. His clinical focus is on hematologic malignancies such as chronic lymphocytic leukemia, B cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (B-ALL), and Acute Myeloid Leukemia. He is appointed as an Associate Member in the Departments of Blood and Marrow Transplantation and Cellular Immunotherapy, as well as Immunology. He serves as the Medical Director of the Cell Therapy Facility overseeing cell manipulation and production for patient use, either investigative or as standard of care. As a translational physician-scientist he is engaged in both clinical and laboratory research. His research has helped usher in a new field of medical oncology by developing a novel cell engineered therapy for B-ALL and DLBCL. His current research is dedicated to developing and/or improving gene-engineered cell therapies that target cancer. The goal of this research is to identify optimal cell therapies that can then be evaluated in cancer patients.

Stephanie Farnia
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Faculty

Stephanie Farnia currently serves as the Director, Clinical Value for Gene Therapy and Cellular Immunotherapy for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Ms. Farnia is responsible for providing strategic leadership and direction on gene therapies and cellular immunotherapies to BCBS Plans, including clinical pipeline tracking, network strategies and value-based payment models, and strategic engagement with external stakeholders. Ms. Farnia has previously served in health policy and strategic leadership roles for the American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation and the National Marrow Donor Program/Be The Match, where she lead initiatives focused on reimbursement policy and patient access to stem cell transplant and CAR-T. Ms. Farnia holds a Master's degree in Public Health Policy and Administration from the University of Minnesota, where she was a Judd Fellow.

Organizers and Faculty

Terry J. Fry, MD
University of Colorado School of Medicine, Children's Hospital Colorado
Faculty

Dr. Fry is a Professor of Pediatrics, Hematology and Immunology, Co-Director of the Human Immunology and Immunotherapy Initiative, Director of Cancer Immunotherapy at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and holds the Robert and Kathleen Clark Endowed Chair in Pediatric Cancer Therapeutics at the Children's Hospital Colorado. He arrived at Children's Hospital Colorado in 2018 after serving as Head of the Hematologic Malignancies Section in the Pediatric Oncology Branch at the NIH where he led efforts in Cellular Immunotherapy for pediatric leukemia.

Prior to the NIH, Dr. Fry was Chief of Blood and Marrow Transplantation at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, DC. Dr. Fry's research focuses on the preclinical and clinical development of chimeric antigen receptor T cells for pediatric cancers. He serves on the Committee for Scientific Affairs for the American Society of Hematology, Vice Chair for Biology in the Cellular Therapy Committee of the Children's Oncology Group and was recently elected into the American Society for Clinical Investigation.

Jérôme Galon, PhD
INSERM, Sorbonne Universites Paris
Faculty

Dr. Galon is Director of Research at INSERM (French NIH), and Head of the laboratory of Integrative Cancer Immunology in Paris, France. Dr. Galon was trained as an immunologist at the Pasteur Institute and at the Curie Institute (Paris, France). He holds a PhD degree in Immunology (Jussieu University, Paris, France, 1996). Between 1997 and 2001 he worked at the NIH (National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA). Since his full-tenured position at INSERM in 2001, he directs interdisciplinary research programs on tumor-Immunology. He is Associate Director and co-founder of European Academy of Tumor Immunology (EATI) and board director for the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC). His work on the comprehensive analysis of the tumor microenvironment and the role of T-cells in human cancer led to the demonstration of the importance of adaptive pre-existing immunity in human cancer, and the concept of cancer *immune-contexture*. He pioneered the *Immunoscore.* He is the co-founder of HalioDx company and the chairman of its scientific council. His contributions have been recognized with numerous awards, including the *William B. Coley Award*, an international prize which honors the best scientists in the fundamental and cancer immunology, an Award from the *National Academy of Science* and from the *National Academy of Medicine.* This year, he was the winner of the prestigious European Inventor Award from the European Patent Office.

Luca Gattinoni, MD
National Cancer Institute
Faculty

Dr. Gattinoni received his M.D. from the Universita' degli Studi of Milan, Italy. Following the completion of his residency in medical oncology at the Istituto Nazionale Tumori in Milan, he joined the NCI in 2003 as a Visiting Fellow and became a Staff Scientist in 2008.

In 2013, Dr. Gattinoni was appointed as NIH Stadtman Investigator at the Experimental Transplantation and Immunology Branch. His honors include the 2004 SITC Presidential Award, the 2012 Wilson S. Stone Memorial Award and the 2013 NCI Director's Intramural Innovation Award.

Adrian P. Gee, PhD, MIBiol
Baylor College of Medicine
Co-Chair

Dr. Gee received his B.Sc. from the University of Birmingham, England, and his Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He did postdoctoral training at the NIH, and the University of Toronto, before joining the faculty at the University of Florida. There he performed the first immunomagnetic tumor purging of autologous marrow in the United States. He joined Baxter Healthcare in 1987, where he helped develop the MaxSep and Isolex magnetic cell separators. He co-founded the International Society for Cellular Therapy and Journal of Hematotherapy (now Cytotherapy). In 1992 he joined the transplant program at the University of South Carolina and then directed the Cell Processing Laboratory at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. He now works at the Center for Cell and Gene Therapy at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. This houses GMP manufacturing facilities for vectors and cell therapy products, and was one of 5 national somatic cell processing centers selected by NHLBI for the Production Assistance for Cellular Therapy program. The facility was also the National Gene Vector Laboratory for the production of adenoviral vectors. He has worked on development of standards for collection processing and transplantation of cellular therapy products for the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cell Therapy (which he was instrumental in founding), the American Association of Blood Banks and the National Marrow Donor Program. He currently is a member of the HRSA committee on blood stem cell transplantation and a number of scientific advisory boards and review panels. He received the ISCT Career Achievement Award in 2017. He has written more than 200 scientific articles and authored and edited books on cellular therapies.

Organizers and Faculty

Christopher M. Haqq, MD, PhD
Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.
Faculty

Dr. Haqq is Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer at Atara Biotherapeutics. Previously he was Vice President for Clinical Research and Development at Cougar Biotechnology and Johnson & Johnson's Janssen, where he was the lead clinician for a pivotal prostate cancer study leading to market approval for Zytiga® (abiraterone acetate). Chris has worked closely with the EMA and the U.S. FDA – filing IND applications, new drug applications, special protocol assessments and their international equivalents. Chris completed his MD and PhD at Harvard Medical School and his BS at Stanford University. He is board certified in Medical Oncology and Internal Medicine.

Andrew W. Harmon, PhD
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Faculty

Dr. Andrew Harmon is a CMC Reviewer in the Division of Cellular and Gene Therapies at the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) and is responsible for regulatory review of INTERACT, pre-IND, and IND submissions for viral vectors and genetically modified cell therapy products. Dr. Harmon received his PhD from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and came to the FDA in 2014 as a postdoctoral researcher studying immune responses to viral gene therapy vectors. He transitioned to regulatory review activities in 2017 and is an active participant in intra-agency working groups, meetings, and conferences focused on advancing cell and gene therapy products.

Helen E. Heslop, MD
Baylor College of Medicine
Faculty

Dr. Heslop is Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine, and Director of the Center for Cell and Gene Therapy at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston Methodist Hospital and Texas Children's Hospital. She is also Associate Director for Clinical Research at the Dan L. Duncan Cancer Comprehensive Center. Dr Heslop is a physician scientist engaged in translational research focusing on adoptive immunotherapy with gene-modified effector cells, to improve hemopoietic stem cell transplantation and cancer therapy. An additional focus is in reconstituting antiviral immunity post-transplant and she has led an NHLBI-funded multicenter trial of allogeneic multivirus specific T cells. She has extensive experience in developing and conducting transplant studies and cell and gene therapy studies and currently holds over 20 INDs. She was a Doris Duke distinguished clinical research scientist and is an elected member of the American Association of Physicians. She serves as Principal Investigator on several peer-reviewed research programs, including an NCI-funded program project grant (Enhancing T-Cell Therapy of Cancer) a Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Specialized Center of Research (SCOR) award (Immunotherapy of Lymphoma), the Meg Vosberg Stand Up to Cancer Dream Team in T cell lymphoma and a SPORE in lymphoma from the NCI. She is also the principal investigator on an NHLBI-funded training grant in Cell and Gene Therapy and Chair-elect of the BMT-CTN. She is a past President of the American Society for Gene and Cell Therapy (ASGCT), the American Society of Blood and Marrow Transplant (ASBMT) and the Foundation for Accreditation of Cell Therapy (FACT).

Michael N. Liebman, PhD
IPQ Analytics, LLC
Faculty

Dr. Liebman is the Managing Director of IPQ Analytics, LLC and Strategic Medicine, Inc. after serving as the Executive Director of the Windber Research Institute (now Chanoon-Shiong Institute for Molecular Medicine) from 2003-2007. He is an Adjunct Professor of Pharmacology and Physiology at Drexel College of Medicine and Adjunct Professor of Drug Discovery, First Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University and also Fudan University. He serves on the Advisory Board for the International Park for Translational Biomedicine (Shanghai) and the Center of Biomedical and Health Research in Data Sciences, University of Massachusetts (Lowell). Previously, he was Director, Computational Biology and Biomedical Informatics, University of Pennsylvania Cancer Center 2000-2003. He served as Global Head of Computational Genomics, Roche Pharmaceuticals and Director, Bioinformatics and Pharmacogenomics, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Director of Genomics for Vysis, Inc. He is a co-founder of Prosanos, Inc. (now United BioSource) (2000). He was Associate Professor of Pharmacology and of Physiology/Biophysics at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He serves on 14 scientific advisory boards, including digital health and quantum computing and the Board of Directors of the Nathaniel Adamczyk Foundation in Pediatric ARDS. Dr. Liebman is Chair of the Informatics Program and also Chair of Translational Medicine and Therapeutics for the PhRMA Foundation and a member of their Scientific Advisory Board. He is on the Advisory Board of the International Society for Translational Medicine and on the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Translational Medicine*, for *Clinical and Translational Medicine* and for *Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics*, for *Clinico-Economics and Outcomes Research* and *Biomedicine Hub*. He is a member of the IUPAC Division on Human Health's Medicinal Chemistry subcommittee. He has served on the External Advisory Board for the INBRE (NIH) program for the state of Delaware since 2000. He is an Invited Professor at the Shanghai Center for Bioinformatics Technology and of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. His research focuses on computational models of disease progression that stress risk detection, disease processes and

Organizers and Faculty

clinical pathway modeling, and disease stratification from the clinical perspective. He utilizes systems-based approaches and design thinking to represent and analyze risk/benefit analysis in pharmaceutical development and healthcare.

Francesco M. Marincola, MD
Refuge Biotechnologies
Organizer, Co-Chair

Dr. Marincola is Chief Scientific Officer at Refuge Biotechnologies, Menlo Park, California. He was previously Distinguished Research Fellow at AbbVie Corporation; Chief Research Officer at Sidra Research, Qatar; Tenured Investigator at the National Institutes of Health, Maryland. Dr. Marincola founded in 2003 the *Journal of Translational Medicine* and is the Editor-in-Chief. He is also Editor-in-Chief of *Translational Medicine Communications* and *Clinical and Translational Medicine*. He is past-president of the *Society for the Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC)* and the *International Society for Translational Medicine*. He edited several books including the SITC-affiliated *Cancer Immunotherapy Principles and Practice Textbook.* Dr. Marincola is an award winning author of *The Wise Men of Pizzo* and *Cat Behind the Window*.

J. Joseph Melenhorst, PhD
University of Pennsylvania
Faculty

Dr. Melenhorst obtained his PhD at the LUMC (Department of Hematology) on the pathogenesis of Aplastic Anemia. In 1998 he moved to Bethesda, Maryland, where he did his research - first as a postdoc, later as a staff scientist - in the laboratory of Dr. John Barrett at the National Institutes of Health, on the immunobiology of marrow failure syndromes, leukemic disorders, and allogeneic stem cell transplantation. In 2012 he was recruited by Dr. Bruce Levine and Dr. Carl June to the University of Pennsylvania, first as Deputy Director of their clinical manufacturing (cGMP) facility. After a year he was promoted to Director of Product Development & Correlative Sciences. In this role, he was at the cusp of the first ever CAR T cell therapy approved by FDA: Kymriah. Dr. Melenhorst is interested in understanding and improving the anti-tumor efficacy and safety of adoptively transferred chimeric antigen receptor-modified T cells through correlative, mechanistic, and functional genomics approaches.

Leonid S. Metelitsa, MD, PhD
Baylor College of Medicine
Faculty

Dr. Metelitsa is a Professor at Baylor College of Medicine. His research is focused on understanding the role of Vα24-invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cells in tumor immunity and developing iNKT cell-based cancer immunotherapy. He originally demonstrated that iNKT cells localize to primary tumors in humans and their presence at the tumor site is associated with good outcomes (Metelitsa *et al.*, JEM, 2004). Metelitsa and his team then revealed the underlying mechanistic basis of iNKT cell tumor localization and function in the tumor microenvironment (Song *et al*., JCI, 2007; Song *et al*., JCI, 2009, Liu *et al*., JCI, 2012). They also developed original technologies for iNKT cell isolation, genetic modification with chimeric antigen receptors (CAR), and expansion to clinical scale (Heczey *et al*., Blood, 2014; Tian *et al.*, JCI, 2016, Ngai *et al*., JI, 2018). The first clinical trial of CAR-iNKT cells is currently ongoing in children with neuroblastoma while other iNKT cell-based therapeutics are at different stages of pre-clinical development.

Stanley Qi, PhD
Stanford University
Faculty

I obtained my Ph.D. in Bioengineering from UC Berkeley, co-advised by Adam Arkin and Jennifer Doudna. During my Ph.D. training, I was among the first to engineer the CRISPR-Cas system for synthetic genome regulation in cells. I engineered synthetic noncoding RNA molecules as biosensors of intracellular or environmental signals, as gene regulators of transcription or translation, or as genetic parts to form complex genetic circuitries. After Ph.D., I immediately started my research lab as a Systems Biology Faculty Fellow at UCSF as Principle Investigator in 2012. Our lab led the first development of the nuclease-deactivated Cas9 (dCas9) and used it for sequence-specific gene regulation. After I joined the Stanford faculty in 2014, we subsequently developed a CRISPR-dCas toolbox, covering broad technologies including CRISPRi for gene interference, CRISPRa for gene activation, CRISPR imaging in living cells, CRISPRi/a pooled genetic screens. Recently, we developed the use of CRISPR for the control of 3-dimensional (3D) genome organization. Beyond technology development, my lab also applies CRISPR genome manipulation technologies to studying genomics, engineer therapeutic immune cells, and control stem cell maintenance and differentiation. Examples include we combine CRISPR with G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) and created a set of ligand-dependent GPCR-dCas fusion molecules that expanded engineering immune cells for therapies of cancer; we identified alternative pathways that mediate neuronal cell differentiation; we also elucidated the roles of nuclear compartments in gene regulation under certain circumstances. We are working towards the next-generation genome engineering technologies for studying genomics, cell biology, and cell engineering.

Organizers and Faculty

Kyung-Ho Roh, PhD
The University of Alabama in Huntsville
Co-Chair, Faculty

Professor Roh is the principal investigator for the Molecular and Cellular Immunoengineering Laboratory (MCIL) at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH). He is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Chemical and Materials Engineering Department at UAH since 2016. Immediately before joining UAH, Dr. Roh worked as a Research Scientist in the Biomedical Engineering Department at the Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory University, and he also served as a Program Manager for the National Cell Manufacturing Consortium. Before then, he studied for 5 years in the School of Medicine at Stanford University for his postdoctoral study on T cell immunology (PI: Dr. Mark M. Davis). He received his PhD in Macromolecular Science and Engineering from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

He is interested in both biomaterials and immunology. Some examples of his strategies to connect these two disciplines include: i) development of artificial microenvironments for effective regeneration and induction of adaptive immunity using naïve, stem, or progenitor cells; ii) targeted delivery of therapeutics for controlled immuno-activation or modulation in selective immune cell populations; iii) engineering receptor-ligand interactions within the immunological synapse in healthy and diseased states using molecular devices. The common end goal of these research topics is the development of biomaterials-based translational cellular and molecular immunotherapies for cancers, infections, and autoimmune diseases.

Rayne Helen Rouce, MD
Baylor College of Medicine
Co-Chair

Dr. Rayne Rouce is a physician scientist and pediatric oncologist with a primary focus on immunotherapy for hematologic malignancies, specifically refractory leukemia and lymphoma. Her lab and clinical trial work focuses on translating novel CAR T cells, virus-specific T cells and NK cells to the clinic, with a particular focus on off-the-shelf immunotherapy strategies.

John M. Rossi, MS
Kite, A Gilead Company
Co-chair, Working Group Chair

John Rossi joined Kite in February 2015, after spending 12 years at Amgen. John is currently a Director in the Department of Translational Medicine and leads all biomarker activities related to clinical trials for Kite's CAR T-cell therapy. At Amgen, John oversaw global biomarker development for a Phase III registrational trial in oncology (trebananib, AMG386). John also led biomarker development for other preclinical, first-in-human and Phase II clinical trials (AMG780, AMG224 and AMG176).

At Kite, John has led the development of a biomarker strategy and has also built an effective translational team to support the clinical development of axicabtagene ciloleucel/KTE-C19. During this time, John's team has contributed directly to the US and European approval of axicabtagene ciloleucel through pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic evaluation of this product. Among many achievements at Kite, John has represented Kite through external scientific presentations and collaborative manuscripts with leading academic researchers such as Steven Rosenberg and James Kochenderfer at the National Cancer Institute. Scientific accomplishments include the discovery of novel metrics to characterize CAR T cells based on their functionality, novel biomarker knowledge of how CAR T cells work in the clinic, mechanistic information on CAR-related toxicities, novel insights into the biology of the tumor microenvironment, including immune checkpoints, and the pivotal role of IL-15 in the context of CAR T-cell function.

Elizabeth J. Shpall, MD
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Faculty

Dr. Shpall is the Director of the Cell Therapy Laboratory and the Cord Blood Bank and Deputy Chair of the Department of Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She has more than 30 years of experience performing stem cell transplants and translating stem cell graft manipulations from the laboratory to the clinic. She has had RO1 funding from the National Cancer Institute for the past 23 years, and leads a PO1 on improving cord blood transplantation. Dr. Shpall has extensive expertise evaluating unmanipulated and expanded human hematopoietic stem cells in xenogeneic mouse models that have been translated into clinical trials. She has received Cancer Prevention and Research in Texas (CPRIT) funding for cord expansion and homing and for the development of cord blood-derived Natural Killer (NK) cells targeting hematologic cancers. She was also the founding president of the Foundation for Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) and recently reappointed to the FACT Board, and is a past president of the American Society of Blood and Marrow Transplantation (ASBMT) and a past vice-president of Netcord. Dr. Shpall has served as a reviewer and is a former member of the NCI Committee D, reviewing clinical and translational program project grants.

Organizers and Faculty

Nathan Singh, MD
Washington University
Faculty

Dr. Singh attended Haverford College in suburban Philadelphia, and then enrolled in a combined MD/Masters of Science in Translational Research program at the University of Pennsylvania. He completed clinical training in Internal Medicine and Hematology/Oncology at Penn. During his time at Penn he worked in the laboratories of Drs. Stephan Grupp and Carl June, focusing his post-doctoral research in the June Lab on mechanisms that drive T cell failure and tumor cell resistance to CAR therapy. In August 2019 he began his independent research program as an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Section of Stem Cell Biology in the Division of Oncology at Washington University School of Medicine.

Christine Spencer, PhD
Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy
Co-Chair, Faculty

Dr. Spencer is a research scientist in the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy (PICI) Department of Informatics. At PICI, Chris works with academic and industry partners around translational research projects and also currently leads translational analysis for PICI-sponsored clinical trials, one of which testing the impact of microbiome intervention in combination with anti-PD-1 in melanoma patients along with MD Anderson and Seres Therapeutics (PICI McGRAW). Chris came to PICI from the laboratory of Dr. Jennifer Wargo at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, where she studied how host lifestyle factors and characteristics of the gut microbiome influence response to checkpoint blockade immunotherapy in melanoma patients. Chris earned her PhD from the department of Epidemiology, Human Genetics & Environmental Science (minor in Biostatistics & Data Science) at the University of Texas School of Public Health in 2018.

Julien Valton, PhD
Cellectis, Inc.
Faculty

Dr. Valton obtained his Ph.D. at the University Joseph Fourier in Grenoble, France, where he was trained as an enzymologist. He then joined the Yale School of Medicine to apply his knowledge to therapeutic research by investigating the mechanism of inhibition of receptor tyrosine kinases that are involved in the development of gastrointestinal cancer. In 2009, he moved a step further into the field of applied science by joining the Innovation Department of Cellectis, where he actively participated in using and improving TALEN® gene editing technology for targeted gene therapy and genome engineering. He is now using TALEN® along with protein engineering techniques to develop the next-generation CAR T-cells to treat different malignancies.

Juan F. Vera, MD
Baylor College of Medicine, Marker Therapeutics
Faculty

Juan is a medical surgeon from Colombia, with extensive research experience in immunology and molecular biology. He has more than 7 years of industry experience and >15 years of experience performing research in the field of adoptive T cell therapy and has made several contribution in the field, specifically in the areas of genetic engineering T cells manufacture process optimization. In collaboration with Wilson Wolf Manufacturing, he has been instrumental in the design and testing of the G-Rex® cell culture platform and pioneered its use for the large-scale production of T cells. Dr. Vera has extensive expertise in developing and streamlining therapeutic candidates from the research bench to the cGMP facility while ensuring robust production and scalability. He is a Co-Investigator on a number of clinical trials for T cell therapy in both infectious disease and cancer. Juan's recent focus is on developing strategies to enhance the T cell function by protecting tumor-targeted T cells from the immunosuppressive effects of the tumor microenvironment in order to enhance in vivo persistence and function. Juan is senior or co-author on >30 publications and a named inventor on 13 published patents.

Xiuyan Wang, PhD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Faculty

Dr. Wang was trained by Dr. Adolfo García-Satre and received her Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in NYC. She joined Dr. Peter Cresswell's laboratory in the Department of Immunology at Yale University as an Howard Hughes Medical Institute fellow, and later as a Cancer Research Institute postdoctoral associate. Dr. Wang joined Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2007, and is currently an Associate Lab Member in Department of Molecular Pharmacology, and the Assistant Director of the Michael G Harris Cell Therapy and Cell Engineering Facility. Dr. Wang is in charge of the R&D, process development and manufacturing. She has overseen the successful manufacturing of over 360 clinical CAR T cell products for phase I/II clinical trials as well as over 20 batches of cGMP grade viral vectors. She served in the translational science and product development committee in the American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy (ASGCT), and is a committee member for the National Institute for Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals (NIIMBL).

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer requires instructors, planners, managers and other individuals who are in a position to control the content of this activity to disclose any real or apparent conflicts of interest (COI) they may have as related to the content of this activity. All identified conflicts of interest are thoroughly vetted and resolved according to SITC policy.

Prasad S. Adusumilli, MD, FACS, FCCP
Receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder Atara Biotherapeutics
Contracted research from Atara Biotherapeutics

Tessa Andermann, MD, MPH
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

David M. Barrett, MD, PhD
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD
Salary from Nanostring Inc., ESSA Pharma
Consulting fees from Nanostring Inc.
Ownership interest from Nanostring Inc., ESSA Pharma

May Daher, MD
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Marco L. Davila, MD, PhD
Consulting fees from Novartis; Celyad
Contracted research from Cellgene; Atara
Ownership interest from Precision Biosciences; Adaptive Biotech

Stephanie Farnia
Salary from Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
Ownership Interest from Exact Sciences

Terry J. Fry, MD
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Jérôme Galon, PhD
Receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder INSERM
Consulting fees from BMS, Sanofi, AstraZeneca
Contracted research from Perkin-Elmer, IObiotech, MedImmune, Janssen, AstraZeneca, Imcheck
Other from BMS, MedImmune, IObiotech, Northwest Biotherapeutics, Amgen, Gilead, CatalYm GmbH

Luca Gattinoni, MD
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Adrian P. Gee, PhD
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Christopher M. Haqq, MD, PhD
Salary from Atara Bio
Ownership interest from Atara Bio

Andrew W. Harmon, PhD
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Helen E. Heslop, MD
Consulting fees from Tessa Therapeutics, Gilead, Marker Therapeutics, Cytosen
Contracted research from Tessa Therapeutics, Cell Medica
Ownership interest from Allovir, Marker Therapeutics

Michael N. Liebman, PhD
Consulting fees from Excelra, United Cancer Centers
Ownership interest from BP, Pfizer

Francesco M. Marincola, MD
Salary from Refuge Biotechnologies
Royalty from Biomed Central

Jan Joseph Melenhorst, PhD
Royalty from Novartis
Receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder from Novartis
Consulting fees from Shanghai Unicar Therapy, Co.; Simcere of America, Inc.; IASO Biotherapeutics, Co.
Contracted research with Incyte; Novartis

Leonid S. Metelitsa, MD, PhD
Receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder NKT cell platform technology, Cell Medica, Ltd.

Stanley Qi, PhD
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Katayoun Rezvani, MD, PhD
Consulting fees from EMD Serono, Onkimmune, Formula Pharma, Synthrox
Contracted research from Pharmacyclics, EMD Serono, Affimed, CytoMx
Other from OSMB, Kiadis

Kyung-Ho Roh, PhD
Contracted research from Refuge Biotechnologies, Inc.

Rayne Helen Rouce, MD
Consulting fees from Novartis, KITE (Gilead)
Contracted research from Tessa Pharma

John M. Rossi, MS
Salary from Kite, a Gilead Company
Ownership interest from Kite, a Gilead Company

Elizabeth J. Shpall, MD
Consulting fees from Adoptimune; Novartis

Nathan Singh, MD
Receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder Novartis

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Christine Spencer, PhD
Salary from Abbvie
Ownership interest from Abbvie

Julien Valton, PhD
Salary from Cellectis
Receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder Cellectis
Contracted research from Cellectis
Ownership interest from Cellectis

Juan F. Vera, MD
Receipt of intellectual property rights/patent holder from Marker Therapeutics; Allovir
Consulting fee from Marker Therapeutics, Allovir
Ownership interest from Marker Therapeutics, Allovir

Xiuyan Wang, PhD
No relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Onsite Logistics and Maps

Internet Access

SITC is pleased to offer complimentary Wi-Fi in the meeting spaces and guest rooms at the Royal Sonesta Hotel to all SITC attendees. On your device, select the internet network "Sonesta Guest", launch your browser, and log in using the following case sensitive password:

Password: SITC2019

Photo/Video Policy

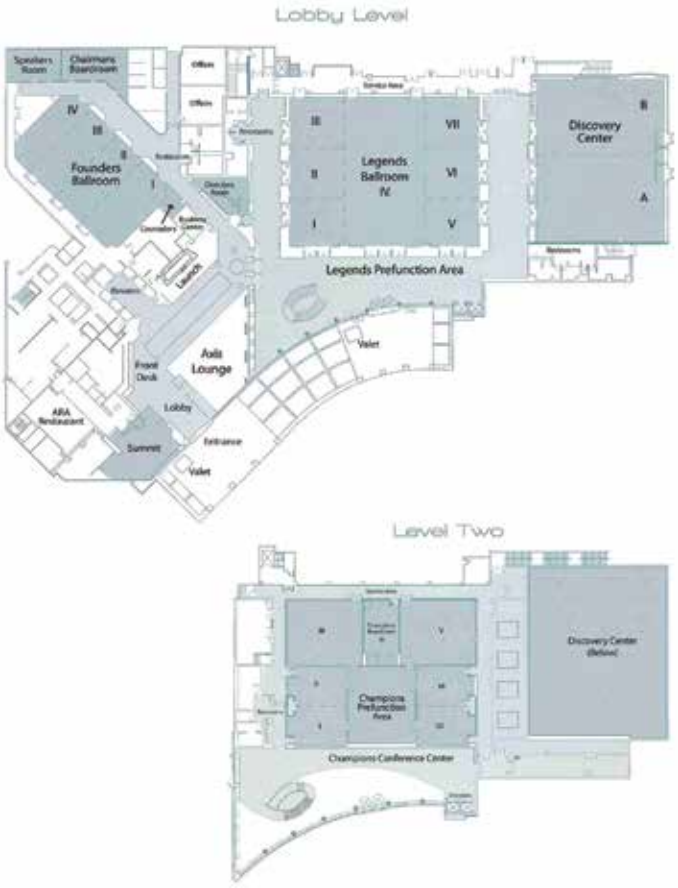
Photography and videography are prohibited other than for personal use in all SITC sessions, unless prior written approval is received from the SITC office.

SITC often employs the services of a professional photographer/videographer at SITC events to capture images and audiovisual (AV) recordings for use in society archival and promotional material. Your attendance at SITC events implies your permission for images and an AV recording captured to be used for purposes of SITC archival materials, promotional materials, and publications, and waives your rights for compensation or ownership of these images and recordings.

Evaluation Information

Registered participants will receive an email to complete the online evaluation form after the conclusion of the Adoptive Cellular Therapies Workshop.

Maps



About SITC

The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) is the world's leading member-driven organization specifically dedicated to professionals working in the field of cancer immunology and immunotherapy. Established in 1984, SITC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit medical professional society comprised of nearly 3,000 influential research scientists, physician scientists, clinicians, patients, patient advocates, government representatives and industry leaders dedicated to improving cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science and application of cancer immunotherapy.

Through emphasis on high-caliber scientific meetings; dedication to education and outreach activities; focus on initiatives of major importance in the field; and commitment to collaborations with like-minded domestic and international organizations, government and regulatory agencies, associations and patient advocacy groups, SITC brings together all aspects of the cancer immunology and immunotherapy community. SITC aims to make cancer immunotherapy a standard of care and the word "cure" a reality for cancer patients everywhere.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the society to improve cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science, development and application of cancer immunology and immunotherapy through our core values of interaction/integration, innovation, translation and leadership in the field.

Core Values

- Interaction/Integration: Facilitate the exchange of information and education among basic and translational researchers, clinicians, young investigators, patients, societies and groups sharing the mission of SITC
- Innovation: Challenge the thinking and seek the best research in the development of cancer immunotherapy
- Translation: Facilitate the transfer of cancer immunology and immunotherapy research from the bench to the clinic and back
- Leadership: Define what is new and important and effectively communicate it to all relevant stakeholders

Goals

- Education and Scientific Exchange: Serve as the leading resource for information and education on cancer immunotherapy
- Professional Standards: Set industry standards for the field of cancer immunotherapy in order to position SITC as the authority on immunotherapy of cancer
- Global Access and Impact: Advance the science and application of cancer immunotherapy worldwide
- Policy and Advocacy: Inform and influence the science and research, regulation, as well as quality of care and quality of access impacted by public policy, ensuring the patient voice is heard and recognized
- Science and Research: Challenge the thinking and seek the best research in the exploration and development of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy
- Leadership Development: Cultivate the next generation of leaders and innovators in tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy

Disease States Represented by SITC Constituents

SITC covers the full spectrum of both solid tumors and hematologic malignancies including:

- Bladder
- Brain/Central Nervous System
- Breast
- Colon/Rectum
- Genitourinary
- Glioblastoma
- Gynecological
- Head and Neck
- Leukemia
- Liver
- Lung
- Lymphoma
- Melanoma
- Mesothelioma
- Myeloma
- Neuroblastoma
- Pan-tumor
- Pancreas
- Prostate
- Renal

Sample of Medical Specialties Represented by SITC Constituents

- Antibody Based Therapies
- Biochemistry
- Bioinformatics
- Cellular Biology
- Cellular Therapies
- Clinical Investigations/ Clinical Trials
- Cytokines
- Dermatology
- Drug Development
- Gastroenterology
- Genetics and Genomics
- Gynecologic Oncology
- Hematology
- Immuno-oncology
- Immunology
- Immunotherapy
- Internal Medicine
- Medical Oncology
- Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
- Molecular Biology
- Neuro-oncology
- Oncolytic Viruses/ Vaccines
- Pathology
- Pediatric Oncology
- Pharmacology/Toxicology
- Radiation Biology/ Radiation Oncology
- Research Administration
- Stem Cell Biology
- Surgical Oncology
- Transplantation
- Urology

Notes

Notes

Advance Your Career with SITC

Stay Informed

Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School
Led by cancer immunotherapy experts, Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School is an in-depth, five-day program for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and clinical fellows in the field of cancer immunotherapy as well as those new to the field, focused on the core principles of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy. Stay tuned to the SITC website for details about the 2020 program at sitcancer.org/WinterSchool.

***Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer* (JITC)**
Publish your latest research in JITC, the society's open access, peer-reviewed online journal with an impact factor of 8.676. Learn more at sitcancer.org/JITC.

Expand Your Network

Career Connections Initiative
SITC's new Career Connections initiative connects you with talent seekers in the cancer immunotherapy field. Through an enhanced year-round online platform and in-person networking opportunities at SITC 2019, Career Connections will be your go-to resource for employment opportunities. Start your search at sitcancer.org/CareerConnections.

Meet-the-Experts Webinars
Inspired by SITC's popular annual Meet-the-Expert Lunch, these free webinars virtually connect early career scientists with field experts for career guidance. Register for an upcoming webinar at sitcancer.org/MTEwebinar.

SITC Professional Interest Communities
Expand your professional network and converse online with colleagues about your career and solve hurdles in the field in SITC Professional Interest Communities. Join a community today at sitcancer.org/professional-interest-communities.

SITC Volunteer Portal
To gain valuable experience in the field and expand your professional network, members can apply to open volunteer opportunities in the society via the SITC Volunteer Portal. Learn more at sitcancer.org/volunteer.

Funding Opportunities

To celebrate the achievements of young investigators in cancer immunotherapy, SITC annually honors dozens of early career scientists with SITC Abstract Travel Awards, Winter School Travel Awards and SITC Fellowships. Learn more about these initiatives at sitcancer.org/funding/awards or sitcancer.org/fellowships. Stay tuned for future SITC Fellowship announcements at sitcancer.org/fellowships.

Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer

Official Journal of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

ABOUT THE JOURNAL

Online • Open Access • Peer Reviewed

The *Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer* (JITC), the open access, peer-reviewed online journal of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC), is currently indexed in six major databases including PubMed, PubMed Central, Medline, the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Elsevier's Scopus database and Clarivate Analytics' Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE).

As a way to thank the SITC members who work tirelessly to advance the science and improve the lives of cancer patients, **SITC will provide SITC members with a 60 percent discount on processing fees for all JITC articles accepted in 2019**.

JITC Impact Factor of 8.676.

The impact factor places JITC in the top 3 percent of all fully open access oncology journals and ranks it in the top 8 percent of all journals published in the oncology and immunology categories.

Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer

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CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Pedro J. Romero, MD, JITC Editor-in-Chief, welcomes submissions on all aspects of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy. Content areas include:

- Basic Tumor Immunology
- Case Reports
- Clinical Trials Monitor
- Clinical/Translational Cancer Immunotherapy
- Commentary/Editorials
- Guidelines and Consensus Statements
- Immunotherapy Biomarkers
- Reviews

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Why *I'm* a SITC Member

"SITC is a different type of society because it focuses on immuno-oncology in a holistic way through a cross-functional approach that connects a variety of different stakeholders. The result is a 360 degree view, incorporating all perspectives, which has a substantial impact on patient outcomes."

Alessandra Cesano, MD, PhD
ESSA Pharma Inc.

Become a SITC member today a **sitcancer.org/join**

Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer