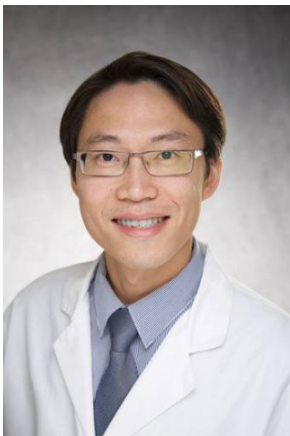


Holden Highlights 4/11/22



NEWS

Pancreatic Cancer Research Awards



Intraperitoneal vidutolimod treatment for pancreatic cancer patients with peritoneal metastasis

Carlos HF Chan, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Surgery and Radiation Oncology; Director, HCCC Biospecimen Procurement and Molecular Epidemiology Resource Core; *HCCC Member Cancer Genes and Pathways*



Advancing basic science and clinical development of pharmacologic ascorbate in pancreatic cancer

Joseph J. Cullen, MD, Professor, Surgery; HCCC Member Experimental Therapeutics



The Iowa Cancer Consortium's Spring Meeting brings together cancer control advocates and professionals to find inspiration and learn from others working in the field.

This year, they are offering two virtual opportunities to attend the Spring Meeting -- a daytime session on Wednesday, April 13th and an evening session on Thursday, April 14th. You only need to attend one. *Consortium members can register for free.*

[REGISTER FOR THE DAYTIME SESSION](#)

Wednesday, April 13th, 12-1:30pm

[REGISTER FOR THE EVENING SESSION](#)

Thursday, April 14th, 6-7:30pm



If you have an accepted abstract for the upcoming ASCO meeting that will be held June 3-7, 2022 in Chicago, IL, please let **[Angel Marsh](#)** know during the week of May 2-6, 2022.



Can you help to identify cancer patients whose teenagers could benefit from a TEEN “New Wonderers” Support Group? This is designed to help teenagers understand their parent’s cancer diagnosis and cope. (Cancer patients do not need to be AYA age.)

Teens ages 11 to 18 whose parent is a Cancer Center patient and has recently been diagnosed with cancer. Five weeks May 4 – June 1, Wednesdays 5:30pm to 6:30pm via zoom. There is no charge for the support group.

Curriculum will include cancer education, expression of feelings, identifying stress and coping techniques with hope for the future.

New Wonderers Teen Support group is a collaboration by the Adolescent Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Program, Child Life and the University of Iowa Department of Health & Human Physiology

If you have patients whose teenagers could benefit, please contact or send the patient name and MRN to [Michelle Altmaier](#) and she will be happy to reach out to them.

Clinical Trials 101 for patients, caregivers, and the public

When: Thursday, April 21, 2022, from 12-1 PM CST

Where: Virtual (Via Zoom)

After participating in this session, individuals will be able to:

- Explain what clinical trials are and the importance of these studies.
- Describe the different types and phases of clinical trials.
- Understand who can participate in cancer clinical trials.
- Discuss the potential benefits of participating in a cancer clinical trial.
- Identify barriers to participating in a clinical trial and how to effectively navigate these potential challenges.
- Know where to find information about cancer clinical trials being offered in Iowa.
- Talk with their doctor to decide if a clinical trial is right for them.

REGISTER

Sponsored by the [Iowa Cancer Consortium](#)



**Iowa Cancer
Consortium**

www.canceriowa.org

Graduate Student Spotlight

Emily Steinbach

Biomedical Science Graduate Program (Free Radical and Radiation Biology)

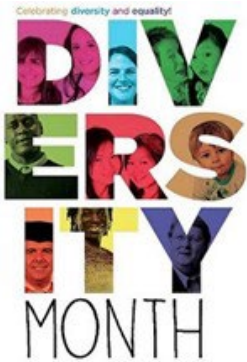
Doug Spitz lab, Department of Radiation Oncology; Lyndsay Harshman lab, Department of Pediatrics



I grew up in Centerville, Iowa and came to University of Iowa for my undergraduate studies where I graduated in 2018 with a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Biology and minoring in Chemistry (I was one class away from a minor in Dance, too!). I continued my training when I was admitted to the Free Radical and Radiation Biology graduate program in fall 2019. I am in the labs of HCCC member [Doug Spitz, PhD](#) (Program Affiliation: Free Radical Metabolism and Imaging) in the Department of Radiation Oncology and [Lyndsay Harshman, MD](#) in the Department of Pediatrics where I am studying the development of chronic kidney disease after cisplatin chemotherapy in childhood and how it effects brain structural formation and neurocognition. I am planning to graduate this semester and plan to continue my training as a Postdoctoral Fellowship at University of Iowa Health Care, Stead Family Department of Pediatrics, Division of Nephrology, Dialysis, and Transplantation. In my free time, I

enjoy working out, running with my canine companion, binge watching Netflix with my husband, and eating Oreos.

Celebrate Diversity Month



Did you that April is diversity month? It was officially designated as diversity month in 2004, and it strives to help people gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of each other and their differences. To recognize April diversity celebrations, consider new ways you can integrate diversity into your life.

- Sign up for the [BUILD Training Initiative](#), an opportunity for UI faculty, staff, postdoc, and graduate students to gain strategic knowledge and skills to contribute to a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.
- Read this article about [“Navigating cultural spaces, different than your own”](#)
- [Watch videos](#) on “Free Speech and Inclusive Classroom Practice” or “Journey to Unity Conversations”
- [Subscribe](#) to the DEI Newsletter from CCOM Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Read the [March 2022 Newsletter](#).

Office of Cancer Career Enhancement and Training (OCCET)



The Office of Cancer Career Enhancement and Training (OCCET) facilitates all educational and career enhancement initiatives for the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center. OCCET is led by Dr. Jon Houtman, who is the Associate Director for Career Enhancement at the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center. For the past two years, the Assistant Director of Career Enhancement was Dr. Greg Thomas. Greg recently left to take up a position as lecturer at Kirkwood Community College. The new Assistant Director for Career Enhancement and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is Megan Meyer, MBA. Megan has been at the University of Iowa since 2010, most recently as the Program Administrator for the Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs in Molecular Medicine and Neuroscience. We are excited to welcome Megan and her wealth of experience to the OCCET. Over the next year, the OCCET will be piloting several initiatives to enhance the careers of our trainees. We plan to initiate a postdoctoral fellow mentoring program that will include a requirement for mentoring committees and individual development plans, in addition to a new skills development series. We will also pilot a yearly survey to acquire needed information on trainees and staff in your laboratory. This information will be used to understand who is working at the HCCC and to individualize communication about educational initiatives. We will also implement a partnership with Monicur to use an online database to determine the career progression of our trainees. This information will be used to assess the effectiveness of our training initiatives, which is a new requirement from NCI.

Iowa researchers, patients giving cancer plenty of fight

Not only does the University of Iowa offer a variety of treatment options for a range of cancers, from the most common types to the rarest, campus investigators are working daily to make those treatments better. And patients play a key role. [Read more.](#)



ORIEN Update

Research Activities for PERCH and ORIEN are Active

ORIEN Network

Across the network, there are over **20,000** Avatar Patients. Avatars have a combination of clinical data, updated every six months, research grade whole exome sequencing (germline and tumor) data and RNA sequencing (tumor) data housed in the M2Gen Data Warehouse.

With new leadership and funding at M2Gen, the ORIEN centers are actively recruiting and sending in cases for sequencing. Avatar 2.0 case requirements for fiscal year 2022 are more limited than previous years, but we are optimistic that this will expand in the next 6-12 months.

ORIEN at Holden

Enrollment: As of April 1, 2022, over **9,000** patients have been approached for enrollment and over **6,400** have prospectively agreed to participate in ORIEN under the umbrella of PERCH, **452** have been added retrospectively having enrolled in a MER prior to PERCH opening.

Specimens: **112** Cases submitted by Holden for FY22 (to date). Overall, **414** cases shipped with **358** cases through sequencing and released into ORIEN Avatar (data returned to UI).

| 358 Holden Cases w/ | | 414 FY22 Shipped | |
|------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Disease Area | Avatar Cases | Disease Area | Avatar Cases |
| GU-Kidney Cancer | 81 | GU-Kidney Cancer | 50 |
| GU-Bladder Cancer | 53 | GU-Bladder Cancer | 51 |
| GU-Prostate and Other Cancer | 19 | GI-Pancreatic Cancer | 2 |
| GI-Pancreatic Cancer | 39 | GI-Colorectal Cancer | 2 |
| GI-Colorectal Cancer | 15 | GI-Liver (HCC) | 5 |
| GI-Gastric and Other Cancer | 16 | HEME-Leukemia | 2 |
| Melanoma | 29 | | |
| Sarcoma | 81 | | |
| Breast | 18 | | |
| GYN-Ovarian | 7 | | |

More information about ORIEN at Holden and how to get involved can be found [here](#).

Intermember Projects/Collaborations

Holden has contributed both sequencing and clinical data for 30 intermember projects, each in varying stages of analysis, abstract or funding submissions.

Investigators at Holden lead three awarded “Novel Oncologic Visionary Awards” in addition to two intermember projects.

NOVA

- *Dr. Donghai Dai*: “Development of Intra-Tumor Actionable Genetic Alteration Prevalence as a Predictor of Efficacy of Targeted Agents” (7 collaborating institutions)
- *Dr. Brian Link* (Co-I Dr. Jonathon Cohen, Emory): “Characterization of poor-risk relapsed NonHodgkin Lymphoma subtypes for precision medicine” (8 collaborating institutions)
- *Dr. George Weiner* (Co-I Dr. Ahmad Tarhini, Moffitt): “Predictors of Immunotherapeutic Benefits in Patients with Advanced Malignancies Treated with Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors” (14 collaborating institutions)

HCCC Led Intermember Projects

- *Drs. Carlos Chan and Gudbjorg Jonsdottir*: “The Impact of Germline and Somatic Mutations in the Homologous Recombinant Repair Pathway in Pancreatic Cancer Patients Who Undergo Perioperative Chemotherapy” (7 collaborating institutions)
- Poster presented at ORIEN Scientific Retreat, March 2022 and ASCO GI, 2022
- ASCO abstract submitted
- *Dr. Adam Dupuy*: “A sub-classification strategy for cutaneous melanoma to predict clinical outcomes” (11 collaborating institutions)
- Regulatory requirements being completed at all collaborating institutions. Awaiting delivery of data.

If you are interested in working with the ORIEN data or collaborations within the network contact: [Laura Jacobus](#) or submit a [BioMER Project request](#).

CLINICAL TRIALS

Tazemetostat in Treating Patients With Recurrent Ovarian or Endometrial Cancer

PI: Bender, David

Phase 2

Study of Combination Therapy With INCMGA00012 (Anti-PD-1), INCAGN02385 (Anti-LAG-3), and INCAGN02390 (Anti-TIM-3) in Participants With Select Advanced Malignancies

PI: Zakharia, Yousef

Phase 1/2

Study of ASTX295 in Patients With Solid Tumors With Wild-Type p53

PI: Monga, Varun

Phase 1/2

Testing the Addition of MEDI4736 (Durvalumab) to Chemotherapy Before Surgery for Patients With High-Grade Upper Urinary Tract Cancer

PI: Garje, Rohan

Phase 2/3

BESPOKE Study of ctDNA Guided Immunotherapy

PI: Sharif, Saima

PUBLICATIONS

FEATURED PUBLICATION

The Impact of Commission on Cancer Accreditation Status, Hospital Rurality and Hospital Size on Quality Measure Performance Rates

- Publication: Ann Surg Oncol
- Authors: Schroeder MC, Gao X, Lizarraga I, Kahl AR, Charlton ME
- Research Program: Cancer Epidemiology and Population Science

Hospital accreditation supports high-quality cancer care by monitoring and evaluating performance on quality measures. Previous research has shown that Commission on Cancer (CoC)-accredited hospitals perform better than non-accredited hospitals on evidence-based quality measures. However, the contribution of accreditation itself on hospital quality is unclear as accreditation status is confounded with hospital rurality and size, as well as patient rurality. Using Iowa Cancer Registry data, we found CoC-accreditation to be the strongest, independent predictor of greater performance on four CoC quality measures (breast radiation, breast chemotherapy, colon chemotherapy, colon nodal yield). As patient and hospital rurality were associated with lower quality of cancer care, efforts to support rural hospital accreditation may improve existing disparities in rural cancer treatment and outcomes.

WEEKLY PUBLICATIONS

Treatment patterns and outcomes of patients with relapsed or refractory follicular lymphoma receiving three or more lines of systemic therapy (LEO CReWE): a multicentre cohort study

- Publication: Lancet Haematol
- Authors: Casulo C, Larson MC, Lunde JJ, Habermann TM, Lossos IS, Wang Y, Nastoupil LJ, Strouse C, Chihara D, Martin P, Cohen JB, Kahl BS, Burack WR, Koff JL, Mun Y, Masaquel A, Wu M, Wei MC, Shewade A, Li J, Cerhan J, Flowers CR, Link BK, Maurer MJ
- Research Program: Cancer Epidemiology and Population Science

Web-Based Patient Educational Material on Osteosarcoma: Quantitative Assessment of Readability and Understandability

- Publication: JMIR Cancer
- Authors: Gulbrandsen TR, Skalitzy MK, Shamrock AG, Gao B, Hasan O, Miller BJ
- Research Program: Cancer Epidemiology and Population Science

The efficacy of web or mobile-based interventions to alleviate emotional symptoms in people with advanced cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis

- Publication: Support Care Cancer
- Authors: Kamalumpundi V, Saeidzadeh S, Chi NC, Nair R, Gilbertson-White S
- Research Program: Cancer Epidemiology and Population Science

Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Inhibition in Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor-Amplified Gastroesophageal Cancer: Retrospective Global Experience

- Publication: J Clin Oncol
- Authors: Maron SB, Moya S, Morano F, Emmett MJ, Chou JF, Sabwa S, Walch H, Peterson B, Schrock AB, Zhang L, Janjigian YY, Chalasani S, Ku GY, Disel U, Enzinger P, Uboha N, Kato S, Yoshino T, Shitara K, Nakamura Y, Saeed A, Kasi P, Chao J, Lee J, Capanu M, Wainberg Z, Petty R, Pietrantonio F, Klempner SJ, Catenacci DVT
- Research Program: Experimental Therapeutics

Durability of Response to Primary Chemoablation of Low-Grade Upper Tract Urothelial Carcinoma Using UGN-101, a Mitomycin-Containing Reverse Thermal Gel: OLYMPUS Trial Final Report

- Publication: J Urol
- Authors: Matin SF, Pierorazio PM, Kleinmann N, Gore JL, Shabsigh A, Hu B, Chamie K, Godoy G, Hubosky SG, Rivera M, O'Donnell M, Quek M, Raman JD, Knoedler JJ, Scherr D, Weight C, Weizer A, Woods M, Kaimakliotis H, Smith AB, Linehan J, Coleman J, Humphreys MR, Pak R, Lifshitz D, Verni M, Klein I, Konorty M, Strauss-Ayali D, Hakim G, Seltzer E, Schoenberg M, Lerner SP
- Research Program: Experimental Therapeutics

Biomarkers for Components of Dietary Protein and Carbohydrate with Application to Chronic Disease Risk in Postmenopausal Women

- Publication: J Nutr
- Authors: Prentice RL, Pettinger M, Zheng C, Neuhaus ML, Raftery D, Gowda GAN, Huang Y, Tinker LF, Howard BV, Manson JE, Van Horn L, Wallace R, Mossavar-Rahmani Y, Johnson KC, Snetselaar L, Lampe JW
- Research Program: Cancer Epidemiology and Population Science

Disparity of ovarian cancer survival between urban and rural settings

- Publication: Int J Gynecol Cancer
- Authors: Ulmer KK, Greteman B, Cardillo N, Schneider A, McDonald M, Bender D, Goodheart MJ, Schroeder MC
- Research Program: Cancer Genes and Pathways and Cancer Epidemiology and Population Science

Disparate groups share cancer disparities

- Publication: Trends Cancer
 - Authors: Weiner GJ, Winn RA
 - Research Program: Experimental Therapeutics
-

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNAL

Vere D. Wenger Travel Award (VIRTUAL INCLUDED): Ongoing

[Learn More](#)

Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Awards

Deadline Noon, Monday, May 9, 2022

[Learn More/Application](#)

EXTERNAL

American Cancer Society

Discovery Boost - Innovative Exploratory Research

deadline 10/15/22

[Learn More](#)

American Cancer Society

Research Scholar Grants

deadline 10/15/22

[Learn More](#)

American Cancer Society

Mission Boost Grants

deadline 10/15/22

[Learn More](#)

American Cancer Society

Postdoctoral Fellowships

deadline 10/15/22

[Learn More](#)

American Cancer Society

Clinician Scientist Development Grant

[Learn More](#)

SITC-Nektar Therapeutics

Equity and Inclusion in cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship

[Learn More](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Pitch Your Aims

Wednesday April 20, 2022| 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 pm (via Zoom)

Please reply to [Tami Thompson](#) and she will provide Zoom info.

Big Ten CRC Grand Rounds

Monday, April 25, 2022| 12:00 p.m. CT

[Join Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 833 7790 8654

Passcode: 114878

LGBTQ Inclusivity Training

Wednesday, May 11, 2022| 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

HCCC SCIENTIFIC RETREAT & Oberley/SfRBM Symposium

Wednesday, June 15, 2022| Coralville Hyatt Convention Center

[Register](#)

OPEN POSITIONS

Please share with potential candidates:

The [laboratory of Gail Bishop](#) at The University of Iowa is seeking a recent/upcoming PhD graduate for a postdoctoral fellow position, to join the lab team working on mechanisms of lymphocyte activation in normal immunity and immune-mediated disease. Interested candidates please send current CV, cover letter outlining experience and career goals, and names of three individuals who can provide references to gail-bishop@uiowa.edu

[21004197](#) Accreditation & Quality Improvement Specialist

[22001815](#) Program Manager

[22002406](#) Research Assistant, Specimen Procurement (requisition end date 4/14/2022)

[22002407](#) Regulatory Coordinator (requisition end date 4/14/2022)

[22001701](#) Clinical Health Care Research Associate (requisition end date 4/18/22)

[22002457](#) Clinical Research Associate (requisition end date 4/18/2022)

[22002474](#) Laboratory Technician II (requisition end date 4/19/2022)

RECENT NEW HIRES

Yuvraj Thakor, Clinical Trials Research Assistant 3/14/22

Jade Johnson, Clinic Services Specialist 3/21/22

Josh Cook, Senior Financial Analyst 3/21/22

Ericka Johnson, Clinical Trials Site Liaison 4/4/22

Nada Ibrahim, Pediatrics Clinical Trials Research Assistant 4/6/22

Jessica Thomas, Revenue Cycle Representative 4/10/22

RECENT INTERNAL TRANSFERS

Haley Coohy, Financial Analyst 3/20/22

Abby Kerkove, Clinic Services Specialist 3/27/22

Bill Kelly, Clinic Services Specialist 3/27/22

Maggie Dressel, Clinic Services Specialist 4/10/22