Next Generation NanoString Multiplex Fusion Sarcoma Assay Performance in DiffQuik and Papanicolaou-Stained Smears of Sarcomas
Zeinab Hasan, Hasanain Hasan, Shadi Qasem, Dana L. Richards, Shulin Zhang, Therese Jeanne Bocklage
Poster, 3/4/2020, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Single-Cell Evaluation of Myelodysplastic Syndrome Stem Cells Identifies Determinants of Hypomethylating Agent Response and a Novel Prognostic Gene Signature
Sara Javidiparsijani, Igor Dolgalev, Priyanka Vijay, Monica Del Rey Gonzalez, Sean Devlin, Virginia Klimek, Stephen Chung, Christopher Mason, Christopher Park
Poster, 3/4/2020, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Molecular Features of Unconventional Dysplastic Lesions Associated with Chronic Inflammatory Bowel Disease
Noam Harpaz, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Wei Zhang, School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Suparna A Sarkar, NYU Langone Health
CD47, a Prognostic Predictor, is Strongly Associated with Lymph Node Metastasis in Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumor
Rami Imam, Margaret Black and Wenqing Cao
Poster, 3/4/2020, 1pm-4pm

How Reliable is the Ki-67 Proliferative Index in the Grading of Metastatic Well-Differentiated Neuroendocrine Neoplasms?
Hemlata Shirsat, Atreyee Basu, Navneet Narula, Andre L. Moreira, Fang Zhou
Poster, 3/4/2020, 2:30pm-4pm
(Atreyee was our fellow last year)

Is STAS Assessment on Frozen Sections Reliable?
Fang Zhou, Julian A. Villalba, Treah S Sayo, Navneet Narula, Mari Mino-Kenudson, Andre L. Moreira
Poster, 3/2/2020, 1pm-4:30pm
(no resident)

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Faculty Update

In this Newsletter, we are excited to share few of the many recent academic accomplishments of our Faculty.

We would also like to congratulate Dr. Eva Hernando, an Associate Professor in our Department, for her recent appointment as Assistant Dean for Research Integration at NYU Langone Health. “Eva was an integral part of our Department’s research expansion as the Vice Chair for Research and will now oversee research integration throughout the NYU Langone System. For me, there is nobody better for this position.” Dr. Aifantis said in this occasion.

Dr. Hernando joined NYU Department of Pathology in 2006 as Assistant Professor after her training in Molecular Pathology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She assumed many crucial roles with great accomplishments in education and research at NYU Grossman School of Medicine before being appointed Assistant Dean for Research Integration at NYU Langone Health. She was Co-Director of the Medical Scientist Training Program, ViceChair for Research in our Department, and Associate Director for Basic Science at NYU Perlmutter Cancer Center.

Hernando’s research studies the molecular mechanisms of melanoma progression. In particular her lab is interested in the contribution of transcriptional programs and non-coding RNA to melanoma metastasis. Her lab has recently uncovered a new role for a circular RNA in this process (Hanniford et al., Cancer Cell 2020) You can find more details on this exciting discovery in the Featured publications article in this Newsletter.

“I would like to congratulate Dr. Amy Rapkiewicz, an Associate Professor in our Department, for her new position as the Chair of the NYU Long Island School of Medicine Department of Pathology” - said Dr. Aifantis to celebrate Dr. Rapkiewicz new appointment.

Dr. Rapkiewicz completed her Residency in Anatomy Pathology at the National Cancer Institute in New York and finished fellowships in General Pathology at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and in Special Stains at NYU Langone. At NYU Langone, she became interested in translational research and participated in translational multi-disciplinary teams. She is now leading a team of pathologists and scientists investigating cancer’s molecular alterations with the goal to develop accurate diagnostic tools in cancer.
2006. She trained as an NYU fellow in Cytopathology 2007 and then as Medical Examiner, Forensic in Miami (2012). Once she joined the Faculty of our department, she spent a number of years working with departmental leadership and had an integral role in department’s Medical Education.

In her new position, she will work on building a Quality Improvement team spearheaded by Kyle Nevins, continue to use innovative approaches to teach anatomy and pathology, and prepare the department for the upcoming LCME Provisional accreditation scheduled in October. In parallel to these activities, Dr. Rapkiewicz is focused on the recruitment of Faculty for open positions in our GYN, GI and Blood Bank services.

Dr. Rapkiewicz declared she is particular excited about the plans for Winthrop Construction and expansion of Maternal fetal medicine services. We are very excited and look forward to Dr. Rapkiewicz’s accomplishments and the synergies that we will develop in the future.

In addition, we would like to congratulate Dr. Richard Possemato for his promotion to the Associate Professor level. Dr. Possemato is one of the new generation of leaders in the field of tumor metabolism and was recruited to NYU Pathology in 2014. “He is not only a gifted researcher but also an impressive educator and colleague” said Dr. Aifantis. Dr. Possemato was recently awarded R01 grants from the NIH for his studies focusing on cancer metabolism and cellular iron sensing. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in the lab of Dr. William C. Hahn where he used functional genomics and human cell transformation models to understand telomere length dynamics related to cell replicative senescence. Dr. Possemato did his postdoctoral training at the Whitehead Institute, MIT, in the lab of Dr. David Sabatini where he studied how cancer cells alter their metabolism to sustain transformation and developed methods to identify metabolic pathways which are selectively essential in conditions observed in the tumor microenvironment.

Finally, we would like to welcome Dr. William Coetzee, recently appointed as Professor in the Department of Pathology. He has joint appointments in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology and the Department of Neuroscience and Physiology. With funding from the American Heart Association (including an Established Investigator Award), the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Justice and several foundations, Dr. Coetzee’s research over the years has focused on ion channel biology in neurosciences and the cardiovascular system. Current research includes investigations of mechanisms that regulate KATP channel trafficking and function, genetic variation of ion channel genes in cases of sudden infant death syndrome (with the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner), and several studies in collaboration with other NYU investigators to investigate the roles of ion channels in cancer and immune cells. Read more about the Coetzee Lab here: http://k-channels.com/coetzee/

Dr. Coetzee and Dr. Feske have establish an electrophysiology core facility (IonLab), which is part of the new Ion Channel & Immunity (ICI) Program in our department. Dr. Coetzee is the scientific director of IonLab, which is meant to facilitate research in the area of ion channel function in immune cells. Dr. Coetzee’s research laboratory and the IonLab core are located on the 4th floor of the Science Building.