SITC Virtual Roundtable on Diversity in Clinical Trial Enrollment

July 25, 2023 • 3:00 – 6:10 P.M. ET
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Welcome to the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer’s (SITC) Virtual Roundtable on Diversity in Clinical Trial Enrollment.

Building off the SITC Corporate Member Roundtable on Diversity in Clinical Trial Enrollment from November 2022, we are honored to bring together leading experts in the field to develop recommendations for specific actions each stakeholder in the clinical trial ecosystem can take to positively impact diversity in clinical trial enrollment.

Representatives from each stakeholder group will participate in the roundtable, which will consist of a series of presentations and panels that highlight success stories and lessons learned in addressing implicit bias challenges, creating patient and community engagement and optimizing trial designs and operations that facilitate access to clinical trials for patients of diverse backgrounds. By enabling a conversation across stakeholders, SITC aims to carve a roadmap for the next steps each stakeholder group can take to increase diversity in all immuno-oncology clinical trials.

We encourage your participation in the roundtable through the chat and Q&A functionality. Your expertise and knowledge of the existing barriers will help guide the conversation to actionable solutions that the team can put forward.

On behalf of SITC’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, we would like to thank you for attending today’s roundtable as SITC continues to bring together key members of the immuno-oncology community to break down barriers to equity in clinical trial enrollment.

Sincerely,

Leisha A. Emens, MD, PhD
Ankyra Therapeutics
Chelsea C. Pinnix, MD, PhD
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Padmanee Sharma, MD, PhD
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
John H. Stewart IV, MD, MBA, FACS
LSU-LCMC Health Cancer Center
Program Information

Overview

The goal of the virtual Roundtable on Diversity in Clinical Trial Enrollment is to walk away with recommendations for specific actions each stakeholder in the clinical trial ecosystem can take to positively impact diversity in clinical trial enrollment. Representatives from each stakeholder group will participate in the roundtable, which will consist of a series of presentations and panels that highlight success stories and lessons learned in addressing implicit bias challenges, creating patient and community engagement and optimizing trial designs and operations that facilitate access to clinical trials for patients of diverse backgrounds. By enabling a conversation across stakeholders, SITC aims to carve a roadmap for the next steps each stakeholder group can take to increase diversity in all immuno-oncology clinical trials. SITC aims to write a manuscript outlining the recommendations from the Roundtable.
# Program Agenda

## Roundtable on Diversity in Clinical Trial Enrollment

**Tuesday, July 25, 2023**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time (EST)</th>
<th>Session</th>
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| 3:00 – 3:05 p.m. | **Welcome**  
  Speaker: Leisha A. Emens, MD, PhD – Ankyra Therapeutics |
| 3:05 – 4:05 p.m. | **Setting the Stage**  
  **Moderator:** Leisha A. Emens, MD, PhD – Ankyra Therapeutics  
  3:05 – 3:15 p.m. **Patient Perspective**  
  Mel Mann, MBA, MEd  
  3:15 – 3:25 p.m. **Implicit Bias**  
  Mona Fouad, MD, MPH – University of Alabama at Birmingham  
  3:25 – 3:40 p.m. **Success Story – Sponsor Perspective**  
  Shalini Mohan, MD – Genentech  
  3:40 – 3:55 p.m. **Success Story – Community Perspective**  
  Augusto Ochoa, MD – Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center  
  3:55 – 4:05 p.m. **Break** |
| 4:05 – 4:35 p.m. | **Session 1: Implicit Bias: Broadening the Lens**  
  **Moderator:** Chelsea C. Pinnix, MD, PhD – The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
  **Presenters:**  
  Curtiland Deville, MD – Johns Hopkins University of Medicine  
  Chika Madu, MD – Staten Island University Hospital at Northwell Health  
  Benjamin Schrank, MD, PhD – MD Anderson Cancer Center |
| 4:35 – 5:20 p.m. | **Session 2: Patient and Community Engagement**  
  **Moderator:** John H. Stewart IV, MD, MBA, FACS – LSU-LCMC Health Cancer Center  
  **Panelists:**  
  Melissa Buffalo, MS – American Indian Cancer Foundation  
  Oluwadamilola Fayaju, MD, MA, MPH, FACS – University of Pennsylvania  
  Mona Fouad, MD, MPH – University of Alabama at Birmingham  
  Mel Mann, MBA, MEd  
  Cristin MacDonald – WCG Clinical  
  Luckson Mathieu, MD – Food and Drug Administration (FDA)  
  Ryan J. Sullivan, MD – Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital |
Program Agenda

Roundtable on Diversity in Clinical Trial Enrollment
Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Session 3: Trial Complexity vs. Standard of Care

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<tr>
<td><strong>Moderator:</strong></td>
<td>Michael Morris, MD – Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</td>
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<td><strong>Panelists:</strong></td>
<td>Leila Hamroun-Yazid, AIA, NCARB, GPCP – Tetra Tech Architects &amp; Engineers, Algerian American Foundation for Culture, Education, Science and Technology</td>
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<td>Jasmine Kamboj, MD, MBBS – Mayo Clinic Health System</td>
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<td>Luckson Mathieu, MD – Food and Drug Administration (FDA)</td>
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<td>Shalini Mohan MD – Genentech</td>
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<td>Margaret Mooney, MD – National Cancer Institute</td>
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<td>Ishwaria Subbiah, MD – Sarah Cannon Research Institute (SCRI)</td>
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<td>Desirée Walker</td>
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Summary and Next Steps

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<td><strong>Speakers:</strong></td>
<td>Leisha A. Emens, MD, PhD – Ankyra Therapeutics</td>
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Organizers

**Leisha Emens, MD, PhD**

*Ankyra Therapeutics*

Leisha A. Emens, M.D., Ph.D. has been the Senior Vice President of Translational Research at Ankyra Therapeutics since December 1, 2022. She received her MD/PhD in the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at Baylor College of Medicine, and completed postgraduate training at the National Cancer Institute, the University of Texas at Southwestern, and Johns Hopkins University. She joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins University in 2001, where she rose to the rank of Associate Professor of Oncology before joining the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center as Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh in 2018. She is a medical oncologist focused on breast cancer and is internationally recognized for her work in breast cancer immunotherapy. She developed and tested a vaccine for breast cancer patients, and also played a key role in the development of the anti-PD-L1 agent atezolizumab for triple negative breast cancer and HER2+ breast cancer. Dr. Emens was a member of the FDA Advisory Committee on Cellular, Tissue, and Gene Therapies (CTGTC) 2012-2016. She is an active member of ASCO, AACR, ESMO, and SITC, and is a former member of the Cancer Immunology (CIIMM) Steering Committee of the AACR. After serving a 2-year term from 2021-2022 as the Vice President of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC), Dr. Emens ascended to become SITC President in January 2023. She has received several awards for her work, including the President's Award from the YWCA of Greater Baltimore, the Maryland Governor’s Citation, the Sy Holzer Immunotherapy Research Award, and the Stand Up to Cancer Laura Ziskin Prize in Breast Cancer Translational Research.

**Chelsea C. Pinnix, MD, PhD**

*MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Chelsea Pinnix is an Associate Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center where she specializes in the treatment of patients with hematologic malignancies. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in 2007, where she earned a medical degree and a PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology. She then completed residency MD Anderson Cancer Center in the Department of Radiation Oncology. In 2012 she joined MD Anderson as faculty on the Hematologic Malignancies section. Her research is focused on the maximization of the therapeutic ratio for patients with hematologic malignancies through the utilization of radiation therapy. She is the principal investigator of clinical studies aimed at decreasing normal tissue toxicity from radiation through the use of advanced technology to reduce radiation exposure, utilization of smaller field sizes or reduced RT doses. She is also focused on the identification of improved treatment strategies that incorporate radiation combined with immune based therapies in the management of aggressive and refractory lymphomas. She is presently the Director of the Radiation Oncology Residency Program at MD Anderson Cancer Center and the Vice-Chair of the MD Anderson Graduate Medical Education Committee. She is a board examiner for the ABR. She is the Co-PI of the MD Anderson Cancer Center NCTN LAPS UG1 grant. She currently acts as the Education Council Vice-Chair on the Board of Directors for the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), she serves as the Radiation Oncology Chair on the SWOG Myeloma committee as well as the Radiation Oncology Representative on the NCI Lymphoma Steering Committee.

**Padmanee Sharma, MD, PhD**

*The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Dr. Sharma is a nationally and internationally renowned physician scientist whose research work is focused on investigating mechanisms and pathways within the immune system that facilitate tumor rejection or elicit resistance to immune checkpoint therapy. She is a Professor in the departments of Genitourinary Medical Oncology and Immunology, Associate VP of Immunobiology and the T.C. and Jeanette D. Hsu Endowed Chair in Cell Biology, at MD Anderson Cancer Center. She is also the inaugural Scientific Director for the Immunotherapy Platform at MD Anderson Cancer Center. As Scientific Director, she designs and supervises immune monitoring studies for over 100 different immunotherapy clinical trials. In 2022 she became the Director of Scientific Programs for the James P. Allison Institute at MD Anderson.

Dr. Sharma is a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). She received the Emil Frei III Award for Excellence in Translational Research in 2016, the Coley Award for Distinguished Research for Tumor Immunology in 2018, the Women in Science with Excellence (WISE) award in 2020, the Heath Memorial Award in 2021 and the Randall Prize for Excellence in Cancer Research in 2021.

Dr. Sharma has mentored over 50 graduate students, medical students, postdoctoral fellows, clinical fellows, and junior faculty since 2005. She also mentors undergraduate summer students, including underrepresented minorities from Puerto Rico and Howard University, each summer. She is currently mentoring 3 post docs, 3 graduate students, 2 clinical fellows and 4 junior faculty. She provides excellent leadership, guidance, expertise and invests her time for the success of the careers of these young scientists.
Organizers

In 2006, Dr. Sharma designed and conducted the first neoadjuvant (pre-surgical) trial, also known as a window-of-opportunity trial, with immune checkpoint therapy (anti-CTLA-4, ipilimumab), which allowed her to establish safety of the neoadjuvant approach for immune checkpoint therapy as well as provide tumor tissues for translational research studies. She identified the ICOS/ICOSL pathway as a novel target for cancer immunotherapy strategies. The neoadjuvant clinical trial in 2006 was also the first trial with immune checkpoint therapy in patients with bladder cancer. The clinical data indicated that 25% of patients had significant anti-tumor responses with pathologic complete responses. These data led Dr. Sharma to conduct additional clinical trials with immune checkpoint therapy (anti-PD-1, nivolumab) for patients with bladder cancer, which enabled FDA-approval of nivolumab as treatment for patients with metastatic bladder cancer. Dr. Sharma also led the clinical trials with immune checkpoint therapy (nivolumab and nivolumab plus ipilimumab) in patients with metastatic renal cell carcinoma (RCC), which led to FDA-approval of these agents as treatment for patients with RCC.

Dr. Sharma is the Principal Investigator for multiple immunotherapy clinical trials. Her studies have identified novel resistance mechanisms, including loss of interferon (IFN) signaling, VISTA+ immunosuppressive cells, increased EZH2 expression in T cells, TGFβ signaling in bone metastases, and CD73+ myeloid cells in GBM. Her work continues to drive the development of immunotherapy strategies for the treatment of cancer patients.

Dr. Sharma holds a Ph.D. in immunology and an M.D. from Pennsylvania State University. She completed her clinical residency at New York Hospital, Cornell Medical Center in New York.

John Stewart IV, MD, MBA, FACS

*Louisiana State University New Orleans - LCMC Health Cancer Center*
**Faculty and Speakers**

**Melissa Buffalo, MS**

**American Indian Cancer Foundation**

Ms. Buffalo is an enrolled member of the Meskwaki Nation in Iowa, and Dakota from the Crow Creek and Lower Brule Sioux Tribes. She received her undergraduate degree in child psychology from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities and earned an MS in Human Development from South Dakota State University. Melissa has over 15 years of experience working in the public health sector in a variety of different roles, she brings a wealth of knowledge to AICAF. As the CEO, Melissa is committed to working with and for Tribal Nations, and urban and rural tribal communities with opportunities to heal; emotionally, historically, spiritually, and physically from the inequities of cancer. Her responsibilities as the CEO of the American Indian Cancer Foundation include the overall direction and implementation of a strategic vision to improve Indigenous cancer outcomes nationally.

**Curtiland Deville, MD**

**Johns Hopkins University of Medicine**

Dr. Curtiland Deville is an Associate Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology and Molecular Radiation Sciences at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He serves as Medical Director of the Johns Hopkins Proton Therapy Center and Clinical Director and Chair of Sibley Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Deville’s clinical expertise involves treating patients with prostate cancer and soft tissue sarcoma. His funded research interests include improving tumor targeting and assessing toxicity profiles using modern radiation techniques such as proton therapy. He has co-authored over 170 peer-reviewed publications and serves as a Deputy Editor for the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics.

Dr. Deville has a research interest in physician workforce diversity as a means to address health equity. He is a leading voice in health equity, diversity, and inclusion (HEDI) in Radiation Oncology. He led the formation of the American Society for Radiation Oncology’s (ASTRO) Council on HEDI and was recently elected to the ASTRO Board of Directors.

Links:
- Johns Hopkins Medicine profile
- Pubmed
- Orcid
- Google Scholar

**Oluwadamilola Fayanju, MD, MA, MPHS, FACS**

**University of Pennsylvania**

Dr. Fayanju is the Helen O. Dickens Presidential Associate Professor in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and the Chief of the Division of Breast Surgery for the University of Pennsylvania Health System, aka Penn Medicine. She is also Surgical Director of the Rena Rowan Breast Center in the Abramson Cancer Center, Director of Health Equity Innovation at the Penn Center for Cancer Care Innovation (PC3I), and a Senior Fellow in the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics (LDI) at the University of Pennsylvania. She is an academic breast surgical oncologist whose research focuses on redressing health disparities; improving prognostication and management of aggressive breast cancer variants; generating value in oncology, particularly through the collection and application of patient-reported outcomes (PROs); and promoting diversity and inclusion in healthcare and research. She received her undergraduate degree in History and Science and an MA in Comparative Literature from Harvard. She received her MD and a master’s of population health sciences (MPHS) from Washington University in St. Louis, where she also completed her residency in General Surgery. She completed fellowship training in Breast Surgical Oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. In 2019, she was recognized by the National Academy of Medicine as an Emerging Leader in Health and Medicine Scholar. Her research is supported by funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and she has published in a variety of journals including Annals of Surgery, Cancer, and JAMA.

**Mona Fouad, MD, MPH**

**University of Alabama at Birmingham**

Mona Fouad, MD, MPH is Professor of Medicine, Division of Preventive Medicine, Edward E. Partridge, M.D., Endowed Chair for Cancer Disparity Research, Director of the Minority Health and Health Equity Center, Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Senior Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion in the Heersink School of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Fouad is recognized nationally as a leader in health disparities research and served as a member of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities from 2008-2012. In 2017, Dr. Fouad was elected a member of the National Academy of Medicine. She was selected as the UAB 2018 Distinguished Faculty Lecturer for advancing the frontiers of science and outstanding contributions to education, research and public service. In
Faculty and Speakers

2022, Dr. Fouad was awarded the Vilcek-Gold Award for Humanism in Healthcare which is awarded to outstanding immigrant healthcare professionals in the United States. Dr. Fouad obtained her MD from Alexandria University School of Medicine in Alexandria, Egypt, and her MPH from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health. Dr. Fouad’s career at UAB began in 1991 and has focused on the health of minority and underserved populations, including efforts to increase involvement of special and underrepresented populations in research.

Dr. Fouad has contributed to the science of health disparities through major studies to identify variability in cancer care and outcomes based on race, gender, and age. She has developed nationally emulated models in recruitment and retention of minorities in clinical trials and innovative community-based approaches to reducing racial disparities in breast and cervical cancer. She has been the driving force behind interdisciplinary research efforts for understanding problems related to cancer screening and cancer risk factors in the Deep South. Her work in translating science into practice has improved health outcomes in minority and other vulnerable populations. As a direct result of her research projects, racial disparities in breast cancer screening in Alabama Black Belt counties were virtually eliminated, as were disparities in access to cancer care.

Associate Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, UAB
Senior Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion, Heersink School of Medicine
Professor, Division of Preventive Medicine
Edward E. Partridge, M.D., Endowed Chair for Cancer Disparity Research
Director, Minority Health and Health Equity Research Center
University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine

Leila Hamroun-Yazid, AIA, NCARB, GPCP

Tetra Tech Architects & Engineers, Algerian American Foundation for Culture, Education, Science and Technology

Ms. Hamroun-Yazid, AIA, NCARB, GPCP, is a Senior Preservation Architect/Project Manager at Tetra Tech, leading the Historic Preservation Studio of the Critical Building Infrastructure Group. She has over 25 years of national and international experience in providing design and planning services for historic buildings, urban fabric, and landscapes. She has an MA in Urban Affairs and Public Policy, Concentration Historic Preservation, from the University of Delaware, and holds degrees from the Center Higher Studies of History & Conservation of Ancient Monuments, Paris, Paris, France, and the Polytechnical School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Algiers, Algeria. Her multicultural and multilingual background informs a nuanced perspective on the complex historical, political, social, and economical contexts forming our built environment.

Ms. Hamroun-Yazid is a 20 years breast cancer survivor, and is actively engaged in advocacy efforts to increase access to oncology clinical trials. Her efforts are not focused on a specific disease, rather on how to expand the reach of clinical trials through an overall strategy of information and inclusion, which can be tailored to support more disease-specific initiatives. She is a founding member of the Christiana Care Health System Oncology Patient Advocates for Clinical Trials (OPACT) and has been invited to panel discussions and national meetings as an advocate addressing clinical trial accrual and cancer health disparities in minorities and the medically underserved. Over the years she has participated in the AACR Scientist-Survivor program to address cancer health disparities, presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Research Community Forum Annual Meeting, and been part of ASCO-ONS webinars and Collaboration. Most recently she was selected to become a member of the Steering Group for the ASCO- Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) Collaboration to Increase Participation of Patients from Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations in Cancer Treatment Trials, co-Chairing the ASCO-ACCC Patient Partners Advisory Group and a participant in the ASCO Clinical Trial Access and Participation Task Force. Her latest efforts have included working with the ASCO Research Committee FDA Form 1572 Task Force and joining the National Cancer Institute’s Cancer Prevention Steering Committee. Her efforts were most recognized by the 2019 Society of Foreign Consuls of New York Recognition Award for Outstanding Achievements and Contributions to Community Empowerment

Jasmine Kamboj, MD, MBBS

Mayo Clinical Health System

Dr. Jasmine Kamboj is a board-certified Medical Oncologist and Hematologist at the Mayo Clinic, Minnesota, in the Division of Community Oncology. She earned her medical degree from the Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, India. She trained in Internal Medicine at the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, North Chicago and pursued a fellowship in Hematology and Oncology at the Baylor College of Medicine, Houston.

Dr. Kamboj has served on the Health Equity and Government Relations Committees at ASCO. She has also served on the Research Community Forum, Rural Task Force and Clinical Trials Task Force at ASCO.
Faculty and Speakers

**Cristin MacDonald, PhD**

**WCG**

As the leader of WCG’s integrated consulting and research solutions Cristin MacDonald provides consulting services to top pharmaceutical, biotech, and contract research organizations, and oversees client deliverables, systems, and processes across Avoca. Crissy has over 12 years of pharmaceutical industry experience with expertise in clinical research, process development, and strategic management. Her previous professional roles have touched every stage of the clinical trials process, from pre-clinical research through late-stage clinical development. Crissy earned a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from Drexel University and a bachelor’s degree from Lafayette College.

**Chika Madu, MD**

**Staten Island University Hospital at Northwell Health**

Dr. Madu is the Chair of the Department of Radiation Medicine at Staten Island University Hospital (SIUH) / Northwell Health. She serves as the Chair of the Commission on Cancer at SIUH, as well as the Chair of the Quality Assurance Committee in Radiation Medicine at SIUH. She is the Vice-Chair of the Advocacy Committee of ASTRO’s Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (HEDI) Council. She serves on the SIUH Women in Medicine Executive Committee. She is an alumna of Northwell Health’s Physician Leadership Development Program, the MAP-IT Program, and the Northwell/Cornell Executive Leadership Development Program.

She earned her medical degree at the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor and completed her residency training in radiation oncology at the University of Pennsylvania’s Abramson Cancer Center. She is a firm believer in multidisciplinary patient care and ensures collaboration with other physicians from other departments to improve treatment outcomes for cancer patients. Dr. Madu plays an active role in medical student and resident education, mentorship, research, and the development of strategies aimed at eliminating healthcare disparities for all patients. She has been an invited lecturer at National / Regional Oncology Conferences. She is a member of several professional societies including The American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), American Society for Clinical Oncology (ASCO), American Radium Society (ARS), and the American Board of Radiology (ABR).

**Mel Mann, MBA, MEd**

Mel Mann was diagnosed 28 years ago with leukemia and given three years to live unless a bone marrow donor could be found. He was unable to find a lifesaving marrow donor despite conducting numerous marrow donor drives and adding thousands of people to the marrow registry. He entered phase 1 of the Gleevec clinical trial in August 1998 and is now the world’s longest living Gleevec survivor. Mel advocates vigorously for health equity and minority participation in clinical trials. He collaborates with several national oncology non-profit organizations. Mel has shared his experiences with numerous radio and television shows, magazines, newspapers, health panels and he frequently speaks to many different audiences.

**Luckson Mathieu, MD**

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**

Luckson Mathieu is a medical oncologist and senior reviewer at the Division of Oncology 2, Thoracic and Head and Neck Cancer, US Food & Drug Administration. Dr. Mathieu received his M.D. degree from the Meharry Medical College and completed his residency training in internal medicine at the University of Cincinnati then fellowship in medical oncology at Johns Hopkins; he completed his undergraduate training at Harvard University.

Upon joining the FDA, he was assigned to the Thoracic and Head and Neck Cancers team in the Division of Oncology Products 2 (DOP2) as a reviewer. During this time, he has evaluated various safety and study designs across all stages of clinical development (pre-investigational new drugs through marketing approval). He has played a significant role in the recent FDA approvals of several drug products in the treatment of lung cancer. Dr. Mathieu has also represented FDA in several workshops and lectures. His primary interests are in cancer disparities, thoracic malignancies, and precision medicine.
Faculty and Speakers

Shalini Mohan, MD

**Genentech**

Shalini earned her M.D. from the University of Missouri, Kansas City and completed postdoctoral fellowships at Stanford in immunology/rheumatology and oncology. She joined Genentech in 2015 as a Safety Scientist in Product Development where she supported late stage clinical trials, one of which led to the filing and approval of Actemra in Giant Cell Arteritis. She also supported the Tecentriq MORPHEUS program, partnering closely with clinical science to identify immune related adverse events and develop strategies for their assessment and management in clinical trials. Shalini joined US Medical Affairs in 2019 as a Senior Medical Director serving as Actemra team lead and was most recently the medical lead for the EMPACTA study, the largest randomized placebo-controlled trial for COVID-19 pneumonia in a diverse population enriched for underrepresented minority patients. She currently serves as the Head of Health Equity and Inclusive Research where she leads a team responsible for identifying opportunities across the portfolio to improve access for underserved populations in the US who have disproportionate disease burden. She has authored more than 20 peer-review publications and received multiple awards including the Professional Businesswomen of California Industry Leader Award in 2023.

Margaret Mooney, MD

**National Cancer Institute**

Meg Mooney, MD received her medical degree from the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in Chicago and her general surgical training at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, New Hampshire. She completed her Surgical Oncology fellowship training at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, New York, and also holds a Master of Science degree in Management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dr. Mooney joined NCI in 2002 as Head of Gastrointestinal and Neuroendocrine Cancer Therapeutics in the Clinical Investigations Branch in the Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program (CTEP). She was appointed Chief of the branch in May 2009 with responsibility for the NCI direction of the National Clinical Trials Network Program. In April 2020, she became the Associate Director of CTEP, with oversight and coordination responsibilities for the programmatic, financial, and administrative functions for the entire CTEP program, which covers a broad, multidisciplinary, clinical research effort to coordinate nationwide phase 1-3 clinical trials programs testing new treatment approaches for cancer.

Michael Morris, MD

**Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center**

Dr. Morris is a prostate cancer specialist, clinical investigator, full member, and the Section Head of Prostate Cancer of the Genitourinary Oncology Service at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He serves as the Special Advisor to the Director of the NCI, and is the co-Director of the NCI’s Clinical Trials Innovation Unit. He earned his medical degree from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and performed his internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center. He then completed his medical oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Dr. Morris has led numerous clinical trials but has a particular research focus on targeted therapy for prostate cancer, especially those that bridge the fields of Medical Oncology and Nuclear Medicine. In the field of therapeutics, he has focused on tumor and bone-directed radiopharmaceuticals for prostate cancer. He was part of the leadership team that developed Lu-177 PSMA-617, which is now FDA approved for men with advanced prostate cancer. He has a research focus interest in developing novel imaging technologies for metastatic prostate cancer and in credentialing imaging biomarkers. He has been a co-developer of the Prostate Cancer Working Group 2 and 3 Consensus Criteria, and prostate-specific imaging technologies such as PSMA-directed PET imaging. In addition, he is the Medical Director of the Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium (CTIU). He is co-Director of the NCI’s Clinical Trials Innovation Unit, a new joint NCI/FDA collaborative clinical trials vehicle. The CTIU is tasked with rapidly developing and activating innovative and impactful clinical trials, simplifying their designs, and enhancing patient access and equity.

Augusto Ochoa, MD

**Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center**

Augusto Ochoa, M.D. is the Deputy Director of the LSU Cancer Center, a Professor of Pediatrics, and the Al Copeland/Cancer Crusaders Chair in Cancer Research at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC) in New Orleans. His research has focused on enhancing anti-tumor T cell responses by understanding and overcoming the immunosuppressive mechanisms present in the tumor microenvironment. More recently his team has started studying how obesity promotes chronic inflammation and...
Faculty and Speakers

facilitates the development of cancer. Over the past decade, Dr. Ochoa has worked at building clinical research and clinical trials capabilities with community oncology groups in the region. He is the P.I. of the Gulf South Clinical Trials Network, funded by the NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP). Dr. Ochoa has been a member of the NCI’s Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC) for Clinical Sciences and Epidemiology and is also a member of the Cancer Immunotherapy Trials Network and a member of the Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot Committee.

Benjamin Schrank, MD, PhD

Dr. Schrank is a resident physician in radiation oncology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. He graduated from Brown University with a degree in Neuroscience in 2011 and earned his medical degree and PhD from Columbia University in 2020. He completed his first year of residency at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Now at MD Anderson, Dr. Schrank is working to advance clinical research for LGBTQ+ patients through the standardization of sexual orientation and gender identity data collection.

Ishwaria Subbiah, MD

Ishwaria Subbiah, MD, joined Sarah Cannon Research Institute (SCRI) in 2023, and serves as executive director, Cancer Care Equity & Professional Wellness. In her role, Dr. Subbiah focuses on reducing cancer outcomes disparities and diversifying clinical trial participation across SCRI’s network. Dr. Subbiah also oversees SCRI’s healthcare professional well-being program to support multidisciplinary oncology research professionals across sites. Dr. Subbiah works in concert with SCRI’s SMO and CRO to advance unmet needs that both trial sponsors and physicians are seeking to address for patients.

Dr. Subbiah is recognized for her work geriatric oncology, symptom management, palliative care, and healthcare professional well-being. She previously was an associate professor in the Division of Cancer Medicine at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr. Subbiah contributes to the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) clinical practice guidelines update in geriatric oncology, new ASCO guidelines on medical cannabis and cannabinoids, and serves on the Older Adult Oncology guidelines committee of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). She holds several peer-reviewed grants and serves in editorial leadership roles for the American Cancer Society (ACS) journal Cancer, the Journal of the National Cancer Institute (JNCI), JNCI Cancer Spectrum, and the Journal of Geriatric Oncology. She is the Chair for the ASCO Women in Oncology working group and the ASCO State of Cancer Care in America initiative shaping organizational and system-level strategies to ensure a sustainable and thriving oncology workforce.

Dr. Subbiah received her bachelor’s degree in molecular & cellular biology and master’s degree in biotechnology from Johns Hopkins University, and medical degree from St. George’s University. After completing residency in internal medicine at University of Texas Health Science Center, she completed fellowships in investigational cancer therapeutics, medical oncology and hospice & palliative medicine at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Ryan J. Sullivan, MD

Dr. Ryan Sullivan is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and the Associate Director of the Melanoma Program and a member of the Termeer Center for Targeted Therapy at Mass General Cancer Center. Dr. Sullivan is an active clinical and translational investigator whose main areas of interest are the development of novel molecular targeted and immunotherapeutic combinations for malignant melanoma and other solid tumors. More recently, he has been interested in describing, predicting, and optimally treating immune related adverse events from immune checkpoint inhibition.

Desirée Walker

At the age of 38, Desirée A. H. Walker was diagnosed with breast cancer, which recurred at age 47. For many who have had to fight breast cancer, Desirée serves as an advocate for patients by openly speaking about her diagnoses to audiences nationally and internationally. The core of her message is to encourage patients to truly know their body and feel empowered to steward self, mind, body and soul. Through SHARE’s Side Program, Desirée trains medical students and doctors on how to deliver disappointing news and vehemently supports the importance of patient/doctor communication.

She volunteers with the Young Survival Coalition as President, Board of Directors. She is a member of and the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship’s (NCCS); Society of
Faculty and Speakers

Integrative Oncology's (SIO) Patient Advocate Committee and Health Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Task Force; and NCI SWOG Recruitment and Retention, Patient Advocate and DEI Monitoring Committees. She serves on The NCI Cancer Prevention and Control Central Institutional Review Board. Desirée is also a member of The Multi-Regional Clinical Trials Center of Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard’s “Health Literacy Resources for Clinical Research” and “Collaborative Cross-Industry Glossary for Clinical Research” Workgroups and a former member of the CDC’s Advisory Council on Breast Cancer in Young Women.
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.

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None to Disclose

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Executive Role: SVP Translational Research Ankyra
Researcher: AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Bolt Therapeutics, Bristol Myers Squibb, Compugen, Corvus, CytomX, EMD Serono, Genentech, F Hoffman La Roche, Immune Onc, Merck, Next Cure, Silverback, Takeda, Tempest
Publicly Traded Stocks: Potential for stock options in the future from Ankyra Therapeutics

Leila Hamroun-Yazid, AIA, NCARB, GPCP
Publicly Traded Stocks: CVS Health Corp, GE Healthcare Technology, Eli Lilli & Co, Blackrock Health Sciences Trust

Jasmine Kamboj, MD, MBBS
None to Disclose

Cristin MacDonald, PhD
Independent Contractor: WCD Avoca
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Publicly Traded Stocks: WCD Avoca

Chika Madu, MD
None to Disclose

Luckson Mathieu, MD
None to Disclose

Mel Mann
Consultant Advisor Speaker: Speaker

Shalini Mohan, MD
None to Disclose

Margaret Mooney, MD
Researcher: Multiple US Federal CRADAs with pharmaceutical and biotech companies are processed by NCI within the CTEP program as Non-covered Recipient Entity and my signatory obligations on these are covered and managed by NIH/NCI Ethics as a US federal employee.

Michael Morris, MD
Consultant Advisor Speaker: Lantheus, AstraZeneca, Amgen, Daiichi, Convergent Therapeutics, Pfizer, ITM Isotope Technologies, Clarity Pharmaceuticals, Blue Earth Diagnostics, POINT BioPharma, Telix, Progenics, Z-Alpha
Publicly Traded Stocks: Doximity

Augusto Ochoa, MD
Researcher: National Cancer Institute
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Research Support: Merck Inc.

Benjamin Schrank, MD, PhD
None to Disclose
Conflicts of Interest

Padmanee Sharma, MD, PhD


Ishwaria Subbiah, MD

Researcher: American Cancer Society, Hope Foundation/Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG), Andrew Sabin Family Foundation - paid to institution.

Ryan J. Sullivan, MD

Researcher: Merck (Research Funding)
Consultant Advisor Speaker: BMS, Merck, Novartis, Pfizer, Marengo

Desirée Walker

None to Disclose
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 over 4,300 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
- Biostatistician
- Cellular Biology
- Cellular Therapies
- Clinical Investigations/Clinical Trials
- Computational Biology
- Cytokines
- Dermatology
- Drug Development
- Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology
- Genetics and Genomics
- Gynecologic Oncology
- Hematology
- Immunology
- Immuno-Oncology
- Immunotherapy
- Internal Medicine
- Medical Oncology
- Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
- Molecular Biology
- Neuro-oncology
- Oncolytic Virus/Vaccines
- Pathology
- Pediatric Oncology
- Pharmacology/Toxicology
- Proteomics
- Radiation Biology/Radiation Oncology
- Research Administration
- Stem Cell Biology
- Surgical Oncology
- Transplantation
- Urology

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