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News From the Association of American Cancer Institutes | May 2024

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[Awards & Honors](#) | [Grants & Gifts](#) | [Leadership Transitions](#) | [Research Highlights](#) | [Other News](#)
[Job Opportunities](#) | [Meeting Announcements](#)

AACI HEADLINES

[SKCC at Jefferson Health Earns Comprehensive Designation From NCI](#)



Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center (SKCC) at Jefferson Health has earned a National Cancer Institute (NCI) "Comprehensive" Cancer Center designation, the highest recognition awarded by the NCI. This recognition places SKCC among an elite group of only 57 cancer centers nationwide. **Andrew Chapman, DO, FACP**, is director of the cancer center. [Read More](#)

[Register Today for the 2024 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting](#)



Registration is now open for the **2024 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting**, which will take place **October 20-22** at the Loews Chicago Downtown Hotel. Preceding the meeting, AACI will host the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Summit, in partnership with the American Cancer Society and the Cancer Center DEI Network. The DEI Summit is scheduled **October 19-20** in Chicago. [Read More](#)

[Abstract Winners Announced for the 16th Annual AACI CRI Meeting](#)

The AACI Clinical Research Innovation (CRI) Steering Committee, with the assistance of peer reviewers from CRI committees and volunteers, have selected three abstracts from 154 submissions for formal presentation on **Tuesday, June 25**, during the **16th Annual AACI CRI**



Meeting. Winning abstract authors represent Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Iowa; UK Markey Cancer Center; and Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center. [Read More](#)

[CRI Annual Meeting: Support Opportunities](#)



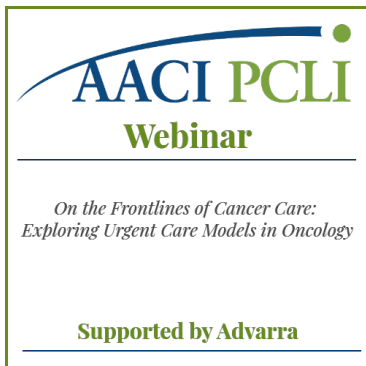
AACI invites you to promote your cancer center or company by purchasing an ad in the **16th Annual AACI CRI Meeting** digital program book. Your program ad may highlight a conference or a new initiative, or celebrate the success of your cancer center's clinical trials office. The deadline to submit a program ad is 5:00 pm eastern time on **Friday, May 24**. [Read More](#)

[Sen. Durbin, Rep. Wittman to Receive Cancer Research Ally Award](#)



Senator **Dick Durbin (D-IL)** and Representative **Rob Wittman (R-VA)** will be honored with the Cancer Research Ally Award before the **2024 AACI/AACR Hill Day**, which will be held on **Thursday, May 16**. The awards will be presented during an evening reception on **Wednesday, May 15**. [Read More](#)

[PCLI Webinar: Exploring Urgent Care Models in Oncology](#)



AACI's **Physician Clinical Leadership Initiative (PCLI)** will host a webinar titled "**On the Frontlines of Cancer Care: Exploring Urgent Care Models in Oncology**" at 1:00 pm eastern time on **Thursday, May 9**. Panelists will offer invaluable insights into the evolving landscape of oncology care and strategies for delivering high-quality, patient-centered services in urgent care settings. This webinar is supported by **Advarra**. [Read More](#)

[AACI CAR T Initiative Renamed Cellular Therapy Initiative](#)

Recognizing the evolution of immunotherapies over the past several years, the AACI CAR T Steering Committee recently voted to change the name of the CAR T Initiative to AACI **Cellular Therapy Initiative**. Along with the new name, the steering committee will expand to include experts in other cellular-based therapies. [Read More](#)



[AACI Introduces Tech Gold Membership](#)

AACI is pleased to announce **Tech Gold**, a new membership category designed especially for technology companies whose products and services benefit cancer centers. This membership provides a forum for AACI cancer centers and these companies to exchange ideas and imagine new possibilities for enhancing oncology through technology. The 2024 Tech Gold members are **Caris Life Sciences**, **Cognizant**, and **Yunu**. [Read More](#)

[Paid Advertisement: Prevent Cancer Foundation](#)



Call for Research Grant and Fellowship Applications

Deadline: June 14, 2024 (11:59 pm ET)

The goal of the Prevent Cancer Foundation's research program is to identify and fund innovative projects with the potential to make substantial contributions to **cancer prevention or early detection**. [Apply for a \\$100,000 award.](#)

Read about the **impact of the research program** and **awarded researchers** to discover projects driving key advancements in the field. [Learn More](#)

NEWS FROM THE CENTERS

AWARDS & HONORS

[Ulrich Receives Governor's Medal](#)

[Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah](#)



Neli Ulrich, PhD, MS, chief scientific officer and executive director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah, has been awarded the 2024 Governor's Medal for Science and Technology. [Read More](#)

[Licht Named AAAS Fellow](#)

[University of Florida Health Cancer Center](#)

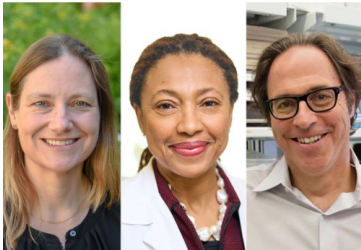
Jonathan D. Licht, MD, director of the UF Health Cancer Center, has been named a 2023 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), a distinguished lifetime honor within the scientific community. [Read More](#)



[Dickson, Khabele, Longmore Elected to Association of American Physicians](#)

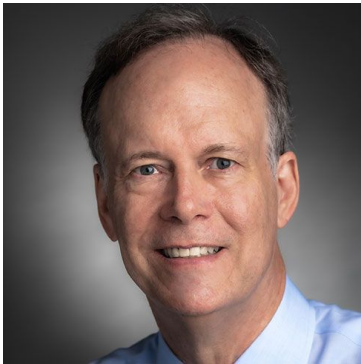
[Siteman Cancer Center](#)

Three Washington University physician-scientists at Siteman Cancer Center—**Patricia I. Dickson, MD**, **Dineo Khabele, MD**, and **Gregory D. Longmore, MD**—have been elected to the Association of American Physicians. Membership in the organization is an honor bestowed on physicians who lead innovative scientific research to improve health care. [*Read More*](#)



[Kaelin Recognized With Reimann Honor Award](#)

[Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health](#)



William Kaelin Jr., MD, physician, scientist, and Nobel laureate, was recognized at Fox Chase Cancer Center with the Stanley P. Reimann Honor Award, the center's highest distinction. The award was presented while Dr. Kaelin was visiting Fox Chase to deliver a scheduled lecture. [*Read More*](#)

[Bondy Receives ASPO Award](#)

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)



Melissa Bondy, PhD, received the American Society of Preventive Oncology Joseph F. Fraumeni, Jr. Distinguished Achievement Award. The award is extended annually to an outstanding scientist in the areas of preventive oncology, cancer control, and/or cancer prevention. [*Read More*](#)

[Sharma Named President of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy](#)

[The University of Kansas Cancer Center](#)



Prateek Sharma, MD, FASGE, has been elected president of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy for 2024-2025. Dr. Sharma is a member of The University of Kansas Cancer Center's Cancer Prevention and Control research program. His term begins in May. [Read More](#)

[Researchers Receive Team Science Award From Melanoma Research Alliance](#)

[UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

A multidisciplinary team of investigators from the UCLA Health Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center was awarded a Translational Melanoma Research Alliance Team Science Award to identify small-molecular compounds that will prevent cancer cells from developing resistance to current mutation-targeted therapies and immunotherapies. [Read More](#)

[NCI ESSP 2024 Cohort Selected](#)

[Stanford Cancer Institute](#)



Candice Thompson, MD, was selected to participate in the NCI Early-stage Surgeon Scientist Program (ESSP), which is designed to train surgeon-scientists and retain them in basic/translational cancer research. This program brings together surgeon-scientists from across the United States and builds cohorts that will be trained together for up to three years. [Read More](#)

GRANTS & GIFTS

[Perlmutter Earns Redesignation as Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone](#)

[Hollings Achieves its Highest Score, Receives NCI Designation Renewal](#)

[Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina](#)

[Charitable Trust Makes \\$50 Million Gift to Build New Cancer Hospital](#)

[WVU Cancer Institute](#)

[New Lung Cancer Research Center to be Established With \\$20 Million Gift](#)

[Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Scientists Build a Molecular GPS to Guide Cell Therapies](#)

[UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Researcher Awarded \\$3 Million to Study New Target for Melanoma Treatment](#)

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)

[Zhou Receives \\$2.9 Million to Develop System to Predict Multiple Myeloma Outcomes](#)

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

[\\$1 Million Pledged to Support Regional Campus, Cancer Patients](#)

[UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute](#)

[Researchers Receive Grant to Study Role of Obesity in Colorectal Cancer](#)

[University of Florida Health Cancer Center](#)

LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS

[Winkfield Named Associate Director for COE](#)

[Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center](#)



Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD, executive director of the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance, has been named associate director for Community Outreach and Engagement (COE) at Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. Earlier this year, Dr. Winkfield delivered the keynote talk at the 2024 AACI Leadership Diversity and Development Workshop. [Read More](#)

[New Director of Melanoma Research](#)

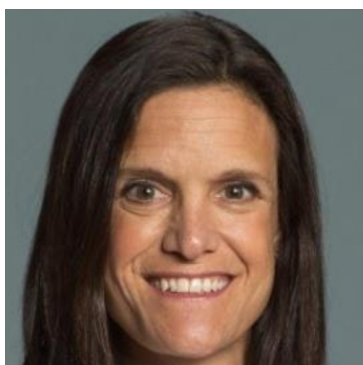
[Cedars-Sinai Cancer](#)



Bin Zheng, PhD, a specialist in targeted therapies and immunotherapy, has joined Cedars-Sinai Cancer as director of Melanoma Research in the Department of Biomedical Sciences. [Read More](#)

[NRG Oncology Announces New Committee Leadership](#)

[The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai](#)



Stephanie Blank, MD, has been appointed vice chair of NRG Oncology's Cancer Prevention and Control (CPC) Committee. NRG Oncology is a NCI National Clinical Trials Network group; the CPC Committee focuses on reducing cancer risk through optimal screening, biomarker evaluation, and risk reduction strategies. [Read More](#)

[Kaumaya to Continue Cancer Therapy Work at IU](#)

[Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)



Pravin Kaumaya, PhD, recognized for creating a cancer treatment blueprint that uses peptides in vaccines to block the growth and spread of cancer, has been named the Vera Bradley Foundation Professor of Breast Cancer Innovation at the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center. [Read More](#)

[Thompson Named Pediatric Neurosurgery Director](#)

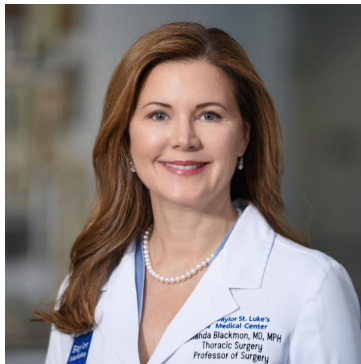
[Siteman Cancer Center](#)



Eric Thompson, MD, will join Siteman Kids at St. Louis Children's Hospital on August 5 through his appointments at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and at St. Louis Children's Hospital. Siteman Kids is the pediatric oncology program of Siteman Cancer Center. [Read More](#)

[Blackmon Named Director of Lung Institute](#)

[Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Utah](#)



Shanda H. Blackmon, MD, MPH, specializing in minimally invasive lung segmentectomy and complex thoracic surgery, has been named director of the Lung Institute at Baylor Medicine. She is returning to Houston from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. [Read More](#)

[Director for Research Education Named](#)

[Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center](#)



Chris Williams, MD, PhD, associate dean for Physician-Scientist Education and Training at Vanderbilt University, has been named to lead Research Education at Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center (VICC). He succeeds Scott Hiebert, PhD, who will continue to serve as associate director for Shared Resources at VICC. [Read More](#)

[Enhanced Melanoma Vaccine Offers Improved Survival for Men](#)

[University of Virginia Cancer Center](#)

[Team Identifies New Approach to Boosting Effectiveness of Chemotherapy in Hematologic Cancers](#)

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Colorless, Odorless Gas Likely Linked to Alarming Rise in Non-Smoking Lung Cancer](#)

[The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute](#)

[Research Suggests Interventions to Address Higher Mental Health Care Needs in Parents Caring for Children With Cancer](#)

[Winship Cancer Institute at Emory University](#)

[New Plan Seeks to Improve Cancer Prevention, Clinical Trial Access](#)

[University of Virginia Cancer Center](#)

[Personalized Vaccine for Liver Cancer Shows Promise in Clinical Trial](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University](#)

[Study Shows Resistance to Chemotherapy May Point Toward Favorable Outcomes in Bilateral Wilms Tumor](#)

[Comprehensive Cancer Center St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#)

[Investigators Develop Novel Treatment for T-cell Leukemias and Lymphomas](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University](#)

[New Urine-Based Test Detects High Grade Prostate Cancer](#)

[University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center](#)

[Bacteria Subtype Linked to Growth in Up To 50 Percent of Human Colorectal Cancers](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

[Novel Approach Shows Promise in Enhancing Radiotherapy Efficacy for Squamous Cell Head and Neck Cancer](#)

[Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University](#)

[Predicting Ovarian Cancer Relapse](#)

[Cedars-Sinai Cancer](#)

[CAR T Cell Therapy Targeting HER2 Antigen Shows Promise Against Advanced Sarcoma](#)

[Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine](#)

[FDA Approves Immunotherapy Drug Combo for Non-Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer](#)

[UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Gene Therapy Is Halting Cancer. Can It Work Against Brain Tumors?](#)

[UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[The Surprising Connection Between Male Infertility and Family Cancer Risk](#)

[Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah](#)

OTHER NEWS

[Cancer Administrators Convene in Philadelphia](#)

[Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health](#)



The Association of Cancer Center Administrators welcomed over 400 attendees to its inaugural meeting in Philadelphia, March 17-19. The conference was chaired by **Matthew Huesser, DBA**, vice president for Cancer Research Administration at Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson Health. [*Read More*](#)

[Construction Begins on New Cancer and Advanced Ambulatory Building](#)

[UK Markey Cancer Center](#)



The University of Kentucky has broken ground on the new UK Cancer and Advanced Ambulatory Building. The 550,000-square-foot facility will become the new home of the UK Markey Cancer Center. The building and an adjacent 2,400-space parking structure are slated for completion in 2027. [*Read More*](#)

[Clinic Focuses on Immunotherapy Side Effect Management](#)

[The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute](#)

A new clinic at OSUCCC – James and Pelotonia Immuno-Oncology Institute aims to help manage the autoimmune side effects of immunotherapy-based cancer treatment and allow patients to live the fullest life possible both during cancer treatment and long-term as a survivor. [*Read More*](#)

[Fox Chase Opens First New Jersey Location](#)

[Fox Chase Cancer Center, Temple Health](#)

Fox Chase Cancer Center is welcoming patients to its newly opened office in Voorhees, New Jersey. The site is the first that Fox Chase has opened in the state. Approximately 20 percent of patients at Fox Chase's Philadelphia locations travel from New Jersey. [*Read More*](#)

[Cold Spring Harbor, Northwell Extend Affiliation Agreement](#)

[Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Cancer Center](#)

The Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory-Northwell Health affiliation agreement, first signed in 2015, has been updated with the aim to bring cutting-edge biology research to the bedside of tens of thousands of cancer patients in diverse communities across New York. [Read More](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

[Chief Medical Officer](#)

[Moffitt Cancer Center](#)

[Professor/Associate Professor, Physiology \(Translational Cancer Chemoprevention/Immunoprevention\)](#)

[The University of Arizona Cancer Center](#)

[Program Head, Palliative Care](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

[Adult Transplant and Cell Therapy Medical Director](#)

[Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Bone Marrow Transplant](#)

[Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Bone Marrow Transplant Park Ridge](#)

[Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

[Assistant, Associate or Full Professor, Medical and Cancer Genetics Programs](#)

[Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

[PCLI Webinar | On the Frontlines of Cancer Care: Exploring Urgent Care Models in Oncology](#)

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[May 9, 2024](#)

[Webinar](#)

[2024 AACI/AACR Hill Day](#)

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[May 16, 2024](#)

[Washington, DC](#)

[16th Annual AACI CRI Meeting](#)

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[June 24-26, 2024](#)

[Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel](#)

[Rosemont, IL](#)

[The Cancer Prevention Research Conference](#)

[Presented by the American Cancer Society, the National Cancer Institute, and Cancer Research UK](#)

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[June 25-27, 2024](#)

[Boston Marriott Copley Place](#)

[Boston, MA](#)

[Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion \(DEI\) Summit](#)

Presented by AACI in partnership with the American Cancer Society and the Cancer Center DEI Network

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[October 19-20, 2024](#)

[Chicago, IL](#)

[2024 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting](#)

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[October 20-22, 2024](#)

[Loews Chicago Downtown Hotel](#)

[Chicago, IL](#)

[17th Annual AACI CRI Meeting](#)

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

[June 23-25, 2025](#)

[Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel](#)

[Rosemont, IL](#)

[2025 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting](#)

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

[October 19-21, 2025](#)

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