



NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

Hematology/Oncology News



ROBERT H. LURIE
COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER
OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Volume 2 Issue 9 June 2007

Featured Faculty



Timothy Kuzel, M.D.
Professor

Dr. Kuzel earned his medical degree from the University of Michigan in 1984 and completed his Internal Medicine Residency at Northwestern's McGaw Medical Center in 1987. Dr. Kuzel then joined the Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program at Northwestern and completed his fellowship in 1990. He has been a member of the Northwestern faculty since the 1990s.

During his time as a faculty member at Northwestern, Dr. Kuzel has been the principal investigator of dozens of clinical trials of novel drugs and novel immunotherapeutics, including monoclonal antibodies, targeted fusion toxins, interferons, interleukin-2, vaccines, and small molecules. He has published substantial numbers of peer-reviewed manuscripts regarding clinical trial results, but also scholarly reviews in well respected peer-reviewed journals and chapters in textbooks. In addition, he was selected to the Public Issues Committee of the American Society of Clinical Oncology where he had the opportunity to meet with staffers of congressional members including the Honorable Dennis Hastert's staff. Dr. Kuzel has been active in the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group for many years, is currently a member of the Genito-urinary committee, and a member of the lymphoma committee as well as its core committee, and serve as the toxicity monitor for the lymphoma committee. He also serves on the data monitoring and safety committee for a large pharmaceutical investigational trial of a novel immunotherapy for the treatment of prostate cancer. The ultimate in peer respect is the request to serve as a peer-reviewer on NCI and NIH grant applications. He has had the opportunity to sit on several special panels reviewing program projects in the area of immunotherapeutics, as well as a panel reviewing career development awards for mid-level researchers and mentors. In addition, he has been a peer-reviewer for years for such journals as Blood, Journal of Clinical Research, Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology, Bone Marrow Transplant, and Cancer.

When not at work Dr. Kuzel enjoys spending time with his family and has coached several children's sports teams. He also enjoys tennis, golf, and running.

Hematology/Oncology News

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology
303 East Superior Street, Lurie 5-123, Chicago, IL 60611

Chief	Jonathan Licht, M.D.
Managing Editor	Deborah Cundiff
Editorial Advisor	Angela Moore, MHA
Send news and events to deb@northwestern.edu	

In this Issue...

Page 1 ~

- Featured Faculty

Page 2 ~

- Recent Publications

Page 3 ~

- Featured Research Group

Page 4 ~

- News & Events
- Congratulations
- Newly opened Clinical Studies
- Welcome

Recent Publications

- [Bennett CL, Calhoun EA.](#) Evaluating the total costs of chemotherapy-induced febrile neutropenia: results from a pilot study with community oncology cancer patients. *Oncologist*. 2007 Apr;12(4):478-83.
- [Beohar N, Davidson CJ, Kip KE, Goodreau L, Vlachos HA, Meyers SN, Benzuly KH, Flaherty JD, Ricciardi MJ, Bennett CL, Williams DO.](#) Outcomes and complications associated with off-label and untested use of drug-eluting stents. *JAMA*. 2007 May 9;297(18):1992-2000.
- [Bennett CL, Tigue CC, Angelotta C, McKoy JM, Edwards BJ.](#) Adverse effects of drugs used to treat hematologic malignancies: surveillance efforts from the research on adverse drug events and reports project. *Semin Thromb Hemost*. 2007 Jun;33(4):365-72.
- [Benson AB 3rd.](#) The Hope for Today--The Promise for Tomorrow: Will Oncologists Meet the Challenge? *J Clin Oncol*. 2007 Apr 30
- [Wisinski KB, Mulcahy MF, Benson AB 3rd.](#) Panitumumab in metastatic colorectal cancer. *Clin Adv Hematol Oncol*. 2007 Jan;5(1 Suppl 1):10-1.
- [Craft CS, Romero D, Vary CP, Bergan RC.](#) Endoglin inhibits prostate cancer motility via activation of the ALK2-Smad1 pathway. *Oncogene*. 2007 May 14
- [Chiu BC, Soni L, Gapstur SM, Fought AJ, Evens AM, Weisenburger DD.](#) Obesity and risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma (United States). *Cancer Causes Control*. 2007 May 7
- [Bangash AK, Atassi B, Kaklamani V, Rhee TK, Yu M, Lewandowski RJ, Sato KT, Ryu RK, Gates VL, Newman S, Mandal R, Gradishar W, Omary RA, Salem R.](#) 90Y Radioembolization of Metastatic Breast Cancer to the Liver: Toxicity, Imaging Response, Survival. *J Vasc Interv Radiol*. 2007 May;18(5):621-8.
- [Green D.](#) Management of bleeding complications of hematologic malignancies. *Semin Thromb Hemost*. 2007 Jun;33(4):427-34.
- [Cilley JC, Barfi K, Benson AB, Mulcahy MF.](#) Bevacizumab in the treatment of colorectal cancer. *Expert Opin Biol Ther*. 2007 May;7(5):739-749.
- [Mickle M, Mulcahy MF.](#) Panitumumab in metastatic colorectal cancer. *Clin Adv Hematol Oncol*. 2007 Jan;5(1 Suppl 1):10-1.
- [Sassano A, Katsoulidis E, Antico G, Altman JK, Redig AJ, Minucci S, Tallman MS, Platanias LC.](#) Suppressive effects of statins on acute promyelocytic leukemia cells. *Cancer Res*. 2007 May 1;67(9):4524-32.
- [Zakarija A, Kwaan HC.](#) Adverse effects on hemostatic function of drugs used in hematologic malignancies. *Semin Thromb Hemost*. 2007 Jun;33(4):355-64.
- [Kwaan HC, Vicuna B.](#) Incidence and pathogenesis of thrombosis in hematologic malignancies. *Semin Thromb Hemost*. 2007 Jun;33(4):303-12.
- [Tallman MS, Abutalib SA, Altman JK.](#) The double hazard of thrombophilia and bleeding in acute promyelocytic leukemia. *Semin Thromb Hemost*. 2007 Jun;33(4):330-8.
- [Zhang GS, Winter JN, Variakojis D, Reich S, Lissner GS, Bryar P, Regner M, Mangold K, Kaul K.](#) Lack of an association between *Chlamydia psittaci* and ocular adnexal lymphoma. *Leuk Lymphoma*. 2007 Mar;48(3):577-83.

Featured Research Group

Rosen Lab

The laboratory of Steven Rosen, MD, is interested in translational research where they apply what they learn about the signal transduction pathways in cancer cells towards the development of novel therapeutics. One focus of the laboratory deals with investigating the mechanisms underlying glucocorticoid mediated cell killing in hematologic malignancies and why these cells become resistant to this drug.

Much of their research examines the regulation of a key protein in the glucocorticoid pathway, namely the glucocorticoid receptor (GR). The GR is absolutely required for a response to glucocorticoids and regulation GR expression is a key to understanding clinical resistance to glucocorticoids. A second focus for the Rosen laboratory is the development of novel therapeutics for the treatment of hematologic malignancies, particularly in the face of glucocorticoid resistance.

They believe these compounds hold great promise as cancer therapeutics and have measured efficacy in tissue culture models against hematologic malignancies such as multiple myeloma, lymphoma and chronic lymphocytic leukemia and also against solid tumors including those in breast, colon, prostate and brain. They are continuing to understand the mechanism of actions of these drugs and also with pre-clinical studies with the hope of moving these drugs into the clinic.

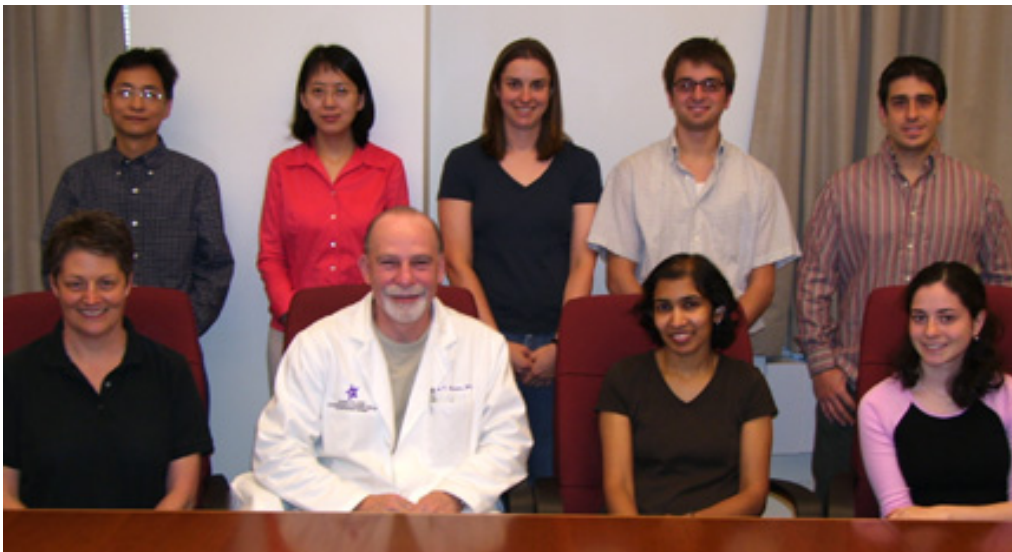
Dr. Rosen has been very fortunate to work with a number of very talented researchers over the years. His current team includes Nancy Krett who is a Research Associate Professor and has worked with Rosen for almost 16 years. She acts as his lab manager and takes care of the day to day issues of running a lab.

Mala Shanmugam is a Research Assistant Professor working on the differences in metabolism in cancer cells and how that can be utilized for drug development. Shuo Ma is a Clinical Fellow and is working on the glucocorticoid signaling pathway to develop additional prognostic markers and drug targets. Shuo has received an ASCO Young Investigator award for these studies.

They have two graduate students in the lab. Kate Davies has just successfully completed her thesis examining a glucocorticoid and AKT regulated protein and Mike Tessel is investigating the mechanisms of GR splicing. Sam McBrayer is a first year graduate student who is joining the lab. Jun Qian is a Senior Technician in the lab and keeps the lab running smoothly as well as helping out on the GR project.

The work done in the Rosen lab has had a direct impact on patient care. For example, the lab developed a cell line from a myeloma patient which became a standard for use by multiple laboratories in pre-clinical development of therapeutics for multiple myeloma. This cell line was used for the development of Velcade and Revlimid, both currently in the clinic for the treatment of myeloma.

The lab is currently investigating 8-chloro-adenosine and 8-amino-adenosine as therapeutics for hematologic malignancies. 8-chloro-adenosine will be entering phase I clinical trials shortly. Their in vitro observation concerning Enzastaurin (PKC beta inhibitor) resulted in advancement to clinical trials for myeloma and CTCL and our "first in man" trials of Campath/Rituxin as initial therapy for chronic lymphocytic leukemia and Revlimid in CTCL are examples where we have moved from clinic to lab to examine the biologic correlates.



Rosen lab: Seated Row from left to right: Nancy Krett, Steve Rosen, Mala Shanmugam and Rachel Meisel
Standing Row from left to right: Jun Qian, Shuo Ma, Kate Davies, Sam McBrayer and Mike Tessel

News and Events

June Faculty Meeting
Thursday June 21, 5:00 pm
Lurie 5-133 Conference Room

Congratulations

Raymond Bergan, MD has received an award an N01 grant from the NCI titled “Polyethylene Glycol for Chemoprevention of Colon Carcinogenesis”

Raymond Bergan, MD was recently awarded tenure.

Hidayatullah Munshi, MD has been awarded a grant from the National Pancreas Foundation titled “Desmoplastic Reaction and Pancreatic Cancer Progression”.

Hidayatullah Munshi, MD has received a grant from the Elsa U. Pardee Foundation titled “Fibrosis-Protease Cross-Talk Regulating Pancreatic Cancer Progression”

Newly Opened Clinical Studies

AMC 047: A Phase II Trial of Doxil, Rituximab, Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, and Prednisone (DR-COP) in Patients with Newly Diagnosed AIDS-Associated B-Cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (P.I. Cianfrocca)

ECOG 2Z02: SOAPP (Symptom Outcomes and Practice Patterns): A Survey of Disease and Treatment-Related Symptoms in Patients with Invasive Cancer of the Breast, Prostate, Lung or Colon/Rectum (P.I. Benson)

DRUG SG040-0004: A Phase II Study of SGN-40 (anti-huCD40 mAb) in Patients with Relapsed Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) (P.I. Winter)

ECOG 2404: Bevacizumab and CHOP (A-CHOP) in Combination for Patients with Peripheral T-Cell or Natural Killer Cell Neoplasms (P.I. Winter)

NU G06H4: A Prospective, Randomized, Multi-institutional Controlled, Open-Label, Phase II Pilot Trial of Rituximab versus Oral Cyclophosphamide to Eradicate or Suppress Autoimmune Anti-Factor VIII Antibodies in Patients with Acquired Hemophilia A (P.I. Green)

Welcome New Division Members

Joann Contreras
Research Administrator 1
Lurie 5-103
j-contreras@northwestern.edu