

Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology

Newsletter



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George Murphy at TEDxBeaconStreet: Miracle cures won't answer your prayers...if you're poor



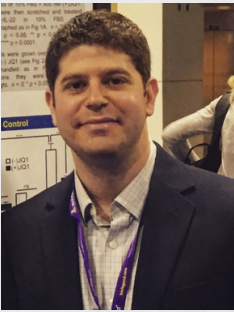
Dr. George Muphy discusses emerging transformative therapies that come at unprecedented costs. Links to [YouTube video](#) and [Health City article](#).

Publications



Martin Steinberg,
MD

Dr. Martin Steinberg was an author of an abstract funded by Vertex and CRISPR Therapeutics that reported what might be the “first-in-human study” of the therapeutic use of gene editing. The original clinical trial protocol was developed by Duyen Ngo MD, a former hematology fellow, Hematology T32 trainee and Assistant Professor of Medicine at BU, when she was an employee of Vertex. In 3 patients with sickle cell anemia and beta thalassemia, the erythroid enhancer of BCL11A in autologous CD34+ stem cells was targeted with CRISPR/Cas-9 to induce high levels of fetal hemoglobin gene expression. After a follow-up of 5 to 15 months, more than 99% of red cells contained fetal hemoglobin; patients’ hemoglobin levels were 12-14 g/dL; their symptoms resolved. This work was presented at the virtual Eur Soc Haematol meeting on June 12, 2020, abstract S280. [Read more here](#)



Jordan Shafran,
PhD

Jordan Shafran, a student with Gerald Denis, has just graduated from BUSM with his doctoral degree, and had a relevant paper on prostate cancer progression accepted to the Nature family journal "Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases". His work develops new ways to consider prostate cancer patients for whom the standard treatment, depriving androgens with drugs, is no longer effective. Dr Shafran greatly benefitted from consultation with **Drs Gignac** and **Hirsch** in the Section, and his work was supported in part by pilot grant funds from the Shipley Prostate Cancer Research Center. [Read abstract here](#)



Vaishali
Sanchorawala,
MBBS

Dr. Vaishali Sanchorawala and collaborators published a paper in the British Journal of Haematology titled "Challenges in the Management of patients with systemic light chain (AL) amyloidosis during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more here](#)

Heme Onc Faculty Receive Grant Funding from BU CTSI



Gareth Morgan, PhD, for “Single Cell Analysis of AL Amyloidosis in Plasma Cells”



Naomi Ko, MD, for “Clinical Pipeline for Single Cell Profiling of Triple Negative Breast Cancer in African American Patients”



Mark Sloan, MD, for “Etoposide in COVID-19 Patients”



Kim Vanuytsel, PhD, for “Pre-Clinical Validation of Novel Gene Editing Approaches For Sickle Cell Disease”



Xuemei Zhong, PhD, for “Functionalized Nanoparticles for SARS-CoV-2 Detection”

2020 Hematology Oncology Fellowship Graduates!



Oladimeji Akinboro,
MD



Camille Edwards, MD



Stanley Nwabudike,
MD



Ayesha Sheikh, MD

In the News

The Great Experiment In Taking Trials Virtual

By Deborah Borfitz



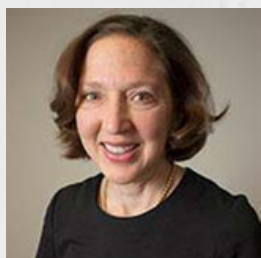
Mark Sloan, MD

In this article published in Clinical Research News Online, [Dr. Sloan](#) discusses the challenges of consenting study participants virtually to limit COVID19 exposure. [Read more here](#)

Challenges in the Treatment of Advanced HR-Positive, ERBB2-Negative Breast Cancer



Jose Acevedo, MD



Lauren Oshry, MD



Naomi Ko, MD

Article Published in ASCO Daily News. [Read more here](#)

Highlights:

- "Despite clinical and biologic differences, treatment strategies for premenopausal women are extrapolated from postmenopausal patients with the addition of ovarian function suppression."
- "Evidence is lacking about which endocrine therapy, in addition to ovarian function suppression, is best for patients with advanced hormone receptor-positive breast cancer."
- "Use of CDK4/6 inhibitors has changed the landscape of advanced hormone receptor-positive breast cancer and shown higher response rates, progression-free survival and overall survival than endocrine therapy alone."
- "Premature and abrupt onset of menopause is associated with vasomotor symptoms, dyspareunia, decreased sexual interest, and fertility concerns that can lead to poor quality of life."

Announcements

Remembering Dr. David Seldin on the five year anniversary of his passing



From the BU Amyloidosis Center: Please join us as we fondly remember Dr. David Seldin on the five year anniversary of his passing. His work, research and friendship changed the amyloidosis community for the better. Your [support](#) to David C. Seldin Amyloid Research Training Endowment Fund furthers his vision.

World Sickle Cell Day



[Link to register for Zoom webinar](#)

BMC Provider Profile Update Form

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Form for Announcements and Newsletter Submissions

Are you interested in sharing news of your speaking engagements, awards, publications, events and other announcements with our section? Complete the intake form linked below and we will be happy to advertise your requests via email or the monthly section newsletter. [Link to form](#)

Available Career Opportunitites as of June 2020:

- Clinical Director, Sickle Cell Center
- Clinical Investigator, Breast Oncology
- Clinical Investigator, Head and Neck Oncology
- Clinical Investigator, Hematology/ Hematological Malignancies
- Clinical Investigator, Hospitalist

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