

Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology

Newsletter



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Congratulations to Jessica Jeune - Boston Globe Salute to Nurses & BMC Nurse Excellence Award!



Jessica Jeune,
RN

Jessica Jeune, RN was nominated for the Boston Globe Salute to Nurses. The annual "Salute to Nurses" section of the Boston Globe honors caregivers who have touched the lives of patients in special ways. These letters are submitted by hundreds of readers.

Jessica was also nominated by a colleague and selected by the Nursing Recognition Committee as the winner of the BMC Nurse Excellence Award.

New Faculty



Jean-Antoine
Ribeil, MD, PhD

We are absolutely delighted today to welcome **Jean-Antoine Ribeil MD PhD** to the section of Hematology/Oncology and Boston University School of Medicine. Dr. Ribeil is joining us as the Clinical Director of our sickle cell program, where he will be working closely with Dr. Liz Klings in her capacity as the Director of the Sickle Cell Center of Excellence.

Dr. Ribeil is an internationally recognized hematologist and a highly innovative leader in the treatment of sickle cell anemia. Dr. Ribeil received his medical training in France at the Universite Aix Marseille II and the University of Limoges, and subsequently completed a research fellowship in Hematopoiesis and Immunology at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). In 2004, he was appointed as an attending hematologist and Medical Director of the Department of Biotherapy at Necker University in Paris France where he founded and directed a sickle cell referral center that continues to successfully serve the entire western Paris region.

In addition to his clinical expertise, Dr. Ribeil has been a scientific leader in his field. These include initial work elucidating the role of HSP70 in erythroid maturation, which was published in Nature. In subsequent studies he developed a novel lentiviral gene therapy vector for the treatment of sickle cell anemia. The initial results of this approach were published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 2017. Dr. Ribeil has also played a key role in early phase studies demonstrating efficacy of lentiviral based gene therapy in patients with Beta Thalassemia. Prior to joining Boston University and Boston Medical Center, Dr. Ribeil served as Associate Medical Director at BlueBird Bio, where he led efforts to further develop lentiglobin gene therapy as a treatment for patients with sickle cell disease.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Ribeil to our section and to our larger community. We are truly excited to have him on board!

Publications



Christopher
Heaphy, PhD

Dr. Chris Heaphy and collaborators had the following studies accepted for publication:

1. Joshu CE, Heaphy CM, Barber JR, Lu J, Zarinshenas R, Davis C, Han M, Lotan TL, Sfanos KS, De Marzo AM, Meeker AK, Platz EA. Obesity is Associated with Shorter Telomere Length in Prostate Stromal Cells in Men with Aggressive Prostate Cancer. Cancer Prevention Research. 2021 Apr;14(4):463-470. [Read more here.](#)
2. Hempel Sullivan H, Maynard JP, Heaphy CM, Lu J, De Marzo AM, Lotan TL, Joshu CE, Sfanos KS. Differential mast cell phenotypes in benign versus cancer tissues and prostate cancer oncologic outcomes. Journal of Pathology. 2021 Apr;253(4):415-426. [Read more here.](#)
3. Collaborative and international PanNET biomarker study - "Non-functional pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours: ATRX/DAXX and alternative lengthening of telomeres (ALT) are prognostically independent from ARX/PDX1 expression and tumour size" in the journal Gut. [Read more here](#)



Hossein
Sadrzadeh, MD

Dr. Hossein Sadrzadeh and colleagues published a case series titled "5-Fluorouracil associated neurovascular toxicities" in the journal Current Problems in Cancer. [Read more here.](#)



Kevan
Hartshorn, MD

Dr. Kevan Hartshorn and colleagues published the following two studies:

1. Boehmer, U., Potter, J., Clark, M.A. et al. Follow-up surveillance among colorectal cancer survivors of different sexual orientations. J Cancer Surviv (2021). [Read more here](#)
2. Boehmer U, Potter J, Clark MA, Ozonoff A, Winter M, Berklein F, Ward KC, Hartshorn K. Assessing the relationship between symptoms and health care utilization in colorectal cancer survivors of different sexual orientations. Support Care Cancer. 2021 Mar 19. [Read more here.](#)

Publications



Martin
Steinberg, MD

Dr. Martin Steinberg published a paper in the British Journal of Haematology, entitled "HbA2 induction: The merit of pancellularity in sickle cell disease." [Read more here](#)

Presentations



Lisa Keller, NP

Lisa Keller, NP presented at the 46th Annual ONS Congress, "A Case Study Highlighting Social Determinants of Health and Cancer Care During a Pandemic." [Read more here](#)



Vaishali
Sanchorawala,
MD

Dr. Vaishali Sanchorawala served as a course director for the Amyloidosis Research Consortium Masterclass on "The art and science of managing amyloidosis" on April 9, 2021. [Read more here.](#)

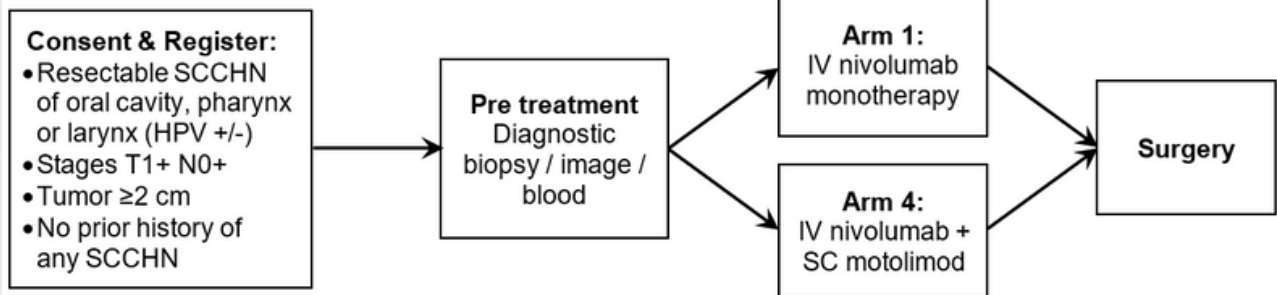
On April 14, 2021, Dr. Sanchorawala gave a presentation on "Recognizing the Face of Cardiac Amyloidosis: Patient and Provider Perspectives Regarding Diagnosis, Treatment and Symptom Management" at TriHealth Good Samaritan Hospital, Cincinnati, OH

Newly Opened Cancer Clinical Trials

Newly Opened Cancer Clinical Trials

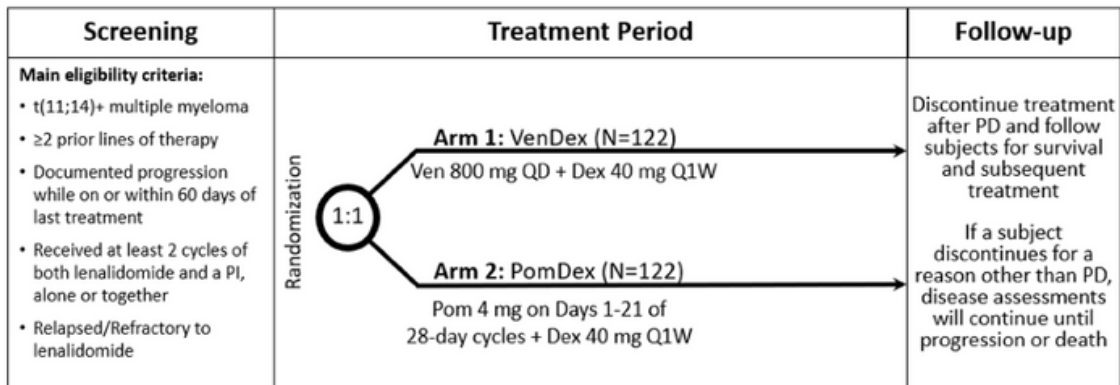
HEAD & NECK SCC – 1st Line Neoadjuvant

Celgene #VTX-2337: A Phase 1b Multicenter Pre-Surgical Study to Evaluate Immune Biomarker Modulation in Response to Motolimod (VTX-2337) In Combination with Nivolumab In Subjects with Resectable Squamous Cell Carcinoma Of The Head And Neck (SCCHN)



MULTIPLE MYELOMA – 3rd+ Line Definitive

AbbVie M13-494: A Phase 3, Multicenter, Randomized, Open Label Study of Venetoclax and Dexamethasone Compared with Pomalidomide and Dexamethasone in Subjects with t(11;14)-Positive Relapsed or Refractory Multiple Myeloma



Section Updates

Hagedorn Lab Microscope Room Up and Running!

The Hagedorn Lab recently completed the set up of their microscope room in EBRC 425. The project involved a number of different individuals within the section and we would like to say thank you to all of those involved.

The main microscope is a spinning disk confocal with six laser lines, a motorized X-Y stage and a full environmental control enclosure. The scope is designed for advanced live-cell imaging and is capable of time-lapse imaging multiple specimens simultaneously with high spatiotemporal resolution. Send an email to Elliott (hagedorn@bu.edu) if you'd like to learn more about the system and how it could help your research!



Announcements

Available Career Opportunities as of April 2021:

- Clinical Investigator, Hematology/Hematologic Malignancies
- Research Nurse
- Clinical Trials Coordinator
- Administrative Coordinator