

Update on the Cancer Immunotherapy Trials Network (CITN)

The NCI has selected 27 member sites (see below) in US and Canada to participate in the CITN. Many are SITC members. In May CITN Member Site PIs will meet at the NIH to finalize selection criteria for proposals for immunotherapy trials to be conducted with the CITN and to discuss ideas and form concept working groups to propose and review CITN concepts. As a new initiative in immunotherapy, the CITN will establish a network of top academic immunologists to conduct multicenter research on agents that boost patients' own immune systems to fight their cancer. The initial focus will be on agents with "high potential for cancer therapy" that received prioritization in previous workshops. "The goal is to initiate 15 trials over a five year period," said Martin A. "Mac" Cheever M.D., PI: Cancer Immunotherapy Trials Network. Once finalized, project selection criteria, along with instructions for how to submit concepts for review, will then be posted on the CITN website at www.CITNinfo.org. Submission of concepts is open to all in the immunotherapy community. Concept submissions will be made available online through the CITN website. It's important to note that one does not have to be the Member Site Principal Investigator (PI) to propose or be PI on the CITN trial. The CITN will help in developing and implementing protocol for all research trials selected.

The CITN infrastructure will support investigators to develop studies from concept to publication and includes:

- Accessing novel agents
- Consulting on optimal trial design, including correlative study design
- Support for expanded concept proposal and protocol writing
- Statistical support
- Budgeting and contracting with sponsors and research sites
- Regulatory services
- Patient data acquisition and analysis through our electronic database system
- Centralized services for immune-monitoring
- Training and monitoring at member sites
- Patient recruitment through our member sites
- Study analysis and publication support

Institution	Principal Investigator(s)
Baylor Research Institute & Mt. Sinai School of Medicine	Karolina Palucka, MD, PhD
Case Western Reserve University	Pierre Triozzi, MD
Dana Farber Cancer Center	Steven Hodi, MD
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Norris Cotton Cancer Center	Marc Ernstoff, MD
Duke University Medical Center	Kim Lyerly, MD, FACS
Emory University	Edmund Waller, MD, PhD
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center	John A. Thompson, MD
MD Anderson Cancer Center	Laurence J.N. Cooper, MD, PhD
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center	Scott J. Antonia, MD, PhD
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center	Jedd D. Wolchok, MD, PhD
New York University Cancer Institute	Nina Bhardwaj, MD, PhD
Ohio State University	William E. Carson, MD
Providence Cancer Center	Walter J. Urba, MD, PhD
Roswell Park Cancer Center	Kunle Odunsi, MD, PhD
Rush University Cancer Center	Howard Kaufman, MD
Stanford University	Ronald Levy, MD
University of California, San Diego	Thomas J. Kipps, MD, PhD
University of California, San Francisco	Lawrence Fong, MD
University of Chicago	Thomas Gajewski, MD, PhD
University of Miami	Joseph D. Rosenblatt, MD
University of Minnesota	Jeffrey S. Miller, MD
University of Pennsylvania	Robert H. Vonderheide, MD, D.Phil
University of Pittsburgh	Robert L. Ferris, MD, PhD &
	Hassane M. Zarour, MD
University of Toronto Ontario Cancer Institute	Pamela Ohashi, PhD
University of Virginia	Craig Slingluff, MD
University of Wisconsin	Paul M. Sondel, MD, PhD
Yale University	Mario Sznol, MD