

JHU/NIH Pediatric Hematology Oncology Fellows Research Synopsis

Second Year Fellows

Alec Berman, MD

Mentor: Jack Shern, MD (NIH) (Co-mentored by Brigitte Widemann, MD)

Project: Development and Feasibility of a Surveillance and Management Strategy for Malignant Transformation of Neurofibromatosis Type 1 (NF1) Related Peripheral Nerve Sheath Tumors (PNST) Utilizing Clinical and Cell-Free DNA (cfDNA) Based Markers.

Courtney Edwards-Breacey, MD, PhD

Mentor: Laura Wood, MD (JHU)

Project: Investigation of the role of RNF43 in pancreatic precancerous lesions

Adam Ketchum, MD

Mentor: Challice Bonifant, MD, PhD (JHU)

Project: Investigation into the Role of IL-6 in the Pediatric AML Bone Marrow Microenvironment and Anti-AML Activity of NK cells

Bari Rosenberg, MD

Mentor: Najla El Jurdi, MD (NIH)

Project: optimization of treatment of myeloid malignancies in the adolescent-young adult population including chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and stem cell transplantation.

Portia L. Thomas, MD, PhD

Mentor: Robyn Gartrell, MD, MS (JHU)

Project: Optimizing Radiotherapy to Reduce Neurotoxicity in Aggressive Brain Tumors

Thao Trinh, MD

Mentor: Steven A. Rosenberg, MD, PhD (NIH)

Project: Development of methods to improve efficacy and applicability of tumor-reactive T cells using novel NeoExpand and related platforms.

Third Year Fellows

Jacqueline Brodian, MD

Mentor: Christine Heske, MD (NIH)

Project: Identification of Clinically Translational Combination Therapies in Childhood Rhabdomyosarcoma.

Laurie Delatour, MD, PhD

Mentor: Hernando Lopez-Bertoni, PhD (JHU)

Project: Investigation of the role of TGFBR2 signaling in mediating the immunosuppressive phenotype of Glioblastoma multiforme cells and tumor growth.

Nicholas Lee, MD

Mentor: Neal S. Young, MD (Hematology Branch, NHLBI, NIH)

Project: Germline and environmental influences on VEXAS syndrome development (translational); early initiation of low dose cyclosporine and eltrombopag in severe aplastic anemia (clinical trial).

James Maiarana, MD

Mentor: Rosa Nguyen, MD, PhD (NIH)

Project: Pre-clinical development of an ENPP3 targeting CAR T cell for Ewing sarcoma.

Zaw Phyoe, MD

Mentors: Gregory Newby, PhD and James F. Casella, MD (JHU)

Project: Lipid nanoparticle delivery of base editors for personalized single-dose cures for bleeding and thrombotic disorders.

Nisha Shah, MD

Mentor: Eric Raabe, MD, PhD (JHU)

Project: Efficacy of a novel therapeutic agent (LP-184) in SMARCB1-deficient tumors such as ATRT, MRT, synovial sarcomas, and atypical chordomas.

Fourth Year Fellows

Marina Mitrou, MD

Mentor: Donald Small, MD, PhD (Pediatric Oncology, JHU)

Project: Role of NAF-1/CISD2 inhibition in acute leukemias.

Katelyn Williams, MD, PhD

Mentors: Elizabeth Jaffee, MD, PhD, Nicolas Llosa, MD, and Robert Anders, MD, PhD (JHU)

Project: Immunophenotyping of Ewing Sarcoma.