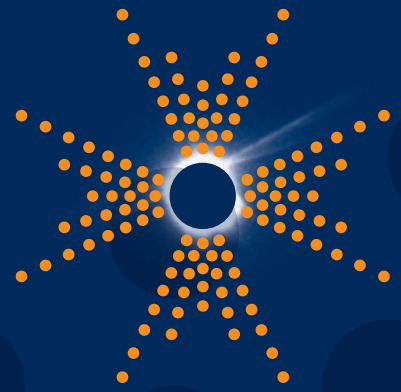


5th canadian
melanoma conference
Research frontiers



A unique meeting for
those involved in the
research or treatment
of melanoma

Conference Program

Thursday February 24 to Sunday
February 27, 2011

The Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel
Banff · Alberta · Canada

www.buksa.com/melanoma



Conference Learning Objectives

- Communicate state-of-the-art knowledge in biology, pathogenesis, and melanoma pathology
- Review the biological basis of BRAF inhibition and the clinical implications in the management of melanoma
- Present pre-clinical and clinical research regarding MEK inhibition in melanoma
- Provide an update on the use of anti-CTLA4 therapy, including the evaluation of response and the management of immune-related toxicities
- Share novel research strategies and initiatives being conducted across Canada
- Identify new targets and targeted agents in the treatment of melanoma
- Review the specific challenges of the sentinel node biopsy in the Head and Neck Region
- Review the multi-centre clinical trials currently open in Canada
- Identify key industry partners who would prioritize the development of products and programs in melanoma management in Canada
- Continue to build the network of basic and clinical investigators in order to promote translational and clinical research across Canada
- Discuss short- and long-term research strategies

Accreditation

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

The Division of Continuous Professional Learning at the University of Alberta has approved this as an Accredited Group Learning Activity under Section 1 of the Framework of Continuing Professional Development options for the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

For More Information

Canadian Melanoma Conference Secretariat

BUKSA Strategic Conference Services

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Program Planning Committee

Chair: Michael Smylie, Medical Oncologist, Cross Cancer Institute; Associate Professor, Division of Medical Oncology, University of Alberta

Joel Claveau, Dermatologist, Melanoma and Pigmented Lesions Clinic, Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Québec

Scott Ernst, Head, Division of Medical Oncology, London Regional Cancer Program

David Hogg, Professor of Medicine, Departments of Medicine and Medical Biophysics, University of Toronto; Attending Physician, Princess Margaret Hospital

J. Gregory McKinnon, Professor of Surgery and Oncology, University of Calgary and Tom Baker Cancer Centre

Teresa Petrella, Medical Oncologist, Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre; Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

Thomas G. Salopek, Associate Professor and Divisional Director, Division of Dermatology and Cutaneous Science, University of Alberta

Alan Spatz, Professor of Pathology and Oncology, McGill University; Canada Research Chair in Molecular Pathology; Director, Department of Pathology, Jewish General Hospital

Jewel Buksa, Conference Secretariat, BUKSA Strategic Conference Services

Caitlin Higgins, Conference Secretariat, BUKSA Strategic Conference Services

Sponsors



Schedule-at-a-Glance

Thursday, February 24, 2011		<i>Page 5</i>
19 ⁰⁰ – 20 ⁰⁰	Registration	Foyer
19 ⁰⁰ – 21 ⁰⁰	Welcome reception	Conservatory
Friday, February 25, 2011		<i>Page 5-6</i>
07 ⁰⁰ – 12 ¹⁰	Registration	Foyer
07 ⁰⁰ – 07 ³⁰	Breakfast	Cascade Ballroom
07 ³⁰ – 10 ⁴⁵	Theme 1: Basic Science and Pathology	Cascade Ballroom
10 ⁴⁵ – 11 ⁰⁰	Refreshment Break	Cascade Ballroom
11 ⁰⁰ – 12 ¹⁰	<i>Theme 1: Basic Science and Pathology (continued)</i>	Cascade Ballroom
12 ¹⁰	Lunch to go and free time	Foyer
18 ⁰⁰ – 19 ³⁰	Hoffman la Roche symposium and dinner event	Ivor Petrak
Saturday, February 26, 2011		<i>Page 6-7</i>
07 ⁰⁰ – 12 ¹⁰	Registration	Foyer
07 ⁰⁰ – 07 ³⁰	Breakfast	Cascade Ballroom
07 ³⁰ – 09 ⁴⁵	Theme 2: Dermatology and Surgery	Cascade Ballroom
09 ⁴⁵ – 10 ⁰⁵	Refreshment break	Cascade Ballroom
10 ⁰⁵ – 12 ¹⁵	<i>Theme 2: Dermatology and Surgery (continued)</i>	Cascade Ballroom
12 ¹⁵	Lunch and free time	Cascade Ballroom
17 ³⁰ – 19 ⁰⁰	Case studies	Cascade Ballroom
19 ⁰⁰ – 22 ⁰⁰	Dinner event	New Brunswick
Sunday, February 27, 2011		<i>Page 8</i>
07 ⁰⁰ – 11 ⁰⁰	Registration	Foyer
07 ⁰⁰ – 07 ⁴⁵	Breakfast	Cascade Ballroom
07 ⁴⁵ – 09 ²⁵	Theme 3: Immunology and Systemic Therapy	Cascade Ballroom
09 ²⁵ – 09 ⁴⁰	Refreshment break	Cascade Ballroom
09 ⁴⁰ – 10 ⁴⁵	<i>Theme 3: Immunology and Systemic Therapy (continued)</i>	Cascade Ballroom
10 ⁴⁵ – 11 ⁰⁰	Conference closing	
11 ⁰⁰	Lunch to go	Cascade Ballroom

All sessions to take place in the Cascade Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

Thursday *February 24, 2011*

19⁰⁰ – 20⁰⁰

Registration

19⁰⁰ – 21⁰⁰

Welcome reception

Conservatory

Friday *February 25, 2011*

07⁰⁰ – 12¹⁰

Registration

07⁰⁰ – 07³⁰

Breakfast

07³⁰ – 07⁴⁵

Conference opening

Michael Smylie, Medical Oncologist, Cross Cancer Institute;
Associate Professor, Division of Medical Oncology, University of Alberta

Kathy Barnard, Founder, Save Your Skin Foundation

THEME 1: BASIC SCIENCE AND PATHOLOGY

Session Co-Chairs:

Alan Spatz, Professor of Pathology and Oncology, McGill University; Canada Research Chair in Molecular Pathology; Director, Department of Pathology, Jewish General Hospital

Ralph Wong, Medical Oncologist, St. Boniface General Hospital

07⁴⁵ – 08³⁵

Therapeutic targets in melanoma

Boris Bastian, Chair, Department of Pathology, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

08³⁵ – 08⁴⁵

Discussion

08⁴⁵ – 09¹⁵

Micro-RNAs and gene silencing in cutaneous melanoma

Léon van Kempen, Research Associate, Department of Pathology, McGill University and Jewish General Hospital

09¹⁵ – 09⁴⁵

The “Blue” spectrum of cutaneous melanocytic tumors

Martin Trotter, Associate Professor, Departments of Pathology and Oncology, University of Calgary

09⁴⁵ – 10¹⁵

Best Practices in Melanoma Management: Unmet needs from a pathologist perspective

Speaker to be announced...

10¹⁵ – 10⁴⁵

Sentinel node biopsy indications 2011

Merrick Ross, Surgical Oncologist, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

10⁴⁵ – 11⁰⁰

Discussion and break

Foyer

All sessions to take place in the Cascade Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

THEME 1: BASIC SCIENCE AND PATHOLOGY (Continued)

11⁰⁰ – 11³⁰ **The challenge of bringing new melanoma therapies to the community**

David Hogg, Professor of Medicine, Departments of Medicine and Medical Biophysics, University of Toronto; Attending Physician, Princess Margaret Hospital

11³⁰ – 12⁰⁰ **Melanoma targeted chemo-thermo-immunotherapy; A combined therapy of NPrCAP and magnetite nanoparticles with HSP generation**

Kowichi Jimbow, Basic Scientist; Professor and Chairman, Dermatologist, Department of Dermatology, Sapporo Medical University

12⁰⁰ – 12¹⁰ **Discussion**

12¹⁰ **Lunch to go and free time**

Foyer

18⁰⁰ – 19³⁰ **Hoffman la Roche symposium and dinner event: The evaluation of treatment for advanced melanoma** Ivor Petrak

Saturday February 26, 2011

07⁰⁰ – 12¹⁵ **Registration** Foyer

07⁰⁰ – 07³⁰ **Breakfast**

THEME 2: DERMATOLOGY AND SURGERY

Session Chair: J. Gregory McKinnon, Professor of Surgery and Oncology, University of Calgary and Tom Baker Cancer Centre

07³⁰ – 08³⁰ **Epidemiology, risk factors and early diagnosis of melanoma**

Darrell Rigel, Clinical Professor, Department of Dermatology, New York University Medical Center

08³⁰ – 08⁴⁵ **Dermoscopy and how it helps in the diagnosis of melanoma**

Joel Claveau, Dermatologist, Melanoma and Pigmented Lesions Clinic, Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Québec

08⁴⁵ – 09⁰⁰ **What is the ideal biopsy technique of a suspicious pigmented lesion?**

Thomas G. Salopek, Director of Dermatology, Associate Professor, University of Alberta

All sessions to take place in the Cascade Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

- 09⁰⁰ – 09¹⁵ **Surgery of melanoma: The dermatology point of view**
John Arlette, Co-Lead, Tom Baker Cancer Centre
- 09¹⁵ – 09⁴⁵ **Imiquimod in lentigo maligna**
Michael Chapman, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
- 09⁴⁵ – 10⁰⁵ **Discussion and Break** *Foyer*
- THEME 2: DERMATOLOGY AND SURGERY** (Continued)
- 10⁰⁵ – 10³⁵ **Challenges in melanoma of the head and neck**
Kathryn Roth, Assistant Professor, Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, University of Western Ontario
- 10³⁵ – 11⁰⁵ **Advances in the surgical management of stage III and IV melanoma**
Vernon Sondak, Chair, Department of Cutaneous Oncology, Moffitt Cancer Center
- 11⁰⁵ – 11¹⁵ **Discussion**
- 11¹⁵ – 12¹⁵ **Keynote: From molecular discovery to targeted therapy in melanoma**
Dirk Schadendorf, Professor, Department of Dermatology, University Hospital Essen
- 12¹⁵ **Lunch and free time**

-
- 17³⁰ – 19⁰⁰ **CASE STUDIES**
- Joel Claveau**
Dermatologist, Melanoma and Pigmented Lesions Clinic, Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Québec
- Scott Ernst**
Head, Division of Medical Oncology, London Regional Cancer Program
- A series of challenging cases will be presented in an interactive format and will provide opportunity for multi disciplinary input from invited experts and all meeting participants. Issues to be addressed include: Clinical-Dermoscopic-Pathological Correlations, Mitotic Index, Sentinel Node Indications and Evaluation, and the Management of Locally Recurrent and Advanced Disease

- 19⁰⁰ – 22⁰⁰ **Dinner Event** *New Brunswick*

All sessions to take place in the Cascade Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

Sunday February 27, 2011

07⁰⁰ – 11⁰⁰ **Registration**

07⁰⁰ – 07⁴⁵ **Breakfast**

THEME 3: IMMUNOLOGY AND SYSTEMIC THERAPY

Session Chair: Teresa Petrella, Medical Oncologist, Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre; Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

07⁴⁵ – 08¹⁵ **Melanoma: What's beyond BRAF?**

Jeff Sosman, Professor of Medicine, Director, Melanoma and Tumor Immunotherapy Program, Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Centre

08¹⁵ – 08⁴⁵ **Immune regulatory antibodies for melanoma**

Jeff Weber, Director, Donald A. Adam Comprehensive Melanoma Research Center, Moffitt Cancer Center

08⁴⁵ – 09¹⁵ **Current status of adjuvant interferon – Is duration important?**

Sanjiv Agarwala, Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine, Temple University; Chief, Oncology & Hematology, St. Luke's Cancer Center

09¹⁵ – 09²⁵ **Discussion**

09²⁵ – 09⁴⁰ **Break**

THEME 3: IMMUNOLOGY AND SYSTEMIC THERAPY (Continued)

09⁴⁰ – 10⁰⁰ **OncoVEX GM-CSF: status update**

Robert Coffin, Founder, Biovex USA

10⁰⁰ – 10⁴⁵ **Presentation of regional clinical research initiatives**

Session Chair: Scott Ernst, Head, Division of Medical Oncology, London Regional Cancer Program

A retrospective longitudinal study of treatment patterns and outcomes among patients with unresectable stage III or stage IV melanoma in Canada (MELODY)

Catalin Mihakioiu, McGill University

Decision aid for sentinel node biopsy in intermediate stage melanoma

George Virich, University College London

Topic to be confirmed

Teresa Petrella, Medical Oncologist, Odette Cancer Centre; Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

10⁴⁵ – 11⁰⁰ **Conference closing**

11⁰⁰ **Lunch-to-go**

All sessions to take place in the Cascade Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

Sanjiv S. Agarwala



Professor, School of Medicine, Temple University; Chief, Oncology & Hematology, St. Luke's Cancer Center

Dr. Sanjiv Agarwala is Chief of Medical Oncology and Director of the Melanoma and Immunology Program at St. Luke's Cancer Center, Bethlehem, PA, and Professor of Medicine at Temple University School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA. He is nationally and internationally recognized as an expert in the treatment of melanoma, immunotherapy and kidney cancers and is a pioneer in development of new drugs for treating these diseases. He is on the core committee for melanoma at the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group and is the study chair for E 1697, the largest adjuvant trial in melanoma conducted to date. He is the founder and Chair Person for the International Symposium in Melanoma and Other Cutaneous Malignancies held annually in New York City since 2004.

Dr. Agarwala has special interest and expertise in immunotherapy for cancer. He serves and has served as Principal Investigator for several clinical trials involving immunotherapy and targeted therapy for melanoma and other malignancies. He has over 75 publications and book chapters written on melanoma and other research areas. He is board certified in Oncology, Hematology and Internal Medicine and is an active member of several professional and scientific societies including the American Association for Cancer Research, the American Society of Clinical Oncology and the European Society of Medical Oncology. He has served on the editorial board for the Journal of Clinical Oncology and is currently is section editor for melanoma on for the American Journal of Hematology/Oncology.

John Arlette



Dermatologist, Total Skin Care Centre

Dr. Arlette is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary and is the co-leader of the Cutaneous Oncology Clinic at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre. He has also served as the vice president and treasurer of the Canadian Dermatology Association and has been on the board of the Canadian Society for Dermatologic Surgery, the Canadian Hair Research Foundation and the Alberta Society of Dermatologists. Dr. Arlette has been a Canadian delegate to the International League of Dermatologic Societies in Sydney, Australia in 1997 and in Paris, France 2002. Dr. Arlette was the surgical guest speaker for the Australasian Congress of Dermatology in Brisbane, Australia in May of 2003.

He has been a frequent participant as a teacher and speaker at public, professional, and academic venues. He teaches at the University of Calgary and has been invited to the annual Scientific Assembly of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta. Dr. Arlette has been involved as a commentator on television and is frequently quoted in newspaper and magazine articles regarding matters of the skin.

Dr. Arlette has established an independent dermatologic surgery facility which is accredited as a non-hospital surgical facility by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta.

Boris Bastian



Chair, Department of Pathology, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Dr. Boris Bastian is the chairman of the Department of Pathology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and the incumbent of the James Ewing Alumni Chair of Pathology. He holds a joint appointment in the Center's Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program.

His research focuses on the molecular genetics of cutaneous neoplasms, with a particular emphasis on the discovery of genetic alterations useful for diagnosis, classification, and therapy. His laboratory has discovered specific alterations such as mutations in KIT, GNAQ, GNA11, and HRAS in specific subtypes of melanocytic neoplasia. These findings have had a significant impact on the understanding of genetic alterations in melanoma, and led to the development of novel diagnostics and therapeutic approaches.

Prior to Dr. Bastian's appointment at Memorial Sloan-Kettering, he served as Leader of the Cutaneous Oncology Program and investigator at the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). During his time at UCSF, he worked in the Dermatopathology Section of the Departments of Dermatology and Pathology and in the UCSF Melanoma Center.

Dr. Bastian received his medical degree and Dr. med degree (equivalent to a PhD degree in medical sciences) from the Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich. After completing his residency in dermatology at the University of Wurzburg, he received training in dermatopathology and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at UCSF before joining the institution's faculty.

Dr. Bastian has lectured around the world and currently serves as the President of the Society for Melanoma Research.

Michael Chapman



Acting Section Chief, Associate Professor of Dermatology, Department of Surgery, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

Dr. Michael Shane Chapman is an Associate Professor of Dermatology (Department of Surgery) at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, New Hampshire, and Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, New Hampshire. He received an undergraduate bachelor of science degree from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. He received his medical degree from The University of Texas Medical School at Houston and completed his dermatology residency at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, New Hampshire in 1999. He has been on faculty since that time.

He is also a current member of the American Academy of Dermatology, the New Hampshire Dermatological Society, the New England Dermatological Society, and the Herb Fred Medical Society.

Dr. Chapman was named the Most Distinguished Educator at Dartmouth Medical School (DMS Second year) in 2004. He is the directory clinical trials in the section of dermatology at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center as well as the director of the dermatology laser clinic. He also maintains a busy medical dermatology practice. He is co-author of the best-selling textbook *Skin Diseases: Diagnosis and Treatment*. Currently, he is the acting section chief of the section of dermatology at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

Joël Claveau



Dermatologist, Melanoma and Pigmented Lesions Clinic, Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Québec

Dr. Joël Claveau is a dermatologist, specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of melanoma, and an Associate Professor with the Department of Medicine at Laval University where he completed his Medical Study and Internal Medicine training. He completed his residency in Dermatology at McGill University and subsequently worked at the Melanoma Clinic at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal, Quebec.

He is a diplomat of the American Board of Dermatology and is a member of a number of medical societies including the American Academy of Dermatology and the International Dermoscopy Society. He has received many awards including the Young Dermatologist's Volunteer Award of the Canadian Dermatology Association for his work on the prevention of skin cancers.

Since 1996, Dr. Claveau has been the co-Director of the Melanoma and Skin Cancer Clinic at Le Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Québec, Hôtel-Dieu de Québec, and consultant in Public Health for the province of Québec. He participated in the publication of more than 15 papers in peer-review journals including work on melanoma, sunscreens and tanning parlours. He is actively involved in a numerous Continuing Medical Education (CME) events.

Robert Coffin



Founder, Biovex USA

Dr. Robert Coffin is the Founder & Chief Technology Officer of BioVex Inc, a company which originally spun out of his research group at University College London in 1999, and which is now headquartered in Woburn, MA. BioVex is developing advanced biologic therapies for the treatment of cancer and infectious disease, and is currently testing its lead product, OncoVEX GM-CSF, in pivotal Phase 3 studies in melanoma and head and neck cancer and in addition has a live attenuated vaccine for genital herpes in a Phase 1 clinical trial. Prior to BioVex, Robert Coffin was a Senior Lecturer at UCL where he oversaw a research group in basic virology and the development of virus-based vaccine and gene delivery technology.

Scott Ernst

Head, Division of Medical Oncology, London Regional Cancer Program

Dr. Scott Ernst is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario where he has also served as Divisional Head, Medical Oncology for the past three years. He graduated from University of Ottawa and completed his postgraduate training in Edmonton, Alberta, including the Cross Cancer Institute. He has held faculty positions at the Universities of Calgary, East Carolina and Miami.

His principle clinical interest has been in the management of GU AND ENT malignancies, and melanoma. His specific research has focused upon new drug development and bone metastases. Dr. Ernst has participated in numerous national and international clinical trials and has authored over 50 peer reviewed publications. He is currently an executive member of the NCIC CTG Melanoma Group and is a founding co-chair for the Canadian Melanoma Conference.

David Hogg

Professor of Medicine, Departments of Medicine and Medical Biophysics, University of Toronto; Attending Physician, Princess Margaret Hospital

Dr. David Hogg received his Medical Degree in 1980 from the University of Toronto, followed by training in Internal Medicine and Hematology. He carried out his postdoctoral research training in molecular genetics at the Hospital for Sick Children and the Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, and at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD.

Dr. Hogg is currently a Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto, and Attending Physician at the Princess Margaret Hospital. He specializes in treating melanoma and sarcoma and has a particular interest in the genetics of sporadic and familial melanoma. He is currently focusing on melanoma clinical trials with a focus on targeted agents and immunotherapy.

Greg McKinnon

Professor of Surgery and Oncology, University of Calgary and Tom Baker Cancer Centre

Dr. Gregory McKinnon is a Professor of Surgery and Oncology at the University of Calgary and Tom Baker Cancer Center. He obtained his MD and completed a residency in general surgery at Dalhousie University. He completed sub-specialty training in surgical oncology at Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, N.Y. and the Medical College of Virginia. He was a research fellow, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and Sydney Melanoma Unit at the University of Sydney.

He is the former chair of the Royal College Surgical Oncology Specialty Committee, the former chair, Canadian Association of General Surgeons Oncology Committee and the past president of the Canadian Society of Surgical Oncology. He is also the current head of the Cutaneous Oncology Clinic at the Tom Baker Cancer Center and Chair of the Provincial Cutaneous Oncology Tumor Group of Alberta.

Teresa Petrella



Medical Oncologist, Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre; Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

Dr. Teresa Petrella is a Medical Oncologist at the Odette Cancer Centre (OCC) in Toronto, Canada and an Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Petrella has a BSc in Molecular Biology from the University of Western Ontario and completed her MD at Queen's University. Her Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology training was at McMaster University. She subsequently completed a fellowship in melanoma and breast cancer at the Toronto Sunnybrook

Regional Cancer Centre along with a Masters in Health Research Methodology at McMaster University. She was the recipient of a CIHR/CAMO award for her research in Vaccine therapy in combination with Interferon for melanoma patients. Her research interests are in melanoma and breast cancer and she is currently the Principal Investigator for several multi-centre trials investigating novel therapies in melanoma.

Dr. Petrella joined the staff at OCC in 2002 and became the Head of the Melanoma Site Group. She also chairs the Cancer Care Ontario Provincial Guidelines Melanoma Disease Site Group, Program in Evidence Based Care. She is currently the Chair of the National Cancer Institute of Canada (NCIC) Melanoma Clinical Trials Group.

Darrell Rigel



Clinical Professor, Department of Dermatology, New York University Medical Center

Dr. Darrell S. Rigel is a Clinical Professor of Dermatology at New York University Medical Center. He is a graduate of MIT with a bachelor of science in Management Information Sciences, an master of science (MBA) from the Sloan School of Management at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and received his medical degree from George Washington University. He attended Cornell University Medical Center for Internship in Internal Medicine and completed his training at New York

University where he was Resident, Chief Resident, National Institutes of Health Training Fellow and Dermatology Surgery Fellow.

His research is in the areas of risk factors and prognosis for malignant melanoma and other skin cancers and factors leading to aging of the skin. He is the author of numerous articles and abstracts in professional journals as well as lead editor of *Cancer of the Skin*, the major textbook in this field.

Dr. Rigel has testified before Congress regarding the effects of ozone depletion on skin cancer. He has made over 600 presentations at medical and governmental policy conferences worldwide and has chaired numerous national and international conferences and symposia. He often appears on National television including CNN, ABC, FOX, NBC and CBS and his research and opinions are regularly cited in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and many other national magazines and newspapers.

Dr. Rigel serves with many professional and charitable organizations related to his research interests. In 1999, he served as President of the American Academy of Dermatology and also served for nine years as a Director of the American Board of Dermatology. He is also a Past President of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery and the American Dermatological Association. He also serves as a Vice-Chair of the MIT Educational Counselor program.

Dr. Rigel has also received numerous awards and honors including the American Cancer Society's National Honor Citation for Skin Cancer Programs and Presidential Citations from the American Academy of Dermatology and American Society for Dermatologic Surgery for public education programs in skin cancer.

Merrick Ross



Surgical Oncologist, University Of Texas Md Anderson Cancer Center

Dr. Merrick I. Ross is Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Melanoma Section in the Department of Surgical Oncology at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.

He received his medical degree from the University of Illinois School of Medicine in Chicago, completed a residency in General Surgery at the University of Illinois Affiliated Hospitals in Chicago, and was Administrative Chief Resident at the University of Illinois Department of Surgery. In addition, Dr. Ross served a research fellowship at Scripps Clinic and Research Institute in La Jolla, California, and completed both an administrative and a surgical oncology fellowship at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr. Ross is well-published in medical literature, and lectures extensively both domestically and abroad. He has also been the recipient of various awards, including the Charles M. McBride Distinguished Professorship in Surgical Oncology.

Kathryn Roth



Assistant Professor, Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, University of Western Ontario

Dr. Kathryn Roth is an Assistant Professor, and a member of the Division of Facial Plastic Surgery of the Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery at The University of Western Ontario in London, ON. Dr. Roth graduated with a medical degree from Western in 2003 and then completed her residency in Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery at the same institution in 2008. She has returned to London from Sydney, Australia after completing the internationally renowned Head & Neck, Reconstructive surgery fellowship with the Sydney Head & Neck Institute, in conjunction with the Sydney Melanoma Unit.

Dr. Roth has a special clinical interest in head & neck melanoma and non-melanomatous skin carcinoma requiring reconstruction, sentinel node biopsy, and endocrine surgery. Her research focus involves skin malignancy prognostication, early identification and skin surveillance programs. She is currently completing a Masters in Health Professions Education through the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Thomas Salopek

Associate Professor and Divisional Director; Division of Dermatology and Cutaneous Sciences, University of Alberta

Dr. Thomas Salopek is Associate Professor in the Division of Dermatology and Cutaneous Sciences at the University of Alberta, where he is also the Divisional Director. He is the Director of the Multidisciplinary Melanoma Clinic at the University Dermatology Center. He is a graduate of the University of Alberta Medical School and Dermatology Residency Program. After graduating from dermatology he spent one year with the renowned melanoma specialist Dr. Al Kopf at New York University, where he was the William Randolph Hearst Melanoma Fellow. In addition to having a special interest in melanoma, he also has an interest in nail disorders, dermatologic surgery, psoriasis, and dermatologic diseases with systemic implications.

Dirk Schadendorf



Professor, Department of Dermatology, University Hospital Essen

Dr. Dirk Schadendorf has been the Director of Dermatology at the University Hospital Essen in Germany since 2008. After he received his degree in 1986 at the University of Hamburg Medical School, he worked two years at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York. He moved back to Germany to work with Professor K. Mölling at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics in Berlin. From 1989 to 1995 he began specializing in dermatology and venereology at the University Hospital Rudolf Virchow, Berlin.

In 1997, he became an Associate Professor for Dermato-Oncology at the Mannheim University Hospital (Medical Faculty of the University of Heidelberg), and, at the same time, Head of the Skin Cancer Unit of the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg. Between 2000 and 2008, in his capacity as Head of the Skin Cancer Department – he served as Assistant Medical Director of the Dermatology Department at the Mannheim University Hospital.

Michael Smylie



Medical Oncologist, Cross Cancer Institute; Associate Professor, Department of Oncology, University of Alberta

Dr. Michael Smylie is a Medical Oncologist at the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton, Alberta. He holds an academic appointment as a Professor in the Department of Oncology at the University of Alberta. He is the past Site Leader for the Clinical Trials Committee and the past site Leader of the National Cancer Institute of Canada (NCIC). He is very active in designing and participating in clinical trials in malignant melanoma. His other interests include lung cancer and breast cancer. His major research interest is in targeted therapy and new drug development in metastatic melanoma. He has chaired several National Melanoma Meetings and is the current chair of the Canadian national melanoma meeting in Canada.

Vernon Sondak



Chair, Department of Cutaneous Oncology, Moffitt Cancer Center

Dr. Vernon Sondak is Chair of the Department of Cutaneous Oncology and Director of Surgical Education at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute in Tampa, Florida. He is also a Professor in the Departments of Oncologic Sciences and Surgery at the University of South Florida, College of Medicine. His research interests include surgical treatment of malignant melanoma in adults and children; surgical treatment of Merkel cell carcinoma and soft-tissue sarcomas, including dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans, angiosarcoma, gastrointestinal stromal tumors, and desmoid tumors; adjuvant therapy of melanoma; and evaluation of vaccine treatments for patients with localized or disseminated melanoma.

Dr. Sondak has been a leader in studies of surgical treatment of melanoma and other cutaneous malignancies, particularly in the application of sentinel lymph node biopsy to the staging of melanomas, sarcomas and non-melanoma skin cancers. He is actively involved in ongoing analyses to determine which patients with thin melanoma are most likely to benefit from sentinel node biopsy, as well as which patients with sentinel node metastases are most likely to have further metastases identified in other regional lymph nodes.

Dr. Sondak is the author or coauthor of 230 articles in peer-reviewed publications, 124 abstracts, and 8 books and 64 book chapters.

Jeff Sosman

Professor of Medicine; Director, Melanoma and Tumor Immunotherapy Program, Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Centre

Biography not available at time of printing.

Alan Spatz



Professor of Pathology and Oncology, Department of Pathology, McGill University; Canadian Research Chair in Molecular Pathology; Director, Jewish General Hospital

Dr. Alan Spatz is Director of the Pathology Department at the Jewish General Hospital, and Professor of Pathology and Oncology at McGill University. He comes from the Gustave Roussy Cancer Institute in Villejuif, France, where he was the director of dermatopathology for 12 years, and chief of the immunopathology and biopsy units. He trained in Pathology in Paris where he received his MD in Pathology and MSc in Molecular Oncology from Paris VI University in 1992.

Dr. Spatz is Co-Chair of the National Cancer Institute of Canada CTG, Melanoma committee and of the Canadian Association of Pathologists, Anatomic Pathology committee. Dr. Spatz served as Chair of the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer, Melanoma group, and as President of the French division of the International Academy of Pathology. He currently serves as a board member of several international professional organizations and on editorial boards and international strategic committees. Dr. Spatz is Program Director of the McGill Integrated Cancer Research Training Program.

Dr. Spatz leads an international research group on cutaneous melanoma. His current research involves the X chromosome role in metastatic potential and key factors associated with cancer progression. He has authored more than 150 original scientific papers, reports, review articles, and books.

Martin Trotter



Associate Professor, Departments of Pathology and Oncology, University of Calgary

Dr. Martin Trotter was born in Ottawa but grew up in Vancouver and received most of his post-secondary education at the University of British Columbia (BSC – Physiology – 1981; MD 1985, PhD 1990). Following his Anatomic Pathology Residency at UBC, he did a Dermatopathology fellowship in London, U.K., at St. John's Institute of Dermatology. Dr. Trotter is a Diplomat (Dermatopathology) of the Royal College of Pathologists (U.K.)

Dr. Trotter began his career as a pathologist at Vancouver General Hospital in 1994, and moved to Calgary in 2000. He was the Division Head, Anatomic Pathology and Cytopathology for Calgary Laboratory Services and the University of Calgary from 2002-2008 and has directed the immunohistochemistry laboratory since 2002. Dr. Trotter is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (and in Department of Oncology) at the University of Calgary. His major research interests are in skin cancer, especially melanoma, and in workload/quality assurance issues in laboratory medicine.

Léon van Kempen



Research Associate, Department of Pathology, McGill University/Jewish General Hospital

Dr. Leon van Kempen is a research associate in the department of Pathology at the Jewish General Hospital. He initiates and supervises basic and translational research projects with the aims of developing biomarkers for prognosis and monitoring efficacy, and delineating potential novel therapeutic targets for melanoma.

Dr. van Kempen obtained his PhD degree cum laude at the department of Biochemistry at the Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Subsequently, he obtained several project grants and was promoted to assistant professor. He became an independent principle investigator in melanoma and vulvar cancer research with a special focus on the effects of the microenvironment (fibroblasts, inflammation, and extracellular matrix remodeling) on tumor progression. He joined the Department of Pathology at the Jewish General Hospital in September 2010.

In 2006, he was elected to represent the young investigators in the Melanoma Group of the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer. In 2008, Dr. van Kempen was the first and only non-pathologist to be asked to join the pathology committee of that prestigious work group.

Jeff Weber



Director, Donald A. Adam Comprehensive Melanoma Research Center, Moffitt Cancer Center

Dr. Jeff Weber earned his PhD in molecular cell biology from Rockefeller University (New York) in 1979 and received his MD from New York University in 1980. He completed his internship and residency in Medicine at the University of California, San Diego, and his fellowship in Medical Oncology at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD.

His experience includes clinical, research and teaching positions at the University of California, Irvine, and the University of Southern California where he was Chief of Medical Oncology and Associate Director for Clinical Research at the USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Coming to Moffitt in 2007, Dr. Weber is a Senior Member, Director of the Donald A. Adam Comprehensive Melanoma Research Center, and Professor and Associate Chair for Medicine in the Department of Oncologic Sciences.

Dr. Weber's research interests are in the field of immunotherapy for cancer. As a translational clinical investigator, Dr. Weber has performed a variety of vaccine trials in melanoma patients and in women with high-grade cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia. His specific laboratory interests are in the monitoring and characterization of T cell responses in patients with cancer, and the establishment of in vitro models to facilitate the understanding of how immune modulation via abrogating and activating antibodies amplifies adaptive immunity in patients. Clinically, he has held 10 investigator initiated IND over the last decade, and has pursued cutting edge trials recently using gene modified dendritic cells, intranodal injection of plasmid-peptide priming and boosting and novel antibodies like CTLA-4 and PD-1 abrogating antibodies. He has been a pioneer in the clinical advancement of antibodies that induce autoimmunity as a surrogate for clinical benefit in cancer, and the management of the autoimmune side effects.

