

Dr. Paul Martin Biography

Dr. Paul Martin received the M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1974 and completed fellowship training in Medical Oncology at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and the University of Washington in Seattle. He has been a Member in the Division of Clinical Research at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington since 1991. Dr. Martin has 40 years of clinical and research experience in hematopoietic cell transplantation, with a research focus on prevention and treatment of acute and chronic graft-versus-host disease. His interest in GVHD emerged during a 3-month rotation as a fellow in the transplant unit in the spring of 1978.

In the early phase of his research career, he embarked on a series of studies attempting to prevent GVHD by removing T cells from the graft. Although the risk of GVHD was reduced, this benefit was offset by an increased risk of graft rejection. Thereafter, he conducted a series of studies in murine models showing that donor CD8 T cells have a critical role in preventing rejection primarily through mechanisms involving recognition of recipient alloantigens and perforin-dependent cytotoxic activity against recipient T cells that survive the conditioning regimen.

From 1999 – 2013, Dr. Martin served as Director of Long-Term Follow-Up after hematopoietic cell transplantation at the FHCRC, and from 2011 through 2017, he served as Medical Director of the clinical trials office at the FHCRC. He participated in both the 2005 and 2014 National Institutes of Health consensus development projects on criteria for clinical trials in chronic graft-versus-host disease, and he led the Clinical Trial Design Working Group for both Workshops. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors for the ASBMT, and he has served as Chair Elect, Chair, and Past Chair of the CIBMTR Advisory Committee in successive terms ending this year.