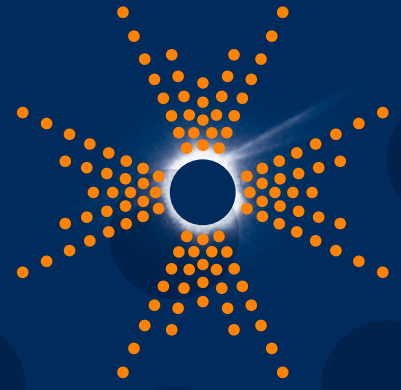


7th canadian
melanoma conference
Research frontiers



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

Conference Program

Thursday February 21 to Sunday
February 24, 2013

Rimrock Resort Hotel, Banff
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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 Braf 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
- Review the specific challenges of acral melanomas
- Share novel research strategies and initiatives being conducted across Canada
- Identify new targets and targeted agents in the treatment of melanoma such as PD-1
- 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

This event is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and approved by the Division of Continuous Professional Learning, University of Alberta.

For More Information

Canadian Melanoma Conference Secretariat

BUKSA Strategic Conference Services

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BUKSA



Program Planning Committee

Chair: Michael Smylie, Medical Oncologist, Cross Cancer Institute; 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

Kate Bailey, Conference Secretariat, BUKSA Strategic Conference Services

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Patient Advocacy Groups



Schedule-at-a-Glance

Thursday, February 21, 2013		<i>Page 5</i>
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19 ⁰⁰ – 21 ⁰⁰	Opening Reception	Wildrose Foyer
Friday, February 22, 2013		<i>Page 5-6</i>
07 ⁰⁰ – 07 ⁴⁵	Breakfast	Wildrose A
07 ⁴⁵ – 08 ⁰⁰	Conference Opening	Wildrose B & C
08 ⁰⁰ – 09 ⁴⁵	THEME 1: Basic Science, Pathology and Epidemiology	Wildrose B & C
09 ⁴⁵ – 10 ¹⁵	Refreshment Break	Wildrose Foyer
10 ¹⁵ – 11 ⁴⁵	THEME 1 <i>(continued)</i>	Wildrose B & C
11 ⁴⁵	Lunch and Free Time	Wildrose Foyer
16 ³⁰ – 17 ⁰⁰	Reception	Wildrose Foyer
17 ⁰⁰ – 18 ³⁰	Evening Session	Wildrose B & C
18 ³⁰ – 19 ⁰⁰	Reception	Wildrose Foyer
19 ⁰⁰ – 20 ³⁰	Evening Session	Wildrose B & C
Saturday, February 23, 2013		<i>Page 6-7</i>
07 ¹⁵ – 08 ⁰⁰	Breakfast	Wildrose A
08 ⁰⁰ – 09 ³⁰	THEME 2: Surgery and Dermatology	Wildrose B & C
09 ³⁰ – 09 ⁴⁵	Refreshment Break	Wildrose Foyer
09 ⁴⁵ – 12 ⁰⁰	THEME 2 <i>(continued)</i>	Wildrose B & C
12 ⁰⁰ – 17 ⁰⁰	Lunch and Free Time	Wildrose Foyer
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Sunday, February 24, 2013		<i>Page 7</i>
07 ¹⁵ – 08 ⁰⁰	Breakfast	Wildrose A
08 ⁰⁰ – 09 ³⁰	THEME 3: Immunology and Systemic Therapy	Wildrose B & C
09 ³⁰ – 10 ⁰⁰	Refreshment Break	Wildrose Foyer
10 ⁰⁰ – 11 ⁰⁰	THEME 3 <i>(continued)</i>	Wildrose B & C
11 ⁰⁰ – 11 ¹⁵	Conference Closing	Wildrose B & C
11 ¹⁵	Boxed Lunch to go	Salon A

Thursday *February 21, 2013*

7⁰⁰ – 9⁰⁰ pm **Opening Reception & Registration**

Wildrose Foyer

Friday *February 22, 2013*

7⁰⁰ – 7⁴⁵ am **Breakfast and Registration**

Wildrose A

7⁴⁵ – 8⁰⁰ am **Conference Opening**

Michael Smylie, Medical Oncologist, Cross Cancer Institute

THEME 1: BASIC SCIENCE, PATHOLOGY AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

Session Co-Chairs: Alan Spatz, Professor of Pathology and Oncology, McGill University

Sébastien Labonté, Pathologist, Hôpital Hôtel Dieu de Québec

8⁰⁰ – 8⁴⁵ am **Novel Molecular Targets in Melanocytic Neoplasia**

Boris Bastian, Professor of Dermatology and Pathology, University of California, San Francisco

8⁴⁵ – 9¹⁵ am **Spindle Cell Melanoma: Desmoplasia, Neurotropism, and other Causes of Concern**

Sébastien Labonté, Pathologist, Hôpital Hôtel Dieu de Québec

9¹⁵ – 9⁴⁵ am **Molecular Pathology of Melanoma**

Alan Spatz, Professor of Pathology and Oncology, McGill University

9⁴⁵ – 10¹⁵ am **Question and Answer Period / Refreshment Break**

10¹⁵ – 10⁴⁵ am **Updates of Merkel Cell Carcinoma**

Nathalie Zeitouni, Chief, Dermatologic Surgery, Department of Dermatology, University of Buffalo

10⁴⁵ – 11¹⁵ am **Uveal Melanoma and Overview of Etiology and Genetic Prognostication**

Ezekiel Weis, Assistant Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Alberta

11¹⁵ – 11⁴⁵ am **Results of a Multicenter, Phase 3 Trial of NAB-Paclitaxel vs Dacarbazine in Chemotherapy – Naïve Patients with Metastatic Malignant Melanoma**

Teresa Petrella, Medical Oncologist, Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre

11⁴⁵ am **Lunch and Free Time**

**All sessions take place in the Wildrose B & C unless otherwise noted.*

4³⁰ – 5⁰⁰ pm **Reception**

5⁰⁰ – 6³⁰ pm **Metastatic Melanoma and Locally Advanced Basal Cell Carcinoma: Interactive Workshop**
Joel Claveau, Dermatologist, Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Québec
Teresa Petrella, Medical Oncologist, Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre
Luc Thomas, Professor and Chairman, Department of Dermatology, Lyon 1 University Centre Hospitalier Lyon Sud

6³⁰ – 7⁰⁰ pm **Reception**

7⁰⁰ – 8³⁰ pm **Navigating Metastatic Melanoma Therapy in 2013**
Steven J. O'Day, Medical Oncologist, Director of Clinical Research, Director of Los Angeles Skin Cancer Institute at Beverly Hills Cancer Center; Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, USC Adjunct Member, John Wayne Cancer Institute
Michael Smylie, Medical Oncologist, Cross Cancer Institute; Professor, Department of Oncology, University of Alberta

Saturday *February 23, 2013*

7¹⁵ – 8⁰⁰ am **Breakfast and Registration** *Wildrose A*

THEME 2: SURGERY AND DERMATOLOGY

Session Co-Chairs: Greg McKinnon, Professor of Surgery and Oncology, University of Calgary and Tom Baker Cancer Centre

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

8⁰⁰ – 8³⁰ am **The New Melanoma Landscape: Impact on Stage Specific Melanoma**
Merrick Ross, Surgical Oncologist, University Of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

8³⁰ – 9⁰⁰ am **Current Practice and Future Directions in Regional Treatment Strategies for Melanoma in Canada**
Carman Giacomantonio, Associate Professor, Surgical Oncology, Dalhousie University

9⁰⁰ – 9³⁰ am **Surgical Management of Melanoma: Uniform Guidelines or Individual Care**
Vern Sondak, Chair, Department of Cutaneous Oncology, Moffitt Cancer Center

9³⁰ – 9⁴⁵ am **Question and Answer Period / Refreshment Break**

9⁴⁵ – 10³⁰ am **Diagnosis of Acral Melanomas including Ungueal Melanomas**
Luc Thomas, Professor and Chairman, Department of Dermatology, Lyon 1 University Centre Hospitalier Lyon Sud

10³⁰ – 11⁰⁰ am **What is New in Melanoma Surgery for the Dermatologist**
Tom Salopek, Director of Dermatology, Associate Professor, University of Alberta

11⁰⁰ – 11¹⁰ am **The Rate of Development of Metastatic Melanoma in Sentinel Node Negative Patients: The Ottawa Experience**
Jennifer MacIsaac, Resident, University of Ottawa

**All sessions take place in the Wildrose B & C unless otherwise noted.*

11¹⁰ – 11³⁰ am **How often do Level III Nodes Bear Melanoma Metastases and does it Affect Patient Outcomes?**
Frances Wright, Associate Professor of Surgery, University of Toronto

12⁰⁰ pm **Lunch and Free Time**

5⁰⁰ – 6¹⁵ pm **Clinicopathological Conference: Challenging Cases, Audience Participation and Expert Insight**
Joel Claveau, Dermatologist, Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Québec
Scott Ernst, Head, Division of Medical Oncology, London Regional Cancer Program
Sébastien Labonté, Pathologist, Hôpital Hôtel Dieu de Québec

6³⁰ pm **Dinner**

Wildrose A

Sunday *February 24, 2013*

7¹⁵ – 8⁰⁰ am **Breakfast and Registration**

Wildrose A

THEME 3: IMMUNOLOGY AND SYSTEMIC THERAPY

Session Co-Chairs: Teresa Petrella, Medical Oncologist, Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre
Ralph Wong, Medical Oncology, St. Boniface General Hospital

8⁰⁰ – 8³⁰ am **Lessons Learned from Development of BRAF Inhibitors in Metastatic Melanoma**

Igor Puzanov, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology, Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

8³⁰ – 9⁰⁰ am **Immunotherapy for Melanoma: Anti CTA4 Therapy and Anti PD-1 Therapy**

Omid Hamid, Director, The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute, West Los Angeles Office

9⁰⁰ – 9³⁰ am **What to do with BRAF Wild Type Patient**

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

9³⁰ – 10⁰⁰ am **Question and Answer Period / Refreshment Break**

10⁰⁰ – 10³⁰ am **PD-1 antibody BMS 936558 in Patients who either Failed Ipilimumab or are Naïve to it, and Predictive Biomarkers**

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

10³⁰ – 11⁰⁰ am **Canadian Melanoma Research Network**

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

11⁰⁰ – 11¹⁵ am **Conference Closing**

Michael Smylie, Medical Oncologist, Cross Cancer Institute

11¹⁵ am **Boxed Lunch to Go**

**All sessions take place in the Wildrose B & C unless otherwise noted.*

Dr. Boris Bastian



Chairman, Department of Pathology, Memorial Sloan – Kettering Cancer Center

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.

Dr. Bastian's 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.

Dr. Bastian received his MD 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.

Dr. 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.

Dr. Scott Ernst



Head of Division of Medical Oncology

Dr. 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 3 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 most recently, Miami.

His principle clinical interest has been in the management of GU malignancies and melanoma. His specific research has focused upon new drug development and bone metastases. He 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 member for the Canadian Melanoma Conference.

Dr. Carman Giacomantonio



Chief Medical Director , Dalhousie University

Dr. Carman Giacomantonio graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of Memorial University in 1991 and did general surgical training at Dalhousie 1992-1997. He completed an MSc in Pathology in 1998 and from 1997 to 1999 was training at the University of Calgary in Surgical Oncology. He returned to Dalhousie in 1999 where he is currently Assistant Professor of Surgery and a General Surgeon and Surgical Oncologist at the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Center. He is Head of the Surgical Oncology Network for Cancer Care Nova Scotia. Dr. Giacomantonio has won the Canadian Association of General Surgeons Resident Award for Teaching Excellence, Excellence in Teaching Award of the Department of Surgery and the Stevens Norvell Jr. Teaching Excellence Award.

His major areas of research are in Melanoma and Breast Cancer. He is known for his work on sentinel node surgery in both breast cancer and melanoma. His laboratory based research relates to breast cancer cells and melanoma mouse cells. He currently holds research grant awards from the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

Dr. Omid Hamid



Director of the Melanoma Centre, The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute

Omid Hamid, MD, is Chief of Translational Research and Immunotherapy, and the Director of Cutaneous Oncology Program, at The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute in Los Angeles, California. Dr. Hamid is also on faculty at the John Wayne Cancer Institute. He holds practice privileges at Saint John's Health Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and UCLA/Santa Monica-Hospital and Medical Center. Dr. Hamid works to ensure that patients receive access to the most up-to-date therapeutics, based on molecular pathways of melanoma progression.

After receiving his medical degree from the University of Southern California (USC) Keck School of Medicine, Dr. Hamid completed an internship and residency in internal medicine, and a fellowship in oncology, at USC. He began his medical career at the USC Norris Cancer Center and subsequently joined The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute.

Board-certified in medical oncology and internal medicine, Dr. Hamid is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, SWOG (Southwest Oncology Group), and the Medical Oncology Association of Southern California.

Dr. Sébastien Labonté



Pathologist of the Hôpital Hôtel Dieu de Québec, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Québec

Sébastien Labonté is currently the chief of pathology at the CHUQ-Hotel-Dieu de Quebec where his principal interests are bone and soft tissue tumors, dermatopathology, and molecular pathology.

He received his medical education from the University of Sherbrooke in Quebec and completed his residency in anatomic pathology at Laval University where he was also appointed Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Molecular Biology, Medical Biochemistry and Pathology. Dr. Labonté's fellowships include oncologic surgical pathology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and dermatopathology at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Jennifer MacIsaac



Resident at University of Ottawa

Dr. MacIsaac received her Honours Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry with distinction from Laurentian University in 2002. She graduated medicine with honours at the University of Toronto in 2006. She is certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada after completing a residency in Family Medicine at the University of Ottawa in 2008. She practiced as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine for two years. Dr. MacIsaac then decided to pursue my second career in Dermatology, and she is currently a fourth year resident in the Division of Dermatology at the University of Ottawa. She has been published in the University of Toronto Medical Journal and Mosby's Family Practice Sourcebook. Dr. MacIsaac has also received three distinguished awards of excellence in research during her family medicine residency. She is currently involved in studying the recurrence rate of melanoma in sentinel lymph node negative patients in Ottawa, Ontario with Dr. Louis Weatherhead.

Dr. Steven O'Day



Medical Oncologist, Director, Los Angeles Skin Cancer Institute at Beverly Hills Cancer Center

Dr. Steven J. O'Day is Medical Oncologist; Director of the Los Angeles Skin Cancer Institute and Director of Clinical Research at the Beverly Hills Cancer Center, Beverly Hills, CA; He is a Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Southern California (USC) Keck School of Medicine; and Adjunct Member of the John Wayne Cancer Institute, Saint John's Health Center, Santa Monica. Dr. O'Day was a founding member of Medical Oncology Division at the John Wayne Cancer Institute; and a founding member and former Chief of Research and Director of the Melanoma Program at The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute, Los Angeles.

Inspired by the recent significant breakthroughs in the treatment of melanoma, Dr. O'Day remains dedicated to patient care, clinical research and drug development in the treatment of melanoma. He is interested in expanding the success of tumor immunology in melanoma more broadly, across oncologic tumors.

Dr. Teresa Petrella



Medical Oncologist, Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre

Teresa Petrella is a Medical Oncologist at the Odette Cancer Centre 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 from 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. Dr. Petrella joined the staff at OCC in 2002 and became the Head of the Melanoma Site Group. She also Chairs the 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.

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. Igor Puzanov



Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology, Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Igor Puzanov, MD is an associate director of Phase I program and an assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Hematology-Oncology at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. His major interests are phase I drug development, targeted therapy for renal cell carcinoma and melanoma. His focus is in the applying principles of personalized medicine into drug development process.

This includes the clinical development and application of predictive and prognostic biomarkers, both for efficacy and toxicity, including cardiotoxicity of VEGF targeted therapies for RCC.

Dr. Merrick Ross



Surgical Oncologist, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre

Merrick I. Ross, MD, 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. Additionally, 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.

Dr. Thomas Salopek



Director of Dermatology, Associate Professor, 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. Other interests include: dermatologic surgery, psoriasis and other dermatologic conditions with systemic implications.

Dr. Michael Smylie



Medical Oncologist, Cross Cancer Institute; 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. 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.

Dr. Vernon Sondak



Chair, Department of Cutaneous Oncology, Moffitt Cancer Center

Dr. 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 also 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. Jeff Sosman



Director of Melanoma and Tumor Immunotherapy Program, Vander-Ingram Cancer Centre

Dr. Sosman leads the Vanderbilt Melanoma Program and is Co-Leader of the Cell Proliferation and Signal Transduction Program of the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. He has been an active and well-recognized clinical investigator vested in the therapy of melanoma for many years. He has directed numerous clinical trials studying non-chemotherapy based treatment of cancer. The trials have always included a strong translational component frequently centered on immunotherapy, anti-angiogenic therapy and more recently targeted therapy aimed at mutated or overexpressed oncogenes. At Vanderbilt, Dr. Sosman directs one of the first programs in the nation to offer melanoma patients' routine genotyping of their tumors to help identify and treat based on their genetic mutations.

More recently his efforts have turned to personalized therapy of melanoma with well-defined targets (BRAFv600, NRAS mutations, CKIT mutations). Like many others, he sees a paradigm shift in the treatment of melanoma. To further this approach he has played a role in studies of secondary resistance to BRAF inhibitors, as well as efforts to define other "druggable" targets for the many patients with NRAS mutations and those not already defined in a population.

Presently he is extremely interested in the interface between melanoma genetic alterations and immune based therapy. His efforts have been recognized by his stature as a full Professor of Medicine for over 10 years at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He was awarded an Ingram Chair for Cancer Research about 4 years ago and has been named the first Mary Hendrickson-Johnson ACS Melanoma Professor for his commitment and effort to bring translational medicine to melanoma therapy.

Dr. Alan Spatz



Professor of Pathology and Oncology, Canadian Research Chair in Molecular Pathology

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.

Dr. Luc Thomas



Professor and Chairman, Department of Dermatology, Lyon 1 University Centre Hospitalier Lyon Sud

Luc Thomas, MD, PhD, was board certified in dermatology in 1989 at Lyon 1 University. He was trained as a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School in 1990 and 1991, and obtained his PhD degree at Lyon 1 University in 1993. He became a full professor of dermatology in 1996, first class professor in dermatology in 2009, and chairman of the department of dermatology of Lyon 1 University – Centre Hospitalier Lyon Sud in 2003.

His main research fields include skin oncology, early diagnosis of melanoma, dermoscopy, skin surgery and nail diseases. He has published more than 200 peer-reviewed scientific articles in international journals, is the co-editor of four books published in several languages and co-author of more than 25 books. He has lectured at many international meetings, is an associate editor of *Dermatology*, a member of the board of the International Dermoscopy Society, a past member of the board and treasurer of the French Society of Dermatology from 2000 to 2003, and treasurer of the World Congress of Dermatology in Paris in 2002.

Dr. Jeff Weber



Senior Member, Donald A. Adam Comprehensive Melanoma Research Centre

Dr. Weber earned his Ph.D. in molecular cell biology from Rockefeller University (New York) in 1979 and received his M.D. 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.

Dr. Ezekiel Weis



Assistant Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Alberta

Dr. Ezekiel Weis is an Assistant Professor at the University of Calgary and the Provincial Medical Director of the Alberta Ocular Brachytherapy Program. He is currently a full-time GFT in Edmonton and he works 3 days a month in Calgary helping with ocular oncology cases. He completed his Masters of Public Health at Harvard University in the field of Quantitative methods. Dr. Weis completed 4 fellowships between 2005 and 2007: Ocular Oncology in Wills Eye Hospital, Philadelphia, USA; Orbital Disease, Amsterdam Medical Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands; Orbital Disease and Ocular Oncology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver General Hospital, Canada; Oculoplastics and Orbit, University of Ottawa, Ottawa Eye Institute, Canada.

His research interests include Epidemiology of Uveal melanoma with a particular focus on environmental risk factors for the development of melanoma and its prevention, diagnostic imaging of orbital diseases, epithelial lacrimal gland tumors. He is currently the Section editor for Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology and he has been the Academic coordinator for past 3 years for Eye Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta Annual Academic Conference.

Dr. Frances Wright



Associate Professor of Surgery, University of Toronto

Dr. Wright completed a surgical oncology fellowship at the University of Toronto in 2003 and joined the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre Division of General Surgery. In 2004 she completed her Masters of Education at the Ontario Institute of Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. She was promoted to Associate Professor in June 2009. Her research projects to date have included improving lymph node counts in colorectal cancer using the influence of opinion leaders which garnered a Cancer Quality Council of Ontario Award, multidisciplinary cancer conferences and barriers to their initiation, extent of surgery for patients with melanoma and why women with early breast cancer are choosing more extensive surgery. She is now the Program Director of the University of Toronto General Surgery Oncology Fellowship Program and works as a consultant for Cancer Care Ontario regarding Multidisciplinary Cancer Conference implementation across the province.

Dr. Nathalie Zeitouni



Chief, Dermatologic Surgery, Department of Dermatology, University of Buffalo

Nathalie C. Zeitouni, MDCM, FRCPC, Chief of Dermatology and Associate Professor at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY, has 15 years of experience dealing with skin cancer patients from both a surgical and medical perspective. Dr. Zeitouni earned her Doctorate in Medicine in 1992 from McGill University in Montreal and completed her Dermatology residency at Laval University in 1996. She then pursued a Mohs Micrographic Surgery Fellowship at the University of Alabama in 1997 before moving to Buffalo to work for Roswell Park Cancer Institute and the University at Buffalo.

