

# SECTION OF HEMATOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

## SECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Successfully launched Hematology/Oncology grand rounds; as a part of this effort, we included a disparities series, which began with Dr. Jonathan Chism, speaking about Reflections on Racism in Post-Civil Rights America; Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner also spoke about racial tension during the pandemic
- Our section has 23 federal grants (totaling \$4.58M) and ten clinical trials (totaling \$2.56M)
- Our Third Hematologic Malignancies Symposium was held virtually



**SECTION CHIEF**

*Martha P. Mims, MD, PhD*

## FACULTY

### **Section Leadership**

- Helen Heslop, MD, Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center (DLDCCC) Interim Director
- Martha P. Mims, MD, PhD, Chief, Section of Hematology and Oncology, Baylor College of Medicine (BCM)
- Benjamin L. Musher, MD, BA, Medical Oncology Medical Director, McNair Campus
- Sravanti Teegavarapu, MD, Hematology Medical Director, McNair Campus
- Anita Sabichi, MD, Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center Division Chief
- Courtney Miller-Chism, MD, Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Director

### **Faculty**

#### **Professor**

- Malcolm Brenner, MD, PhD
- George Carrum, MD
- Gary C. Chamness, PhD
- Chad Creighton, PhD
- Matthew Ellis, MD, BCH, PhD
- Suzanne Fuqua, PhD
- Helen Heslop, MD
- Susan Hilsenbeck, PhD
- Rammurti Kamble, MD
- Weei-Chin Lin, MD, PhD
- Martha P. Mims, MD, PhD

- Charles K. Osborne, MD
- Carlos A. Ramos, MD
- Mothaffar Rimawi, MD
- Rachel Schiff, PhD
- Perumal Thiagarajan, MD
- Mark Udden, MD

#### **Professor Emeritus**

- Gerald Cyprus, MD
- Teresa Hayes, MD
- Edward Lynch, MD
- Joel Moake, MD
- Robert Franklin Todd III, MD, PhD

### Associate Professor

- Alan R. Davis PhD, BA
- Natalie Lapteva, PhD
- Fang-Tsyr Lin, MD, PhD
- Zhuyong Mei, MD
- Nicholas Mitsiades, MD, PhD
- Ben L. Musher, MD
- Arpit Rao, MD
- Sarvari V. Yellapragada, MD

### Assistant Professor

- Charu Agrawal, MD
- Tannaz Armaghany, MD
- Sita Bushan, MD
- Gloria Echeverria, PhD
- Akiva Diamond, MD
- Paige Farinholt, MD
- Jahnvi Gollamudi, MD
- Svasti Haricharan, MD
- LaQuisa Hill, MD, BS
- Valentina Hoyos, MD
- Quillan Huang, MD
- Aparna C. Jotwani, MD
- Mamta Kalidas, MD
- Salma Kaochar, PhD, BS

- Meghashyam Kavuri, MD
- Jan Kemnade, MD, PhD
- Ang Li, MD, MS, BA
- Premal Lulla, MD
- Courtney Miller-Chism, MD
- Maksim Mamonkin, PhD
- Charles Minard, PhD
- Julie Nangia, MD
- Gustavo Rivero, MD
- Yvonne Sada, MD
- Masataka Suzuki, PhD, MS, BS
- Sravanti Teegavarapu, MD
- Daniel Wang, MD, BA
- Aihua (Edward) Yen, MD

### Instructor

- Michael Byrd, NP
- Margaret Crawford, NP
- Jahnvi Gollamudi, MD
- Ramon Jin, MD, PhD, BS.
- Karen Riggins, MD, PhD

### Adjunct

- Powel H. Brown, MD, PhD
- Elizabeth Rogg, MD

## HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### Charu Agrawal, MD

- Mentioned in BCM Momentum titled “Best of Momentum”

### Tannaz Armaghany, MD

- Best Oncology Teaching Service, Harris Health Hospital

### Chad Creighton, MD

- Full Professor (Tenured) Primary Appointment: Department of Medicine, Section of Hematology and Oncology; Secondary Appointment: DLDOCC
- Member, American Association for Cancer Research Breast Cancer Research Grants Scientific Review Committee



***Our keynote speaker for Grand Rounds, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, discussed racial tension during the pandemic.***

- Panel Chair, Ovarian Cancer Research Program, Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP)
- Panel Chair, Kidney Cancer Research Program, CDMRP
- Teleconference Reviewer, National Cancer Institute Review Panel, NCI Small Business Innovation Research contract proposals

**Helen Heslop, MD, PhD**

- Elected Fellow of the American Society of Transplant and Cell Therapy
- Mortimer Bortin lectureship, Transplant and Cell Therapy meeting
- Interim Director, Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Chair, BMT CTN Steering Committee

**LaQuisa Hill, MD**

- BMT Faculty Teacher of the Year, Hematology Oncology Fellowship program

**Aparna Jotwani, MD**

- Best Oncology Teaching Service, Harris Health Hospital
- Accepted in Quality Training Program

**Weei-Chin Lin, MD, PhD**

- Best Hematology Teaching Service, Harris Health Hospital

**Premal Lulla, MD**

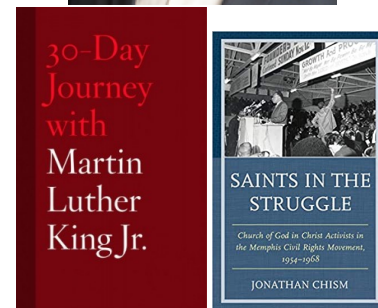
- CPRIT Scholar
- Reviewer, *Nature Medicine*
- Reviewer, *Clinical Cancer Research*
- American Society of Hematology, annual meeting abstract reviewer, Cancer Immunotherapy
- American Society of Hematology, Junior Faculty Scholar Study Section, Basic Sciences

**Courtney Miller-Chism, MD**

- Norton Rose Fulbright Award
- Best Hematology Teaching Service, Harris Health Hospital
- Best Oncology Teaching Service, Harris Health Hospital

**Martha P. Mims, MD, PhD**

- Best Subspecialty Teaching Award, Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center
- Fellows Award for best Hematology Teacher



**Our keynote speaker for Grand Rounds, Dr. Johnathan Chism, gave a lecture on Reflections on Racism in Post-Civil Rights America.**

- January 2021, ACOSOG Reaccreditation of Ben Taub Hospital as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer Center
- June 2021, Best Hematology Teaching Attending, Smith Clinic
- June 2021, Best Hematology Teaching Attending, Ben Taub Hospital
- June 2021, Fellows Award for Best Hematology Teaching Service, Harris Health Hospital

**Nicholas Mitsiades, MD**

- June 2021, Best Oncology Teaching Service, Harris Health Hospital

**Benjamin Musher, MD**

- 2021, STAR Faculty Award for Excellence in Patient Care
- June 2021, Best Oncology Teaching Service, Harris Health Hospital
- June 2021, Best Oncology Teaching Attending, Harris Health Hospital



***The 2021 graduating fellows ceremony was held virtually through Zoom.***

**Arpit Rao, MD**

- January 2021, Top Doctors: Rising Start – MSP St. Paul Magazine
- January 2021, Scholar (Career Development) Award, NCI/Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology

**Karen Riggins, MD, PhD**

- June 2021, Best Oncology Teaching Service, Harris Health

**Mark M. Udden, MD**

- June 2021, Best Hematology Teaching Service, Harris Health

**Sarvari V. Yellapragada, MD**

- 2021, Norton Rose Fulbright Award

**RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

**Grants**

**Gloria Echeverria, PhD**

- Breast Cancer Alliance; Characterizing and targeting mitochondrial metabolism in chemoresistant triple negative breast cancer; \$62,500

**Matthew Ellis, MD, BCH, PhD**

- Adrienne Helis Malvin Medical Research Foundation; Kinase Inhibition For ESR1 Fusion-Driven Breast Cancer; \$200,000
- Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs; Proteogenomic approaches for finding therapeutic vulnerabilities to treat breast tumors expressing transcriptionally active ESR1 fusions; \$533,333

**Helen Heslop, MD**

- NIH/NCI; 3P30Ca125123-14S1: Defining pathologic immune dysregulation in 2019-Cov: opportunities for risk stratification and therapeutic immune modulation (Administrative Supplement) \$400,938
- NIH/NCI; 3P30Ca125123-14S2: Cancer clinical investigator team leadership award for fiscal year 2020; \$60,000
- NIH/NCI; 3P30Ca125123-14S3: (Biocohort) - Cancer pathogenesis for pediatric kaposi sarcoma in a biocohort from Malawi; \$250,000
- NIH/NCI; 3P30Ca125123-14S4: Financial hardship-improving coordination and delivery of financial navigation services at the DLDFCC; \$150,000
- NIH/NCI; 3P30Ca125123-14S5: Modifying the home environment to promote & support child obesity prevention; \$150,000
- NIH/NCI; 3P30Ca125123-14S4: Supplement of a P01 Program Project Grant - Targeting the brain microenvironment of Glioma; \$100,000
- NIH/NCI; 3P30Ca125123-14S6: Administrative Supplements for the NCI P30 Cancer Center Support Grants to enhance data sharing in pediatric, adolescent, and young adult cancers \$470,361

**LaQuisa Hill, MD**

- CSL Behring; A randomized trial of Alpha 1-Antitrypsin (AAT) for treatment of high risk acute GVHD following allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplant protocol #1705; \$9,088

**Salma Kaochar, PhD**

- Systems Oncology; Laboratory Service Agreement; \$10,400

**Ang Li, MD, MS**

- Centers for Disease Control; Understanding risk factors and burden of Covid-19 related thrombosis and/or bleeding complications; \$71,256

**Bora Lim, MD**

- Chan Zuckerberg Initiative; Transfer to BCM - Human breast cell atlas seed network; \$32,301
- NIH/NCI; The role of lung resident mesenchymal stem cells in post-chemotherapy lung metastases of breast cancer; \$53,150

**Weei-Chin Lin, MD, PhD**

- Marsha Rivkin Center for Ovarian Cancer Research; Novel approaches to target MYC in ovarian cancer; \$37,500

**Premal Lulla, MD**

- CPRIT; CPRIT Early Career Clinical Investigator Award for applicant: Premal Lulla, M.D.; \$305,298
- Allovir (An Elevatebio Company US); Banked anti-SARS Cov-2 T-cell infusions for treatment of COVID-19; \$1,227,903
- Marker Therapeutics, LLC. US); Assessing the highest tolerated dose of donor-derived MTAA T-Cells for patients with AML AOR MDS; \$533,532

**Martha Mims, MD, PhD**

- NIH/NCI: OPTIMISE: Improving comprehensive care of cancer patients with comorbidities: Mims/Badr Co-PIs; \$414,924

**Nicholas Mitsiades, MD, PhD**

- Department Of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs; Sensitization of castration resistant prostate cancer to chemotherapy via BRCA-1/BRCA-2 induced DNA replication stress; \$317,000

**Benjamin Musher, MD**

- PCI Biotech (Norway); A Multi-Centre, Randomised, Open-Label, Phase 2 study to assess the safety, tolerability and efficacy of Fimaporfin-induced photochemical internalisation of gemcitabine complemented by gemcitabine/cisplatin chemotherapy versus gemcitabine/cisplatin alone in patients with inoperable cholangiocarcinoma; \$39,635

**Carlos Ramos, MD**

- Kuur Therapeutics (UK); Anchor: Allogeneic natural killer T-Cells expressing CD19 specific chimeric antigen receptor and interleukin-15 in relapsed or refractory B-Cell malignancies; \$301,062
- Tessa Therapeutics PTE. LTD. (Singapore); Allogeneic CD30 Chimeric antigen receptor EBV-Specific T Lymphocytes (Besta); \$219,545
- Tessa Therapeutics PTE. LTD. (Singapore); Vista (Virus Specific T Cells and Adenovirus): A first in human Phase I trial of binary oncolytic adenovirus in combination with HER2-Specific CAR VST cells in patients with advanced HER2 positive solid tumors; \$136,037

**Mothaffar Rimawi, MD**

- Translational Breast Cancer Research Consortium (TBCRC); TBCRC 2020 BCRF; \$37,500
- Translational Breast Cancer Research Consortium (TBCRC); TBCRC 2020 SGK; \$37,500
- NIH/NCI: NRG Oncology Member Institution Clinical Trial fixed price subaward agreement; \$22,700

- Seattle Genetics; SGNTUC-016 Clinical Trial; \$36,294

### **Rachel Schiff, PhD**

- Breast Cancer Research Foundation; BCRF 2020-2021: Mechanisms of resistance to HER2 and ER-targeted therapies and novel therapeutic strategies; \$175,000
- CPRIT; Targeting the mechanism of hyperactive FOXA1 in transcriptional reprogramming toward endocrine resistance and metastasis in breast cancer; \$299,908

### **Masataka Suzuki, PhD, MS**

- AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP (subsidiary); Combination immunotherapy with ONDY and Car T-cell for advanced NSCLC; \$787,018

### **Daniel Wang, MD**

- Lokon Pharma AB (Sweden); Lokon003, A Phase I/II trial evaluating safety of LOAD703 in combination with atezolizumab in malignant melanoma; \$37,525

## **Publications**

- *Acta Biomaterialia* (IF 7.242): 2
- *Acta Neuropathologica Communications* (IF 18.174): 1
- *American Journal of Transplantation* (IF 7.163): 2
- *American Journal of Hematology* (IF 16.973): 1
- *American Society of Nephrology* (IF 6.628): 1
- *Annals Internal Medicine* (IF 25.391): 3
- *Annals of Emergency Medicine* (IF 5.721): 1
- *Annals of Surgery* (IF 12.969): 1
- *Biomedicines* (IF 4.717): 1
- *Blood* (IF 22.113): 7
- *Blood Advances* (IF 4.910): 3
- *Bone Marrow Transplant* (IF 4.725): 2
- *Brain Pathology* (IF 6.624): 1
- *British Journal of Cancer* (IF 5.791): 2
- *British Journal of Haematology* (IF 15.518): 2
- *Cancer Cell* (IF 26.02): 2
- *Cancer Cell International* (IF 4.175): 1
- *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention* (IF 4.344): 1
- *Cancer Research* (IF 9.13): 4
- *Cancers* (IF 6.162): 6



**Our first “in-person” graduation reception for our 2021 graduates: (left: Sara Taveras, Courtney Miller-Chism, Robert Davis, Katherine Linder, Adanma Ayanambakkam, Martha Mims, Nicole Higashiyama, Samer Al Hadidi, Nan Chen, Mark Udden, Jinyu Lu).**

- *Cell* (IF **41.582**): 4
- *Cell Reports* (IF **9.423**): 2
- *Clinical Cancer Research* (IF **12.531**): 3
- *Clinical Infectious Diseases* (IF **8.313**): 1
- *Clinical Lung Cancer* (IF **4.2**): 1
- *Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics* (IF **7.266**): 1
- *Communications Biology* (IF **14.919**): 3
- *Current Stem Cell Reports* (IF **7.765**): 1
- *Development* (IF **5.611**): 1
- *Developmental Cell* (IF **10.092**): 1
- *Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice* (IF **4.234**): 1
- *Diabetes Technology & Therapeutics* (IF **6.118**): 1
- *EBio Medicine* (IF **8.143**): 1
- *EMBO Journal* (IF **11.598**): 1
- *Endocrine Related Cancer* (IF **5.678**): 1
- *European Heart Journal: Cardiovascular Imaging* (IF **6.875**): 1
- *European Journal of Cancer* (IF **7.275**): 1
- *European Respiratory Society Journal* (IF **12.339**): 1
- *European Society for Medical Oncology* (IF **5.329**): 1
- *European Urology* (IF **17.581**): 2
- *European Urology Oncology* (IF **18.728**): 1
- *Frontiers in Physiology* (IF **4.134**): 1
- *Frontiers in Oncology* (IF **4.848**): 2
- *Gastroenterology* (IF **22.682**): 1
- *Gut Journal* (IF **19.819**): 1
- *Health Technology Assessment* (IF **4.058**): 1
- *International Journal of Molecular Sciences* (IF **5.923**): 1
- *JACC Heart Failure* (IF **20.589**): 1
- *JAMA Oncology* (IF **31.777**): 2
- *JCI Insight* (IF **8.315**): 1
- *Journal Clinical Oncology* (IF **44.544**): 7
- *Journal of Biological Chemistry* (IF **5.157**): 1
- *Journal of General Internal Medicine* (IF **5.128**): 1
- *Journal of Immuno Therapy of Cancer* (IF **13.751**): 5
- *Journal of Molecular Cell Biology* ( IF **4.000**):1
- *Journal of Neuroscience Research* (IF **4.164**): 1
- *Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography* (IF **6.852**): 1
- *Life Science Alliance* (IF **4.591**): 1
- *Molecular Cancer Research* (IF **5.852**): 2
- *Molecular Cancer Therapeutics* (IF **6.261**): 1
- *Molecular Therapy* (IF **8.986**): 4
- *NAR Cancer* (IF **11.501**): 1
- *National Comprehensive Cancer Network* (IF **7.57**): 1
- *Nature Biotechnology* (IF **54.908**): 2



- *Nature Cancer* (IF **53.030**): 1
- *Nature Communications* (IF **14.919**): 12
- *Nature Genetics* (IF **38.330**): 7
- *Nature Neuroscience* (IF **20.071**): 1
- *Neuro-Oncology* (IF **10.091**): 1
- *NPJ Breast Cancer* (IF **5.71**): 2
- *Oncogene* (IF **7.971**): 7
- *Pediatric Diabetes* (IF **4.267**): 1
- *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science of USA* (IF **11.205**): 2
- *Science Advances* (IF **14.136**): 3
- *Science Signal* (IF **8.192**): 1
- *Science Translational Medicine* (IF **16.304**): 4
- *Science* (IF **41.845**): 1
- *Small* (IF **13.281**): 1
- *Stem Cells* (IF **5.614**): 1
- *The American Journal of Medicine* (IF **4.760**): 1
- *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice* (IF **14.110**): 1
- *The Journal of Clinical Investigation* (IF **14.808**): 2
- *The Journal of Pain* (IF **4.621**): 1
- *The Journal of the National Cancer Institute* (IF **12.589**): 3
- *The Lancet Oncology* (IF **41.16**): 2
- *The New England Journal of Medicine* (IF **74.699**): 2
- *Translational Research* (IF **5.411**): 1
- *Transplant International* (IF **4.743**): 1
- *Trends in Genetics* (IF **11.639**): 1
- *Trends in Immunology* (IF **16.687**): 2

## **Books and Book Chapters**

### **LaQuisa Hill, MD, B.S.**

- *Commercialization of Investigational Cell Therapy Products in Cell Therapy*

### **Premal Lulla, MD**

- Ex vivo expanded virus and tumor specific T cells. In: *Hematology: Basic Principles and Practice*
- Neutrophil disorders. In: *The Handbook of Benign Hematology*