NEWS IN BRIEF

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SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS FROM EA MEMBER INSTITUTIONS ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

The individuals listed below are among the 90 recently elected regular members of the National Academy of Medicine.

Denise R. Aberle, MD (UCLA), former member of the EA Principal Investigator Committee, for leading the National Cancer Institute-sponsored National Lung Screening Trial, in which low-dose CT screening was shown to reduce lung cancer mortality by 20 percent over chest radiographic screening.

David Cella, PhD (Northwestern), Co-Chair of EA’s Cancer Control and Survivorship Committee, for his work in identifying and measuring what matters to people seeking health care, which has paved the way for patient-centered care.

Elizabeth M. Jaffee, MD (Johns Hopkins), for elucidating the complex interactions between T cell subsets and cancer and translating those findings into two generations of vaccine platforms to develop pancreatic cancer antigen and biomarker discovery approaches.

AL B. BENSON III, MD OF NORTHWESTERN APPOINTED DEPUTY CHAIR, POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR EA

Al B. Benson III, MD was recently appointed Deputy Chair, Policy and Implementation of ECOG-ACRIN. This new position within EA’s executive leadership will prove key to the Group’s continued success as a leading cancer research organization. To this role, Dr. Benson will bring expertise in program and guideline development, a skillset critical to developing a focused integrated research program. In particular, he will lead efforts to reduce distinction between academic and community participants to recognize real world opportunities and community leadership.

Dr. Benson is an active member of ECOG-ACRIN, serving as Chair of the Data Safety Monitoring Committee, Co-Chair of the NCORP Community Advisory Committee, and Co-Chair of the Cancer Care Delivery Research Committee.

ECOG-ACRIN COMMITTEE LEADERS ON THE MOVE

John M. Kirkwood, MD (University of Pittsburgh), stepped down as Chair of the Melanoma Committee to become the new Co-Chair of the Prevention, Screening and Surveillance Committee and Chair of the Prevention Subcommittee. He replaces Raymond C. Bergan, MD (OHSU) in this role.

Jedd D. Wolchok, MD (Memorial Sloan Kettering) was appointed Chair of the Melanoma Committee, filling the vacancy left by Dr. Kirkwood.

Matthew Weiss, MD, PhD (ThedaCare) was elected by the Principal Investigator Committee to be its Representative for Affiliate Members, a role that extends to the Executive Committee. He replaces Gary I. Cohen, MD (GBMC) in these roles. Dr. Weiss also serves as Chair of the Community Cancer Committee.

Keith T. Flaherty, MD (Massachusetts General Hospital) is now Co-Chair of the Scientific Planning Committee, replacing EA Group Co-Chair Peter J. O’Dwyer, MD (University of Pennsylvania) in this role.

NEW TAILORx DATA PUBLISHED IN JAMA ONCOLOGY, PRESENTED AT ESMO 2019

A new analysis from the TAILORx breast cancer trial, led by Joseph A. Sparano, MD (Montefiore), was published in JAMA Oncology and orally presented at the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Congress in late September. The analysis reveals the clinical outcomes with chemotherapy in a subset of 1,389 women with a high Recurrence Score (RS) of 26-100. The new data show that the estimated rate of freedom from recurrence of breast cancer at a distant site was 93% at five years, an outcome much better than expected with endocrine therapy alone.

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