

About the Symposium and Dr. Comis

The ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group (ECOG-ACRIN) hosts the **Robert L. Comis, MD Translational Science Symposium** at its semiannual Group Meetings. This plenary symposium is open to all attendees. The overall goal of the event is to seed ideas for ECOG-ACRIN's various scientific committees to explore within and across its scientific programs. Each symposium offers a focused examination of a particular field of scientific opportunity.



Robert L. Comis, MD was an innovative researcher who recognized the potential for translational research to advance cancer prevention, detection, and treatment. Some of the most important national late-stage clinical trials were conducted under his leadership of the Group (1995-2017). He spearheaded scores of scientific discoveries that changed clinical practice across

multiple types of cancer. ECOG-ACRIN is pleased to honor him through this event.

Dr. Comis' interest in oncology began early in his career at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) when he was sent to Uganda to provide chemotherapy to children suffering from Burkitt's lymphoma. After a fellowship at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, he embarked on a career focused on lung cancer and developmental therapeutics. He built centers of excellence in the research and treatment of cancer, first in Syracuse then at Fox Chase Cancer Center and Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

Dr. Comis envisioned the merger that resulted in the ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group in 2012. He led the effort to coalesce the new group into what it is today: a scientific community of researchers in cancer biology, immunology, therapeutics, molecular and imaging diagnostics, and comparative effectiveness and patient-reported outcomes research, as well as bioinformatics and biostatistical expertise.

A giant in the field, he was a tireless advocate for patient access to trials and a champion for underserved populations. As a mentor, he helped launch many careers by fostering scientific inquiry among early-career oncologists. Many of his trainees are the new leaders in the field, and will carry on his legacy.



Robert L. Comis, MD Translational Science Symposium

**Novel Technologies for Guiding and
Delivering Cancer Treatment:
Image-Guided Surgery, Theranostics,
and Drug Delivery**

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Baltimore Marriott Waterfront
Grand Ballroom 5, Third Floor
Baltimore, Maryland

ECOG-ACRIN
cancer research group

Agenda

3:00 PM	Welcome	Peter J. O'Dwyer, MD and Mitchell D. Schnall, MD, PhD <i>University of Pennsylvania, ECOG-ACRIN</i>
3:05 PM	Introduction	Keith T. Flaherty, MD <i>Harvard University, Massachusetts General Hospital</i>

Segment 1: Radiopharmaceutical Theranostics

3:10 PM	PSMA Targeted Therapy for Prostate Cancer	Steven P. Rowe, MD, PhD <i>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</i>
3:20 PM	SSTR – Targeted Therapy for Neuroendocrine Tumors (PRRT): Paradigm for Theranostics	Lisa Bodei, MD, PhD <i>Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</i>
3:30 PM	Integration of Radiopharmaceutical Therapy into Overall Cancer Treatment	Jennifer R. Eads, MD <i>University of Pennsylvania</i>
3:40 PM	The Relevance of Clonal Hematopoiesis in Radiotherapeutic Induced Hematopoietic Dysfunction	Mrinal S. Patnaik, MBBS <i>Mayo Clinic</i>

Segment 2: Intraoperative Biomarkers

3:50 PM	Pafolacianine for Intraoperative Molecular Imaging of Ovarian Cancer	Janos L. Tanyi, MD, PhD <i>University of Pennsylvania</i>
4:00 PM	Image-Guided Intraoperative Therapy	Samuel Achilefu, PhD <i>UT Southwestern Medical Center</i>

Segment 3: New Technologies/Advancements in Therapeutic Options

4:10 PM	Implantable Microdevices to Measure Multiple Drug Responses and Guide Treatment Decisions in Cancer Patients	Oliver Jonas, PhD <i>Harvard University, Brigham and Women's Hospital</i>
---------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Segment 4: Panel Discussion

4:20 PM	Panel Discussion Panelists: Achilefu, Bodei, Eads, Jonas, Patnaik, Rowe, Tanyi	Moderator: David A. Mankoff, MD, PhD <i>University of Pennsylvania</i>
5:00 PM	Adjourn	

Speakers



Mitchell D. Schnall, MD, PhD

University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Schnall is the co-chair of the ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group, a physician at Penn Medicine within its Abdominal Imaging Services program, and the recently appointed Senior Vice President for Data and Technology Solutions at the University of Pennsylvania Health System. Previously, he served as chair of Radiology at Penn's Perelman School of Medicine from 2012-2024. He is an international leader in translational biomedical and imaging research.



Janos L. Tanyi, MD, PhD

University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Tanyi is an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, Gynecologic Oncology at the University of Pennsylvania Health System. He is board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Gynecologic Oncology. He treats women with all types of gynecologic cancers and has extensive training in minimally invasive surgery, robotic surgery, extended pelvic resections, and pelvic reconstructive surgery. Dr. Tanyi's clinical interests include complex gynecologic procedures mostly in advanced ovarian, fallopian tube, and primary peritoneal malignancies. His clinical and translational research focuses primarily on tumor immunology and immunotherapy. He has the frontline experience in ovarian cancer immunotherapy as he is the primary PI for both the ovarian cancer vaccine and adoptive T cell transfer trials at University of Pennsylvania. At Penn, he has fostered the establishment of a rich translational research environment focused on ovarian cancer. Furthermore Dr. Tanyi led the phase 2 and 3 trials evaluating the efficacy and safety of pafolacianine sodium combined with intraoperative molecular imaging during cytoreductive surgery of ovarian cancer.

Speakers



Mrinal S. Patnaik, MBBS

Mayo Clinic

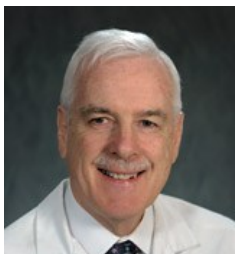
Dr. Patnaik is a professor of internal medicine with the Division of Hematology in the Department of Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic Rochester. He is the co-director of the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center Precision Genomics Program. He is the director of the Mayo Clinic Center for Individualized Medicine Epigenetics Program. His clinical and research interests lie in context relevant clonal hematopoiesis and their contribution towards hematological neoplasms and mortality. He established the Mayo Clinic Clonal Hematopoiesis Program in 2017 and has several laboratory projects working on adaptive and maladaptive outcomes of clonal hematopoiesis.



Steven P. Rowe, MD, PhD

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dr. Rowe is a professor and chief of the Molecular Imaging and Therapeutics Division in the UNC School of Medicine Department of Radiology. His research centers on the molecular imaging of genitourinary malignancies, with a focus on the role of PSMA PET in prostate and other cancers. Previously, Dr. Rowe was an associate professor of Radiology and Radiological Science at Johns Hopkins University for seven years, where he also completed his training in diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine. He obtained his MD and PhD in chemistry from the University of Michigan.



Peter J. O'Dwyer, MD

University of Pennsylvania

Dr. O'Dwyer is the co-chair of the ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group, a medical oncologist at Penn Medicine, and a professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the CEO and chair of the PrECOG, LLC Board of Managers and president of the ECOG Research and Education Foundation. Dr. O'Dwyer's research focuses on novel therapy development, primarily in pancreatic and colorectal cancers.

Speakers



Samuel Achilefu, PhD

UT Southwestern Medical Center

Dr. Achilefu is the inaugural chair and professor of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Texas Southwestern (UTSW). He is the Lyda Hill Distinguished University Chair and a professor of radiology at the Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center. Before joining UTSW in February 2022, Dr. Achilefu spent over 20 years at Washington University in St. Louis, MO, where he was the inaugural Michel M. Ter-Pogossian Professor of Radiology and served as the vice chair for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, director of the Center for Multiple Myeloma Nanotherapy, and director of the Washington University Molecular Imaging Center. Dr. Achilefu is an expert in the molecular imaging of human diseases, utilizing multimodal imaging methods to address imaging challenges, focusing on optical imaging platforms. His current research interests include image-guided cancer surgery, portable imaging devices, and nanotechnology. Through a multidisciplinary team of investigators, he has guided multiple research endeavors from concept to clinic.



Lisa Bodei, MD, PhD

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Dr. Bodei is an attending physician and director of Targeted Radionuclide Therapy in the Molecular Imaging and Therapy Service at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Her main research interests are in theranostics, particularly peptide receptor radionuclide therapy with somatostatin, bombesin, and PSMA analogues for diagnosis and therapy, and translational research applied to radiopeptide therapy of neuroendocrine tumors. Dr. Bodei has authored more than 180 articles in international peer-reviewed journals and published eight invited book chapters. She currently serves as the associate editor of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*, section editor for Molecular Imaging and Therapy of *Clinical Imaging* and on the editorial boards of several scientific journals including the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine* and the *European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging*.

Speakers



Jennifer R. Eads, MD

University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Eads is an associate professor and gastrointestinal medical oncologist at the University of Pennsylvania Abramson Cancer Center where her clinical and research focus is on neuroendocrine tumors and gastroesophageal cancers. She oversees the GI clinical research activity as well as all cooperative group research at Penn and is the director of the Penn Neuroendocrine Tumor Program. Dr. Eads is an international expert in neuroendocrine tumors and has been involved in many national-level neuroendocrine activities including a prior role on the NCCN Neuroendocrine Guidelines Panel and multiple roles within the North American Neuroendocrine Tumor Society, inclusive of a seat on the Board of Directors. Currently she is on the Board of Scientific Advisors for the Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation. Dr. Eads has been the principal investigator of multiple clinical trials, including three ECOG-ACRIN GI trials, and was honored in 2022 with the ECOG-ACRIN Young Investigator Award.

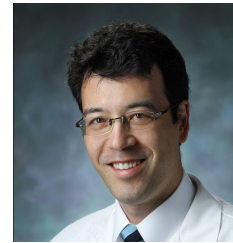


Keith T. Flaherty, MD

Harvard University and Massachusetts General Hospital

Dr. Flaherty is director of clinical research at the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center and professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. As described in the more than 300 peer-reviewed primary research reports he has authored or co-authored, Dr. Flaherty and his colleagues made several seminal observations that have defined the treatment of melanoma when they established the efficacy of BRAF, MEK and combined BRAF/MEK inhibition in patients with metastatic melanoma in a series of *New England Journal of Medicine* articles for which Dr. Flaherty was the first or senior author. He is the principal investigator of the NCI-MATCH trial, the first NCI-sponsored trial assigning patients to targeted therapy independent of tumor type on the basis of DNA sequencing detection of oncogenes. At ECOG-ACRIN, he co-chairs the Scientific Planning Committee and the Biomarker Steering Committee and is a member of the Executive Committee.

Speakers



Masaru Ishii, MD, PhD

Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Ishii is an associate professor in the Departments of Neurosurgery and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and a rhinologist specializing in skull base surgery at Johns Hopkins University. He is also the assistant dean of faculty for Johns Hopkins' School of Medicine. He has received NIH funding for nearly 15 years to support the study of advanced surgical navigation systems and developed the concept of video-based surgical navigation systems. Dr. Ishii completed his PhD and medical training at the University of Pennsylvania; his undergraduate degree is in electrical engineering.



Oliver Jonas, PhD

Harvard University and Brigham and Women's Hospital

Dr. Jonas is the director of the Laboratory for Bio-Micro Devices at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and an associate professor at Harvard Medical School with appointment in the Departments of Radiology. His research focuses on new technologies for precision medicine, such as microscale implantable drug delivery and sensing devices, miniaturized biomedical optics, and in situ drug response measurements in tumors. Dr. Jonas' research includes the translational applications of these technologies, including early stage clinical trials.



David A. Mankoff, MD, PhD

University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Mankoff is the Matthew J. Wilson Professor and vice chair for research in the Radiology Department of the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He also serves as the associate director for education and training for Penn's Abramson Cancer Center. He practices nuclear medicine, with a special interest in oncologic applications of molecular imaging and radiopharmaceutical therapy. At ECOG-ACRIN, he co-chairs the Scientific Planning Committee and is the former chair of the Experimental Imaging Sciences Working Group.