

THE

# University of Vermont

C A N C E R C E N T E R

The eALERT is an internal newsletter sent semi-monthly.  
Please send submissions for the eALERT to [Sarah Keblin](#) by 4 PM Wednesday for  
submission in the current issue.

*May 18, 2017*

[NCI Acting Director Visits UVM Cancer Center](#)

[Evening Fundraiser for UVM Cancer Center and Hope Lodge: Tickets Available Now!](#)

[Molecular Therapeutics of Cancer Research Conference: July 16-19](#)

[Publications and Announcements](#)

[UVM Cancer Center in the NEWS](#)

[Funding Opportunities--MANY NEW!](#)

[Ongoing Events](#)

## Event Spotlight

June 17, 2017  
12 PM

Acting Director of NCI Visits UVM  
Cancer Center

## Champlain Valley Exposition

### Chittenden County Relay for Life

Join the UVM Cancer  
Center in the Kick-off lap  
for Relay!

Contact [Sarah Keblin](#) for  
more information.

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## Events Calendar

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### June 2017

*National Cancer Survivor's Day  
(June 4)*

**17 Relay for Life, Chittenden  
County;**

***UVM Cancer Center will lead  
the caregiver lap! Please join  
us--if you are a researcher or  
clinician, you can help us  
lead the kick-off lap!***

**24 A Summer Night's Dream;**  
a community fundraising  
event to benefit cancer  
research at the UVM Cancer  
Center AND Hope Lodge; 6-11  
PM, Sheraton, Burlington; for  
more information, please contact  
[Manon O'Connor](#). Order tickets  
today [here](#).

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### July 2017

*UV Safety Month*



Acting director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI),  
Douglas R. Lowy, MD, presented a J. Walter Juckett  
Distinguished Lecture on **Friday, May 12, 2017**.

Lowy spent the day at the UVM Cancer Center meeting  
with members as well institutional, state and community  
leaders.

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## Evening Fundraiser June 24, 2017 SAVE THE DATE!

Community organizers will host an evening fundraiser  
on **Saturday, June 24** to benefit both Hope Lodge and  
research efforts at the UVM Cancer Center! Tickets  
available--you may purchase tickets for this event  
[online here!](#)

For more information, contact [Manon O'Connor](#).



**16-19 Molecular Therapeutics of Cancer Research Conference;** sponsored by UVM Cancer Center, Norris Cotton Cancer Center and the Cancer Molecular Therapeutics Research Association; **Burlington, VT.** [Register here.](#)

**21 Komen Race for the Cure,** Manchester, NH.

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### October 2017

*Breast cancer awareness month  
Liver cancer awareness month*

**6 SAVE THE DATE: 20th Annual Women's Health and Cancer Conference**

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### November 2017

*Lung cancer awareness month  
Pancreatic cancer awareness month*

**3 SAVE THE DATE: 3rd Annual Men's Health and Cancer Conference**

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## Molecular Therapeutics of Cancer Research Conference in Burlington

A Molecular Therapeutics of Cancer Research Conference will be hosted in Burlington, VT from July 16-19. Sponsored by Norris Cotton Cancer Center, UVM Cancer Center and the Cancer Molecular Therapeutics Research Association, the meeting objective is to provide a forum for presentation and discussion of contemporary research in the field of cancer drug development and therapy.

Modeled after small Gordon-type conferences, the meeting provides an opportunity for young and established researchers to discuss and challenge current paradigms for cancer drug development and therapy, as well as a venue where novel ideas can be presented with anticipation of lively debate.

For a full agenda or to register, [click here.](#)

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## UVM Cancer Center in the NEWS

The visit by Acting NCI Director Doug Lowy, MD was reported in multiple local news sources including [Vermont Digger](#) and [WCAX](#) news.

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## Publications and Announcements

*\*Please send announcements and publication notices to [Sarah Keblin](#) for inclusion in the eALERT and other promotional material\**

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### Publications:

[Intranuclear and higher-order chromatin organization of the major histone gene cluster in breast cancer.](#) Fritz AJ, Ghule PN, Boyd JR, Tye CE, Page NA, Hong D, Weinheimer AS, Barutcu AR, Gerrard DL, **Frietze S, Zaidi SK**, Imbalzano A, **Lian JB, Stein JL, Stein GS.** J Cell Physiol. 2017 May 15. doi: 10.1002/jcp.25996. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 28504305.

[Qualitative insights into how men with low-risk prostate cancer choosing active surveillance negotiate stress and uncertainty.](#) Mader EM, Li HH, Lyons KD, Morley CP,

Formica MK, **Perrapato SD**, **Irwin BH**, Seigne JD, Hyams ES, Mosher T, Hegel MT, Stewart TM. BMC Urol. 2017 May 8; 17(1):35. doi: 10.1186/s12894-017-0225-3. PMID: 28482875.

[Early gastric adenocarcinoma arising within foveolar-type dysplasia in a patient with Muir-Torre variant Lynch syndrome.](#) McKnight TFP, Noffsinger AE, Klingman KM, Ahmed O, **Wilcox R**. Virchows Arch. 2017 May 13. doi: 10.1007/s00428-017-2146-7. [Epub ahead of print] No abstract available. PMID: 28501935.

[Colorectal Cancer Screening.](#) **Moore JS**, Aulet TH. Surg Clin North Am. 2017 Jun; 97(3):487-502. doi: 10.1016/j.suc.2017.01.001. Review. PMID: 28501242.

[Cognitive Effects of Chemotherapy and Cancer-Related Treatments in Older Adults.](#) Vega JN, **Dumas J**, Newhouse PA. Am J Geriatr Psychiatry. 2017 Apr 6. pii: S1064-7481(17)30278-6. doi: 10.1016/j.jagp.2017.04.001. [Epub ahead of print] Review. PMID: 28495470.

[Selective expression of long non-coding RNAs in a breast cancer cell progression model.](#) Tracy KM, **Tye CE**, Page NA, Fritz AJ, **Stein JL**, **Lian JB**, **Stein GS**. J Cell Physiol. 2017 May 10. doi: 10.1002/jcp.25997. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 28488769.

[Impact of Hemoglobin and Carboxyhemoglobin Adjustment on the Interpretation of Pulmonary Diffusing Capacity in a General Population.](#) Haynes JM, Ruppel GL, **Kaminsky DA**. Chest. 2017 May; 151(5):1188-1189. doi: 10.1016/j.chest.2016.12.019. No abstract available. PMID: 28483120.

[Surgical implications and variability in the use of the flat epithelial atypia diagnosis on breast biopsy specimens.](#) Samples LS, Rendi MH, Frederick PD, Allison KH, Nelson HD, Morgan TR, **Weaver DL**, Elmore JG. Breast. 2017 May 3; 34:34-43. doi: 10.1016/j.breast.2017.04.004. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 28475933.

[Disparities in US Healthcare Provider Screening and Advice for Cessation Across Chronic Medical Conditions and Tobacco Products.](#) Keith DR, Stanton CA, Gaalema DE, Bunn JY, Doogan NJ, Redner R, Kurti AN, **Cepeda-Benito A**, Lopez AA, Morehead AL, Roberts ME, **Higgins ST**. J Gen Intern Med. 2017 May 3. doi: 10.1007/s11606-017-4062-6. [Epub ahead of print. PMID: 28470547.

[Pediatric anesthesia and neurotoxicity: what the radiologist needs to know.](#) Barton K, **Nickerson JP, Higgins T**, Williams RK. *Pediatr Radiol*. 2017 May 3. doi: 10.1007/s00247-017-3871-4. [Epub ahead of print] Review. PMID: 28470388.

[The role of sulfenic acids in cellular redox signaling: Reconciling chemical kinetics and molecular detection strategies.](#) Heppner DE, **Janssen-Heininger YM, van der Vliet A**. *Arch Biochem Biophys*. 2017 Feb 15;616:40-46. doi: 10.1016/j.abb.2017.01.008. Epub 2017 Jan 23. PMID: 28126370.

[Implementation science, genomic precision medicine, and improved health: A new path forward?](#) Williams JK, Feero WG, **Leonard DG**, Coleman B. *Nurs Outlook*. 2017 Jan - Feb;65(1):36-40. doi: 10.1016/j.outlook.2016.07.014. Epub 2016 Aug 20. PMID: 27633263.

## Funding Opportunities

### **NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:**

**Edward Mallinckrodt, Jr. Foundation**; early stage investigators engaged in basic biomedical research with potential to advance the understanding, diagnosis or treatment of disease. Applicants should be in the first to fourth year of tenure track faculty position and not have current R01 funding. This is a Limited Competition ([see this link](#) for details) with an internal deadline of June 5. The University may submit a single proposal for the Mallinckrodt Board's consideration.

[Komen \(Susan G.\) Breast Cancer Foundation Career Catalyst Research Grants \(CCR\)](#) support doctoral-level junior faculty (<5 years) at up to \$150,000 per year over three years for Basic/Translational or Clinical research projects. **Letter of Intent Deadline is June 7, 2017.**

[Department of Defense \(DOD\)-U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command \(USAMRMC\)-Office of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs \(CDMRP\)](#) has released full funding announcements for:

[Breast Cancer Research Program \(BCRP\)](#)

? [Era of Hope Scholar Award W81XWH-17-BCRP-EOHS](#) Pre-application deadline June 8, 2017.

- ? [Distinguished Investigator Award W81XWH-17-BCRP-DIA](#) Pre-application deadline June 9, 2017.
- ? [Innovator Award W81XWH-17-BCRP-INNOV](#) Pre-application deadline June 9, 2017.
- ? [Breakthrough Award - Levels 3 and 4 W81XWH-17-BCRP-BREAKTHROUGH-FL34](#) Pre-application deadline June 9, 2017.

#### [Ovarian Cancer Research Program \(OCRP\)](#)

- ? Pilot Award W81XWH-17-OCRPA Pre-application deadline June 14, 2017.
- ? Investigator-Initiated Research Award W81XWH-17-OCRPIIRA Pre-application deadline June 21, 2017.
- ? Clinical Development Award W81XWH-17-OCRPCDA Pre-application deadline June 21, 2017.

#### [Bone Marrow Failure Research Program \(BMFRP\)](#)

- ? Idea Development Award W81XWH-17-BMFRPIDA Pre-application deadline July 13, 2017.

#### [Lung Cancer Research Program \(LCRP\)](#)

- ? [Concept Award](#) Pre-application deadline July 27, 2017.
- ? Career Development Award Pre-application deadline September 13, 2017.

**UVM invites pre-proposals for an NIH Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) P20 competition.** The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) supports research capacity building in states that historically have not received significant levels of research funding through this and other programs. This is a Limited Competition. For details regarding eligibility and thematic focus, [Click Here](#). Pre-proposals are due by **4:30 p.m. on June 26, 2017**. For 2018, the University is eligible to submit one application.

[Lung Cancer Research Foundation Grants](#) up to \$150,000 for two years for projects investigating: Prevention and screening for early detection; Identification of new biomarkers and development of targeted therapies; development of next-generation chemotherapeutic agents; Supportive measures for people with lung cancer and their families; and Quality of care/outcomes research. **Application Deadline is July 1, 2017.**

[Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute \(PCORI\)](#) pre-announces upcoming funding for [Symptom Management for Patients with Advanced Illness - Cycle 2 2017](#) projects up to 3 years at up to \$2,000,000 for clinical studies that compare effectiveness of evidence-based treatments for relief of common symptoms experienced by patients with serious, advanced illness. Further details will be available in the full announcement to be released on June 23, 2017. Letter of Intent deadline is **July 25, 2017**.

[American Association for Cancer Research \(AACR\)](#) requests nominations for:

- ? [AACR Team Science Award](#) to recognize an outstanding interdisciplinary research team for innovative and meritorious science that has advanced or likely will advance our fundamental knowledge of cancer or a team that has applied existing knowledge to advance the detection, diagnosis, prevention or treatment of cancer. The selected team will collectively be awarded an honorarium of \$50,000 and be recognized during the AACR Annual Meeting 2018 in Chicago, IL, USA (April 14-18, 2018). The represented institutions will be cited at the AACR Annual Meeting for their leadership role in fostering team science in cancer research. Nomination deadline is Wednesday, **August 2, 2017, 4 p.m.** United States Eastern Time.
- ? [G.H.A. Clowes Memorial Award](#). Candidacy is open to all cancer researchers who are affiliated with any institution involved in cancer research, medicine, or biomedical science. Selection will be made on the basis of the candidates' recent accomplishments in basic cancer research. The winner will receive a \$10,000 honorarium, full support of the winner and a guest and give an award lecture during the AACR Annual Meeting 2018 in Chicago, IL, USA April 14-18, 2018. **Nomination deadline is Wednesday, August 30, 2017, 4 p.m.** United States Eastern Time.

[National Cancer Institute \(NCI\)](#) Leveraging Population-based Cancer Registry Data to Study Health Disparities [PA-17-289 R01](#) and [PA-17-288 R21](#) awards support efficient use of existing cancer registry infrastructure by augmenting data already collected with additional information needed to understand health disparities among people diagnosed with cancer. Earliest **submission dates are September 5, 2017 (R01) and September 16, 2017 (R21)** with subsequent deadlines through September 2020.

#### OTHER UPCOMING DEADLINES:

[Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for Childhood Cancer \(ALSF\) Familial RUNX1 Grant Program: Familial RUNX1 Research Grants](#) of up to \$250,000 over two-years in support of research in strategies leading to the development of therapies to prevent the transition from pre-leukemia to leukemia for patients with FPD/AML. Projects should focus on leukemia caused by familial RUNX1 mutations rather than sporadic AML with somatic RUNX1 mutations. Letters of Intent are due **June 1, 2017**.

Limited Competition for [Gabrielle's Angel Foundation \(GAF\)](#) junior faculty grants supporting two-year research projects in hematologic malignancies at \$75,000 per year. Candidate pool is restricted to junior faculty and final selection allows for two applicants: one conducting mainstream or conventional research and one conducting complementary or integrative research. Successfully funded projects use novel and state-of-the-art techniques to address fundamental problems in the genesis and treatment of blood related cancers. Eligible junior faculty members should **contact Ed North to obtain a pre-application (due June 1)**. Successful candidates will be notified by June 15, 2017 and full applications will be due to GAF by noon on Friday, August 18, 2017.

[American Thoracic Society](#) invites applications for the [ATS Foundation Tobacco-Dependence Research Fund Grant](#) for junior investigators (within twelve years of last terminal degree) proposing research on basic science and socio-behavioral mechanisms involved in tobacco dependence, smoking prevention and tobacco cessation treatment. The focus of this research grant is research with the potential to lead fewer people to start smoking, or to lead more people to cease smoking. Letters of Intent are due **June 6, 2017**.

[National Cancer Institute \(NCI\)](#) Cancer-Related Behavioral Research Through Integrating Existing Data [R01 PAR-16-256](#) & [R21 PAR-16-255](#) seek to integrate two or more independent data sets to answer novel cancer control and prevention questions. The goal is to encourage applications that incorporate Integrative Data Analysis (IDA) methods to study behavioral risk factors for cancer, including tobacco use, sedentary behavior, poor weight management, and lack of medical adherence to screening and vaccine uptake. Integrated data must be from different sources and types (including both quantitative and qualitative; data may



span different levels such as genetic and environmental) and should include at least one source of behavioral data. Importantly, applicants should use existing data sources rather than collect new data. **Application Deadlines are June 7, 2017** for R01 and **June 15, 2017 for R21**, with subsequent deadlines through June 2019.

[Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for Childhood Cancer \(ALSF\)](#) invites applications for the [Psychosocial Grant Program](#), offering Psychosocial Launch Grants and Psychosocial Family Impact Grants of \$100,000 to \$300,000 over two to three years. Launch Grants are designed for early career researchers within 7 years of receiving their terminal degree/completing formal training who are working to explain and/or improve psychosocial outcomes of those affected by childhood cancer. Family Impact Grants are designed for established investigators who have novel approaches to understanding the psychosocial aspects of pediatric cancer whose proposals will have clinically significant impact. Letters of Intent are due **June 9, 2017**.

[American Surgical Association Foundation \(ASAF\)](#) [Fellowship Research Award](#) offers \$75,000 over one year to support and encourage gifted young surgeons who choose careers in investigation and academic surgery. Fellows will be supported in an initial year; the Fellowship can be renewed by review of the Fellowship Committee for a succeeding one-year period. During the Fellowship years, the Awardee should have a primary role in research and teaching. It is expected that the Fellow will have a faculty position following the Fellowship in the Department of Surgery of the sponsoring institution. Application deadline is **June 15, 2017**.

[Children's Leukemia Research Association/National Leukemia Research Association, Inc.](#) supports [Research Grants](#) of up to \$30,000 for MD or PhD level researchers who are conducting the most promising research into leukemia, toward a goal of isolating the causes and finding a cure. Application deadline is **June 30, 2017**. National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS PA-17-110

[Reducing Overscreening for Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancers among Older Adults \(R01\)](#) and [R21](#), funding research on interventions, based in healthcare settings, designed to reduce overscreening. Next **Deadline: June 5, 2017 (R01) and June 19, 2017 (R21)** with subsequent deadlines through October 2019.

[National Cancer Institute](#) Improving Smoking Cessation in Socioeconomically Disadvantaged Populations via Scalable Interventions [R01 PAR-16-202](#) & [R21 PAR-16-201](#) provide support for innovative and promising intervention research designed to improve smoking cessation outcomes among socioeconomically disadvantaged populations. Specifically, this FOA is intended to stimulate research efforts aimed at the development of smoking cessation interventions that: 1) are targeted to socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, and 2) could be made scalable for broad population impact. Applicants may propose projects that develop and test novel cessation interventions with the potential to be scaled up, as well as projects that focus on enhancing the effectiveness, quality, accessibility, utilization, and cost-effectiveness of currently scaled smoking cessation interventions. **Deadline is June 13, 2017** with subsequent deadlines through June 2019. National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS PA-17-167 (reissue of PAR-14-166)

[Early Phase Clinical Trials in Imaging and Image-Guided Interventions \(R01\)](#); up to \$500,000 over three years for preliminary evaluation of the safety and efficacy of imaging agents, assessment of imaging systems, image processing, image-guided planning and/or execution therapy, contrast kinetic modeling, 3-D reconstruction and other quantitative tools. **Next deadline June 28, 2017** with subsequent deadlines through January 2020.

[Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation](#) invites applications for the [Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award](#), a two-year award funded at \$150,000 per year, with the opportunity for up to two additional years of funding (up to four years total for \$600,000). The Innovation Award provides funding to early career researchers who have an innovative new idea but lack sufficient preliminary data to obtain traditional funding. The proposed research must be novel, exceptionally creative and, if successful, have the strong potential for high impact in the cancer field. **Application deadline is July 6, 2017.**

[National Cancer Institute](#) Inter-organelle Communication in Cancer [R01 PAR-17-203](#) & [R21 PAR-17-204](#) for research projects that examine how inter-organelle communication in cancer cells and/or tumor-associated cells affects cellular function, adaptation, and phenotypic plasticity. **Deadline for Letters of Intent is July 16, 2017**, with additional deadlines through 2019.

[Breast Cancer Alliance, Inc.](#) invites clinical doctors and research scientists whose primary focus is breast cancer research and who are in the early stages of their career (no more than four years from completion of training), to apply for funding for the [Young Investigator Grant](#), a two-year award for a total of \$125,000. Application **deadline is July 21, 2017.**

[Meso Foundation](#) sponsored [Grants for Mesothelioma Research](#) are two-year grants for up to \$50,000 per year for early detection and prevention of mesothelioma; Definition of targetable differences between normal and transformed mesothelium and development of novel strategies for treatment taking advantage of these targets; Determination of clinical/molecular determinants for prognosis; and Therapeutic intervention, including but not limited to immune response targeted therapy, novel chemotherapeutic compounds, and novel radiation or surgical techniques. Applications due **August 5, 2017.**

Bayer HealthCare [Grants4Targets Initiative - Pharmaceuticals](#) offers support grants (€ 5,000 - €10,000), and focus grants (€ 10,000 - €125,000) for researchers investigating novel drug targets in Oncology, to promote innovative therapeutic ideas from basic research into novel drugs. Oncology grants focus on tumor cell proliferation, survival signaling, transcription and chromatin modulation, cell cycle regulation, tumor metabolism, hypoxia, cancer immunotherapy and Antibody Drug Conjugates (ADC). The next deadline is **August 31, 2017.**

[McDonnell \(James S.\) Foundation](#) offers [Collaborative Activity Awards](#) to initiate interdisciplinary discussions on problems or issues, to help launch interdisciplinary research networks, or to fund communities of researchers/practitioners dedicated to developing new methods, tools, and applications of basic research to applied problems for program areas including Mathematical & Complex Systems Approaches for Brain Cancer. There are no deadlines for this grant type and award budgets for collaborative activities will vary greatly depending on the scope of the proposed problem or project.

## Ongoing Events

**Cancer Biology and Technology Seminar Series** (an integrated part of the Biochemistry Seminar Series)  
Second Friday of each month at Noon, Given C443.

**UVM Cancer Center Grand Rounds**

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th

Tuesday 8-9am, MedEd 300

UVM Cancer Center Leadership:  
Gary S. Stein, PhD, Director

Kate Webster, CRA, Research Center Administrator  
Sarah Keblin, Communications Manager