



STANFORD WOMEN'S CANCER CENTER RESEARCH ADVANCES

Thanks to your extraordinary generosity, we have made great progress at the Stanford Women's Cancer Center.



JONATHAN S. BEREK, MD, MMS

Laurie Kraus Lacob Professor
Director, Stanford Women's Cancer Center
Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Our clinical services are rapidly expanding to accommodate an unprecedented increase in the number of patients. Next year, we will add 25% more clinic space to our Center.
- We have recruited several new world-class physicians and scientists—and additional key recruitments are underway.
- We have achieved a greater than ten-fold increase in patient participation in clinical research studies for new treatments.
- Stanford Health Care is tremendously supportive of our goals and provides additional resources that augment your generosity, including support for:
 - A unique and pioneering role for a *Multidisciplinary Care Coordinator*, a nurse specialist who will substantially improve our patients' experience and establish a role model for transforming cancer care at Stanford.

Below are a few highlights of our center's growth and achievements this year—successes generated by your philanthropic support:



OLIVER DORIGO, MD, PHD

Associate Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Gynecologic Oncology
Director, Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Stanford Women's Cancer Center
Director, Mary Lake Polan Gynecologic Oncology Laboratory

- We are discovering targeted molecular therapies that personalize treatments for ovarian cancer through analysis of tumor tissues removed at surgery.
- Our clinical studies of a new class of drugs called *PARP inhibitors*, which are well tolerated and can be taken by mouth, will soon lead to FDA approval of these powerful anti-cancer drugs.
- We have several immunotherapy trials opening soon, including genetically engineered cell-based therapies, and trials of monoclonal antibodies, such as *anti-CD47*. These new immunotherapy trials, which harness the body's own immune system, will be available only to patients at Stanford.



ALLISON KURIAN, MD, MSc

Assistant Professor, Medicine (Oncology) and Health Research and Policy
Director, Women's Cancer Genetics Program, Stanford Women's Cancer Center

- We showed that double mastectomy does not improve survival over less radical surgeries.
- We discovered that women who test negative for hereditary mutations in the *BRCA1* or *BRCA2* genes do not appear to have an increased risk of breast cancer, and do not need supplemental screening tests or preventive surgery.
- We created an interactive online decision tool for women with *BRCA1-2* mutations to help select appropriate strategies for cancer screening and prevention.



MARK PEGRAM, MD

Susy Yuan-Huey Hung Professor of Medical Oncology
Director, Breast Cancer Oncology Program, Stanford Women’s Cancer Center
Co-Director, Molecular Therapeutics Program, Stanford Cancer Institute

- “*Expression array technology*” or “*multi-gene testing*”—discovered at Stanford—has dramatically decreased the number of women who need chemotherapy after their breast cancer surgery.
- Our research led to the recent FDA approval of *T-DM1*, the first antibody linked to a drug to treat breast cancer.
- We leveraged *Under One Umbrella* philanthropy to garner additional research support for the Stanford Women’s Cancer Center through numerous scientific grant awards—\$14 million in direct funding—and an additional \$14 million in clinical trials contracts.



CHRISTINA CURTIS, PhD, MSc

Assistant Professor, Medicine (Oncology) and Genetics

- Our study—a comprehensive genomic analysis of 2,000 breast cancer patients—is the largest of its kind.
- We redefined the “molecular map” of breast cancer, revealing 10 major groups of women with distinct clinical outcomes—and we identified new breast cancer genes, many of which were unique to certain patient groups and may represent new therapeutic targets.
- Our discoveries will improve the selection of specific groups of women for individualized breast cancer therapy and precise, personalized care.



CHRISTOPHER GARDNER, PhD

Professor, Medicine (Research)
Director, Nutrition Studies at the Stanford Prevention Research Center

- Our nutrition study examines the impact of a high-quality low-fat diet versus a high quality low-carb diet on many health factors, including cancer—this is the largest single-site weight loss diet study ever conducted.
- The initial funding from *Under One Umbrella* augmented our original National Institutes of Health financing, enabling us to generate a much larger study. It is now a 5-year \$8-million study.



ROBERT HAILE, DrPH

Professor, Medicine (Oncology) and, by courtesy, Health Research and Policy (Epidemiology)
Associate Director, Population Sciences at the Stanford Cancer Institute

- Preliminary evidence from this essential nutrition research suggests that changes in diet and weight may be associated with measurable alterations in blood biomarkers that modify the risk of some cancers.
- Our findings will have a major impact on dietary recommendations for women who are at risk for cancer and those who have cancer.

For more information about any of physicians or research discussed above, please contact Michele Thompson, Specialist Fundraiser, Cancer Initiatives via email at michelet@stanford.edu or phone 650.725.1109.

To make a gift online, please go to underoneumbrella.stanford.edu

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