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LUNA 3D
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Editor’s Notes
BY NAJEEB MOHIDEEN, MD, FASTRO, SENIOR EDITOR, ASTRONEWS

The Million Gray Question

HOW DO WE BEST INTEGRATE immunotherapy with radiotherapy? That was the top response in 2017 when then ASTRO President Brian Kavanagh, MD, MPH, FASTRO, polled the membership for the most important issue that needed to be addressed in a five-year window. This was at the Annual Meeting at San Diego, which once again plays host to ASTRO’s flagship event this year. And hopefully we may find some answers to “the million gray question” in the nearly 2,000 abstracts, including 300 oral ones, and 1,600 posters that will be presented at the ASTRO Annual Meeting, the foremost scientific event in radiation oncology worldwide.

ASTRO President Jeff Michalski, MD, MBA, FASTRO, chose the theme for this year’s event as “Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients,” shining a spotlight on the patient perspective and engagement in advancing research and clinical care. In this spirit, the Presidential Symposium will delve into clinical trials, incorporating patient viewpoints and encouraging more of them to participate and contribute to the progress of medical knowledge.

Aligned with the meeting theme, a comment in Lancet Oncology¹ recently urged a recalibrated approach to cancer care, placing patient needs at the forefront and making decisions about research options independent of profit motives. Concerns are growing that some new treatments, despite the hype and cost, do not help patients live longer or feel better.

The event boasts two highly regarded keynote speakers. Arif Kamal, MD, MBA, MHS, Chief Patient Officer at the American Cancer Society, is renowned for leading patient support initiatives. Anupam Bapu Jena, MD, PhD, is Joseph P. Newhouse Professor of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School, a leading physician economist, and previous host of the “Freakonomics, MD” podcast. Dr. Jena will enlighten the audience on how random events can unwittingly transform us into experimental subjects, a topic bound to pique curiosity.

I’m also looking forward to the weekend’s PRO program, which is available to all full conference attendees, as well as the groundbreaking research to be presented during the Clinical Trials and Plenary sessions. Four Master Classes will be held on Saturday and Sunday, providing in-depth instruction and participant interaction. Make time to network with our early career members in the lounge set up for that very purpose. You’re also invited to enjoy a round of Speed Mentoring, and even participate in the Exhibit Hall’s Game Zone for a well-deserved breather (in case you need it).

The award ceremony is a must-attend event, where recipients will receive well-deserved recognition for their outstanding contributions. This year, 29 individuals will be awarded the prestigious ASTRO Fellow (FASTRO) designation for their significant contributions to the field of radiation oncology. The ASTRO Gold Medal will also be presented. This year’s recipients include Simon Powell, MD, PhD, FASTRO, of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center; Randall K. Ten Haken, PhD, FASTRO, from the University of Michigan; and this writer, for whom this is an honor that’s as humbling as it was unexpected.

I also anticipate discussion about the ASTRO-proposed Radiation Oncology Case Rate (ROCR) program, a legislative initiative aimed at countering detrimental Medicare payment trends. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with experts and explore how this initiative fits in with their practice. You will find enough and more to be intellectually stimulated and inspired at the ASTRO Annual Meeting.

Our host city San Diego presents numerous additional attractions, including magnificent beaches, pleasant weather, vibrant culture and a thriving culinary scene. Attendees might find it challenging to tear themselves away from the meeting, but exploring the city’s offerings can provide a refreshing break.

Hope to see you all there!

REFERENCE
Chair’s Update

BY GERALDINE JACOBSON, MD, MPH, MBA, FASTRO

Reflecting on New and Continuing Initiatives

ASTRO’S MISSION IS “TO ADVANCE THE SPECIALTY” radiation oncology through promotion of equitable, high-quality care for people with cancer, cultivating and educating a diverse workforce, fostering research and innovation, and leading policy development and advocacy.

This broad directive requires society-wide resources and collaboration. As the year turns toward autumn, I reflect on our new and continuing initiatives.

Our current Board of Directors is the most diverse in ASTRO’s history and includes representation from our newly formed Early Career Committee.

We joined the Radiology Health Equity Coalition in January. This group, which includes the American College of Radiology and other radiology organizations, is committed to improving the health care experience of marginalized patients and reducing health inequities.

We continue our formal international radiation oncology collaborations. The International Radiation Oncology Network (IRON) was initiated at the 2022 ASTRO Annual Meeting. The goal of this network is to share information and resources to promote global education, research and advocacy. Last December, ASTRO joined with 10 professional societies to sign the Practical Arrangements on Technical Professional Society Partnerships in Cancer Care. This is the International Atomic Energy Agency’s multilateral partnership of radiation oncology, medical physics and diagnostic imaging created for the purpose of improving global access to radiotherapy services.

Based on recommendations from our newly formed Climate Change Task Force, we joined the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health in the spring and approved an ASTRO Climate Change Policy Statement in June.

ASTRO continues initiatives to meet the needs of our members and patients in a changing health care environment. During the past year we have experienced the predicted and the unpredictable. A short and incomplete list includes the release of ChatGPT, the official end of the COVID-19 public health emergency, shortages of previously widely available cancer drugs and antibiotics, and the highest average temperatures on the globe in recorded history.

Amid this constant background of change, one area that seems unchanging is the continued downward pressure on physician reimbursement. When I review our yearly advocacy goals, I have an eerie sense of déjà vu. Radiation oncology has experienced a cumulative 25% reduction in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) since 2013 and the trend continues. The proposed 2024 MPFS released in July includes an additional 2% cut in reimbursement. These ongoing cuts to radiation oncology payments, coupled with broader cuts to Medicare services, threaten our ability to provide high quality cancer care to our patients close to home. They underscore the need for definitive reform that ensures a stable payment system and promotes access, quality and equity while minimizing costs. In June, the ASTRO Board approved the pursuit of a legislative proposal for radiation oncology payment reform, the Radiation Oncology Case Rate (ROCR) program. We have shared this proposal with our membership, and you’re sure to hear more about it in the coming year.

In closing, I share ASTRO’s vision statement: “Improving the lives of people with cancer with radiation therapy.” This is the heart of our specialty and the core purpose of our profession. This year’s Annual Meeting theme “Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients” emphasizes this aspect of radiation oncology with its focus on patient perspectives and clinical trials. I’m looking forward to an exciting meeting and connecting with old and new friends. Please join us, virtually or in person, for an outstanding ASTRO Annual Meeting in San Diego.
Welcome to San Diego!

IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE that I welcome you back to San Diego for ASTRO’s 65th Annual Meeting! It is our Society’s Sapphire Anniversary! I am hearing a great deal of enthusiasm for this year’s meeting location and its content. I have had the good fortune of attending other medical society meetings recently and if they are an indication of what’s to come I anticipate exceptional attendance. People are finally starting to accept and explore travel now that social restrictions have been lifted in this post-pandemic era. ASTRO will make the meeting available both in person and digitally so you can consume the educational and scientific content in the manner you prefer and at the pace that optimizes your personal learning experience.

The theme of this year’s meeting is “Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients.” This theme speaks to those conversations I have with patients who may be contemplating participating in a clinical trial. Often they may ask if there is any compensation or reward for their enrollment. During those conversations, I share with them that the standard treatments that we would use for them outside a clinical trial were established by patients who came before them and who willingly participated in clinical research. By enrolling in a clinical trial, they are “paying it forward” and giving patients in the future a gift that they themselves have received from those in the past. Furthermore, patients provide us with so much information to improve care for others. This may be through the use of patient level data to learn about disease processes or outcomes. It may also come through their advice on how to design trials or encourage participation by others.

In recent years there has been debate about the relative merits of real world data and prospective clinical trials. At this Annual Meeting, I intend to emphasize the primacy of clinical trials in shaping care for our patients. The Presidential Symposium will focus on prospective clinical investigations. The first session will stress the need to make clinical trials more efficient. Fewer subjects, shorter follow-up, and more meaningful endpoints are needed to bring discoveries to our patients more quickly and effectively. Next, a session on the importance of diversity both within enrolled subjects and the research team will inform us that the most meaningful outcomes and application of clinical research are made when the study population reflects the patient populations that we serve. I am particularly excited by a patient focused panel made up of survivors and participants in...
clinical research. It is my hope that they will teach us about the rewards they have received in their cancer care journeys. Finally, we will hear from leadership of clinical trial groups around the globe such as the NRG, EORTC, TROG and the IAEA about their next decade of clinical research strategies.

We continue to receive favorable feedback on ASTRO’s Practical Radiation Oncology (PRO) program that is offered over the weekend of the meeting. This schedule allows physicians who may not be able to take time away from a busy clinic to attend these exceptional educational sessions. These sessions are a favorite of community practice and academic physicians alike. New this year, we have introduced “Trials in Progress” in our poster sessions in order to inform attendees about ongoing clinical research.

Our keynote speakers will speak to the importance of partnering with our patients. Arif Kamal, MD, MBA, MHS, Chief Patient Officer of the American Cancer Society, will address aspects of patients’ access to care and the needs to address their psychological well-being to achieve optimal outcomes. Anupam Bapu Jena, MD, PhD, author “Random Acts of Medicine” and previous host of the Freakonomics MD podcast, will lead an interactive session on how perceived bias may impact medical decisions.

As we emerge from the peak of the pandemic, I hope you will find a visit to San Diego valuable, both personally and professionally. The city offers exceptional attractions such as its famous zoo, outstanding beaches, unique museums, distinctive restaurants and extraordinary breweries! While you are there, consider taking advantage of the Southern California climate and partake in outdoor activities such as hiking, sailing, swimming and golf. I can personally guarantee that the weather at this year’s meeting will be perfect with sunshine and cooler evenings compared to our recent past.

**Explore these San Diego Attractions**

**Gaslamp Quarter**
Capture some of the bustling energy of this vibrant city in the Gaslamp Quarter, and dine at one of the plethora of restaurants from upscale cuisine to quick bites. Follow suit with a variety of entertainment options from live music to rooftop escapes. Everything is in a five-minute radius!

**Balboa Park/San Diego Zoo**
Balboa Park is a 1200-acre urban oasis, offering pockets of serenity via gardens, walking paths and open space areas. Museums and several theaters reside here, and of course the world-renowned San Diego Zoo spans 100 acres within and is home to more than 12,000 animals, and 600 species of plants. Animals hail from all over the world, from Australia to Central America and more. Make some time for this incredible experience!

**Theme Parks – Legoland/SeaWorld San Diego**
A half hour north is the whimsical Legoland, aquarium included, with more than 60 rides and attractions based on the beloved Lego toys. And a bit closer is SeaWorld San Diego, with both indoor and outdoor aquatic exhibits most famous for showcasing the orca whale Shamu.

**Beaches**
Whether famous Mission or Coronado Beaches or the idyllic La Jolla Shores, to name a few, there is a beach to accommodate any type of experience you want, adventure, relaxation, in solitude or with the family.

**Torrey Pines**
Providing multiple views of the Pacific, Torrey Pines Golf Course is a golfer’s paradise. But paradise is not for the golfer alone, and Torrey Pines State Reserves offers scenic trails to hike and take in the view.
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ASTRO Elects New Leadership for 2023-2024

Six new officers were elected to serve on the ASTRO Board of Directors and the ASTRO Nominating Committee. The new officers’ terms will begin on October 3, 2023, immediately following the Annual Business Meeting. The new members of the Board are:

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**
Sameer Keole, MD, FASTRO
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, Phoenix

**HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR**
Vivek S. Kavadi, MD, MBA, FASTRO
US Oncology Network, Sugar Land, Texas

**SCIENCE COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR**
Wendy Woodward, MD, PhD, FASTRO
MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE ACADEMIC PHYSICIAN**
Stephanie Terezakis, MD
University of Minnesota, Saint Paul, Minnesota

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMMUNITY PRACTICE PHYSICIAN**
Arshin Sheybani, MD
John Stoddard Cancer Center, Des Moines, Iowa

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE RADIATION OR CANCER BIOLOGIST**
Deborah Citrin, MD, FASTRO
NIH/NCI, Bethesda, Maryland

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**SAVE THE DATE**
Saturday, December 9, 2023
Because accurate coding is essential for radiation oncology practice success

Attend the ASTRO Virtual Coding and Coverage Seminar to learn about:
- Coding and coverage policies specific to radiation oncology (RO)
- How RO codes are developed
- How to assign accurate coding
- Refreshed case studies
- Updates to the supervision requirements, E/M codes and a radiopharm presentation
- What health care reforms are on the horizon

Plus, all participants receive early access to the 2024 ASTRO Coding Resource.

**REGISTRATION OPENS MONDAY, OCTOBER 2!**

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**ASTRO 2023 Virtual Coding and Coverage Seminar**

**SCAN ME TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SEMINAR**

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- Protocol-Based QA
- Complete Quality Management for Enhanced Patient Care

Get a demo at ASTRO in booth 1835 >
**Treasurer’s Report**

As ASTRO navigated out of a pandemic environment in 2022, the top priority was to continue investment in programs and educational opportunities for our members, with increased access through varied formats. ASTRO was back together in person at the Annual Meeting in San Antonio with a meeting theme of “Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Emotional Intelligence (EI): Caring for the Patient in a Wireless World.” The meeting included in-depth Master Classes, cancer breakthroughs, storytelling, poster walk sessions and connectivity through livestreaming for those unable to attend, and onDemand access to session recordings for all full-conference registrants. The 2023 Annual Meeting, “Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients” will be in San Diego, and I look forward to seeing you all there!

In 2022, ASTRO continued to collaborate with industry and cancer foundations for research opportunities, advocated for cancer patients to have enhanced access to high-quality care, and offered continuing education and professional development opportunities to members. ASTRO’s APEX – Accreditation Program for Excellence® continued to grow, with 61 new applications and reaching $1M in revenue.

ASTRO engaged Marcum LLP Accountants, an independent firm, to conduct an audit of ASTRO’s 2022 financial statements (including ASTRO, ROI and ASTRO PAC). The auditors expressed an unmodified “clean opinion,” the highest opinion and best outcome possible. The ASTRO Finance/Audit Committee, which meets regularly to discuss investment strategies, budgetary policies and other financial matters, reviewed the report in detail with the auditors. The report was then submitted and approved by ASTRO’s Board of Directors in June.

**Profit and loss statement**

ASTRO generated $20.9 million from operating income in 2022. Meeting registration revenue (including the Annual Meeting at $8.9 million) comprised 48% or $10.1 million; membership dues represented 20% or $4.1 million; and journal subscription revenue an additional 15% or $3.1 million of the total 2022 operating revenue. With operating expenses of $21.6 million, ASTRO posted a $717 thousand loss from operating activities. ASTRO’s investment portfolio (i.e., allocations to U.S. and international equities, fixed income and alternatives) suffered a loss of $5.1 million. This was partially compensated by revenue from the government stimulus program loan forgiveness Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC), resulting in a total net profit loss of $3.9 million for the year.

**Balance sheet**

As of December 2022, ASTRO’s net worth of $37.8 million (includes $18.8 million or 50% in Board Designated Funds) is comprised of $49.3 million in assets and $11.4 million in liabilities. As of December 31, the long-term portfolio was valued at $37.5 million, representing 76% of ASTRO’s assets. At $3.4 million, deferred revenue represents a large component of liabilities, as ASTRO members and exhibitors continue to take advantage of the organization’s prepaid membership dues and exhibit booth payment options, respectively.

Through the contributions of ASTRO’s membership and dedicated leadership, and with a firm commitment to its members and cancer patients, ASTRO maintains a strong position to meet the goals of improving patient care through education, clinical practice improvement, scientific advancement, and political and societal advocacy.

It has truly been my pleasure to serve as ASTRO’s Secretary/Treasurer since 2019, and I happily pass this honor on to Michael Kuettel, MD, PhD, MBA, FASTRO, who will continue to monitor and ensure the financial health of ASTRO.

Neha Vapiwala, MD, FASTRO

*ASTRO Secretary/Treasurer*
The ASTRO Medical Student Fellowship (MSF) Award, formerly known as the Minority Summer Fellowship, is the Society’s most comprehensive diversity program. Since it began in 2010, the goal of the MSF program is to recruit and engage medical students and support their interests in exploring radiation oncology as a career.

The MSF award’s basic criteria are that applicants be from a racial or ethnic group underrepresented in medicine (URM) and be enrolled in an accredited U.S. medical school or graduate program. Thanks to generous sponsorship from Varian, the program has expanded its reach and scope and grown from working with two medical students per year to now providing 10 students with exposure to, and a better understanding of, a career in radiation oncology.

The program’s chief component is an eight-week summer research fellowship where students participate in collaborative research projects and receive expert advice from ASTRO mentors and leaders in the field. The longer-term benefits of the fellowship are establishing mentor/mentee relationships to build their professional networks with peers and radiation oncology professionals, access to career and professional development activities, and travel to the ASTRO Annual Meeting.

The MSF Award has helped open doors for students interested in matching with radiation oncology residency programs. The impact of the program has especially been felt at ASTRO in the growing representation of MSF alumni in Society governance and leadership. For example, the current chair of the Association of Residents in Radiation Oncology (ARRO) Executive Committee is MSF alumni, Michael LeCompte, MD. Past MSF fellows have participated on several ASTRO committees, including the Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (HEDI) Council Workforce Diversity Committee and ARRO Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee, and were selected for positions in the highly coveted ASTRO Leadership Pathway Program. MSF fellows are also serving as near-peer mentors to rising medical students and speaking at

Continued on following page
SOCIETY NEWS

CONTINUED FROM MEDICAL STUDENT FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Society events and activities.
The MSF awards present a great opportunity for medical students to broaden their horizons and explore new research ideas, answer clinical and translational questions in radiation oncology, and engage in activities intentionally designed to help advance their careers.

Join us in welcoming the MSF Class of 2022 who will be attending ASTRO 2023 with a number of fellows presenting their research. We’d also like to congratulate the MSF Class of 2023, who will attend ASTRO 2024.

CLASS OF 2023
• Mariam Atobiloye, The University of Utah
• Zainab Balogun, University of Pittsburgh
• Tyren Busby, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine
• Antonio Franco, California University of Science and Medicine
• Olufela Koleoso, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
• Fatima Madondo, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
• Elizabeth Olatunji, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
• Linzi Paul, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center–New Orleans
• Asya Pitre, University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth
• Abizairie Sanchez-Feliciano, Case Western Reserve University – School of Medicine

The application process for the class of 2024 will open in November 2023.

In Memoriam

ASTRO has learned that the following members have passed away. Our thoughts go out to their family and friends.

A. William Blackstock, MD
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Paul A. DeMare, MD
Honolulu, Hawaii

Robert M. Fine, MD
Delray Beach, Florida

Jay Loeffler, MD, FASTRO
Boston, Massachusetts

The Radiation Oncology Institute (ROI) graciously accepts gifts in memory of or in tribute to individuals.

For more information, visit ROInstitute.org.

Sunrise Yoga Classes
Take time to relax and recharge!

Complimentary Sunrise Yoga classes are available
Sunday, October 1 – Tuesday, October 3.

Location: Hilton San Diego Bayfront Promenade
Time: 6:00 am. - 7:00 a.m.

Classes are limited to the first 50 people that arrive. Mats are provided.
ASTRO has released a new version of its Introduction to Radiation Therapy video, as well as the complementary Radiation Therapy for Cancer brochure. The video and brochure can be used together to help educate patients about radiation therapy as a treatment for their cancer.

The 26-minute video was filmed at the Mayo Clinic Phoenix and provides a comprehensive overview of radiation therapy, as well as shares real-life patient experiences. It is divided into eight chapters, making it easier for patients to watch and understand the content. The chapters cover the following topics:

- What is radiation therapy?
- Types of radiation therapy treatments
- The radiation therapy treatment team
- Pre-treatment planning
- What to expect during treatment
- Possible side effects
- Radiation therapy safety
- Caring for yourself during treatment

The Radiation Therapy for Cancer brochure provides additional information about radiation therapy, including suggested questions patients can ask their physician and members of their treatment team. The brochure also includes updated text about treatment types, such as proton therapy, stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) and radiation therapy plus immunotherapy.

Both the video and brochure are available for patients to view on the RTAnswers website at www.rtanswers.org/patienteducation and available for members to view, purchase or pick up the embed code in the provider resources section of the astro.org website at www.astro.org/providerresources.

ASTRO’s patient education materials are supported in part by our Partners in Patient Education. Learn more at www.astro.org/PiPE.
Welcome to ASTRO’s 65th Annual Meeting

ASTRO’s 65th Annual Meeting will bring you a premium program of educational sessions and the latest research and science in radiation oncology in beautiful San Diego! Whether you choose to attend the meeting in person or virtually, all attendees will enjoy a world class program with the theme of Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients.

Read on to see what’s in store with our key sessions and highlights to help you optimize your time at the meeting.
KEY SESSIONS
Clinical Trials and Plenary Sessions
Following the official welcome of the meeting at 9:15 a.m., hear updates from top-rated studies in radiation oncology at Sunday morning’s Clinical Trials session at 9:30 a.m., October 1. Topics include consolidative radiation therapy in place of autologous stem cell transplant in patients with low-risk relapsed/refractory (R/R) classic Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL) treated with Nivolumab plus Brentuximab Vedotin; association between regular vaginal dilation and/or sexual activity and long-term vaginal morbidity in cervical cancer survivors; TROG 15.03/ANZUP international multicenter phase II trial of Focal Ablative STereotactic RAdiotherapy for Cancers of the Kidney (FASTRACK II); long-term follow-up analysis of NRG oncology RTOG 0415: a randomized phase III non-inferiority study comparing two fractionation schedules in patients with favorable-risk prostate cancer; and long-term outcomes of NRG/RTOG 0126, a randomized trial of high dose (79.2Gy) vs. standard dose (70.2Gy) radiation therapy for men with localized prostate cancer.

Attend the Plenary Session on Monday, October 2 at 1:30 p.m. to learn from potentially practice changing studies. Moderators Kenneth Rosenzweig, MD, FASTRO, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, and Andrea Ng, MD, MPH, FASTRO, Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Center, Boston are joined by discussant Kristin Higgins, MD, Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University. Studies to be presented include high-dose hyperfractionated versus standard radiation therapy for limited stage small-cell lung cancer; five-year outcomes from PACE B, which compares SBRT to conventionally fractionated or moderately hypofractionated external beam radiotherapy for localized prostate cancer; primary endpoint results of NRG CC003, a phase IIR/III trial of prophylactic cranial irradiation with or without hippocampal avoidance for small cell lung cancer; results from NRG/RTOG 0920 phase III on postoperative radiation therapy with or without cetuximab for intermediate-risk squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck; and hypofractionated versus normo-fractionated accelerated radiation therapy with or without cisplatin for locally advanced head and neck squamous cell carcinoma. See page 24 for more on the science sessions and top-rated abstracts being presented at ASTRO 2023.

KEYNOTES
With their breadth and vision, knowledge and expertise, our keynote speakers will bring together the meeting theme of Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients, informing the bigger picture of the rapidly changing health care environment beyond radiation oncology.

Arif Kamal, MD, MBA, MHS, Chief Patient Officer at the American Cancer Society, will speak on Monday, October 2, at 9:15 a.m. His talk will stem from his role of driving coordinated efforts to accelerate progress against cancer through the organization’s patient-, caregiver- and health care professional-facing activities.

As chief patient officer, Dr. Kamal leads the American Cancer Society’s patient support objectives and the development of strategic plans to measurably improve the lives of people with cancer and their families. He oversees the organization’s cancer support, patient navigation, educational programs, patient lodging solutions, and digital patient support offerings, and all aspects of organizational functions that touch cancer patients across 5,000 communities globally.

Continued on following page
Prior to joining the American Cancer Society, Dr. Kamal served for more than 12 years as an oncologist and researcher at Duke University. He is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Population Health at the Duke University School of Medicine, and recently served as physician quality and outcomes officer at the Duke Cancer Institute. In addition, Dr. Kamal co-founded Prepped Health, a company that develops technology solutions to engage patients facing a serious illness like cancer. Dr. Kamal received his medical degree from the six-year combined BA/MD program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, with residencies and fellowships at the Mayo Clinic and Duke University. He holds a master’s degree in health science in clinical research from Duke University and a master’s in business administration from the University of Massachusetts – Amherst. Dr. Kamal lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, with his wife and two young children.

Anupam Bapu Jena, MD, PhD, the Joseph P. Newhouse Professor of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School, an internist at Massachusetts General Hospital and a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, will speak on Tuesday, October 3, at 9:15 a.m. Dr. Jena will explore how natural experiments — random events that turn us into experimental subjects — can show us how our health is shaped by forces invisible to the untrained eye. Based on his book co-authored with Christopher Worsham, titled "Random Acts of Medicine: The Hidden Forces that Sway Doctors; Impact Patients, and Shape our Health," this engaging and entertaining presentation will spark thought-provoking conversation and surprising “ah-ha” moments centered around the role that chance plays in our health and how natural experiments can help us understand what really makes medicine work — and how it could work better.

As one of a small group of physician economists in the world, Dr. Jena uses creative natural experiments to help us understand how health care works — the subject of his 2020 TEDMED talk. Dr. Jena also served as the host of the Freakonomics, MD podcast, exploring the hidden side of health care. His work is frequently featured in the media, including the New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal among others.

**SESSIONS OF INTEREST**

Be sure to pick up a Journey Map when on site and available digitally at [www.astro.org/AMportal](http://www.astro.org/AMportal) to see a curated list of sessions to attend based on attendee type or specialty and review the following sessions based on special interest topics and focus.

**Quality**

The Annual Meeting is an opportunity to share best practices on quality improvement in order to elevate the standard of care as a whole. With an emphasis on patient safety and protocols, quality improvement practices influence how high-quality care is administered to patients. This year’s sessions around the topic of quality include the following.

- **Monday, October 2, 3:00 p.m.**
  Panel 10 – Challenging Cases in Patient Safety: The Nation’s Experience Navigating New Technologies as Told to RO-ILS

- **Tuesday, October 3, 12:45 p.m.**
  Panel 17 – Changing for the Better: Lessons from APEx

- **Tuesday, October 3, 2:30 p.m.**
  Poster Q&A 06 – Patient Safety

- **Tuesday, October 3, 4:00 p.m.**
  Quick Pitch 14 – Patient Safety

- **Wednesday, October 4, 8:00 a.m.**
  Quick Pitch 20 – Dosimetry and QA

- **Wednesday, October 4, 10:30 a.m.**
  SS 33 – Patient Safety

**Early Career**

ASTRO is excited to support early career members with sessions addressing their unique needs, along with opportunities for mentoring and a networking lounge. To start, a session on Monday, October 2 at 10:30 a.m. will focus on developing as an early career physician, first reviewing goals of ASTRO’s Early Career Committee, and then cover topics such as how to grow into a mentorship and understand the difference between that and sponsorship. The session will also review how to build a practice, and explore different kinds of transitions ranging from staying within a practice, moving within the academic realm, and moving from the academic to community practice and vice versa, along with industry/non-clinical movement.
International
ASTRO is pleased to offer a variety of sessions for international meeting attendees or those with interest in global oncology. Along with these specific tracks, there are numerous other sessions that share findings from an international perspective.

Saturday, September 30, 2:00 p.m.
International 01 – Innovations in Radiation Oncology in Latin America

Sunday, October 1, 8:00 a.m.
International 02 – Innovative Radiation Therapy Approaches: Benefits and Challenges – Global Perspective

Sunday, October 1, 4:45 p.m.
International 03 – Implementation Challenges of Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy and Radiosurgery in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

Monday, October 2, 7:00 a.m.
International Breakfast
Open to all International Attendees

Monday, October 2, 10:45 a.m.
International 04 – International Radiation Oncology Training and Educational Opportunities

Monday, October 2, 3:00 p.m.
International 05 – Role of Private Sector and Industry in Improving Radiation Access in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

Monday, October 2, 5:00 p.m.
International 06 – Models of Global Health Faculty Track: No One Track Fits All!

Tuesday, October 3, 8:00 a.m.
International 07 - Impact of War on Radiotherapy in Ukraine and How to Help

Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
ASTRO continues to expand its initiatives and education about diversity, health equity and inclusion in health care, and has dedicated this track to matters of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). The educational and science programs have sessions available to provide a well-rounded Annual Meeting experience while expanding professionals’ social awareness on DEI within radiation oncology. The program includes a range of topics such as the following:

Sunday, October 1, 4:45 p.m.
SS 05 – DEIH 1: Taking Action to Advance Health Equity in Radiation Oncology

Six abstracts will be presented in this scientific session.

Monday, October 2, 3:00 p.m.
Panel 14 – ASTRO/NRG Joint Session – Far Beyond “Thoughts and Prayers”: Crafting an Interdisciplinary DEI Action Toolkit to Enhance Basic to Clinical Cancer Research

This first-of-its-kind panel aims to tackle issues of workplace diversity, equitable patient access to care and clinical trials, and evolving roles of residents, in a practical, comprehensive and lasting way.

Tuesday, October 3, 4:00 p.m.
Panel 18 – ASTRO/ADROP Joint Session – Employing Equity in Residency Recruitment and Cultivating a Culture of Inclusion;

This session will cover equity in the residency recruitment experience and therefore the workforce, and day to day interactions with patients and colleagues.

Wednesday, October 4, 8:00 a.m.
EDU 41 – Sexual Health Considerations for Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) and Non-SGM Patients with a Cancer Diagnosis

This session’s goal is to offer radiation oncology professionals an introduction to the sexual health needs of cancer patients, and to provide a framework for respectful communication about the sexual sequelae of cancer treatment(s).

Continued on following page
Patient-Centered Sessions
Numerous sessions and posters will speak to patient-centered care, including the following:

- **Sunday, October 1, 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
  Presidential Symposium

- **Monday, October 2, 10:45 a.m.**
  Quick Pitch on Head & Neck, Optimizing Patient-Centered Quality of Life and Function

- **Tuesday, October 3, 2:30 p.m.**
  Designing Patient-Centered Health Education Materials for Radiation Dermatitis in Breast Cancer Patients: A Pilot Study and Single-Center Clinical Trial

And given this year’s theme, numerous sessions abound looking at patient-focused standards of care and patient-reported outcomes. Search these topics at [www.astro.org/AMportal](http://www.astro.org/AMportal).
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

ASTRO 2023 offers educational sessions to enhance your professional development, along with the latest science in radiation oncology, plus a wealth of opportunities to network and connect with colleagues and friends. Be sure to carve time out of your schedule to take advantage of the following highlights.

Visit the Poster Hall
ASTRO 2023 features more than 1,600 posters! In-person attendees are encouraged to participate in the scheduled Poster Q&A sessions on site to hear directly from the presenters and ask questions and the Poster Walks, which offer a guided tour based on disease site. All attendees, in-person and virtual, can listen to narration from presenters who chose to include an audio recording with their poster to learn more about their studies.

New for this year! Clinical trials that are still in progress will be included in poster presentations.

View all posters and hear the narration at www.astro.org/AMportal.

Posters can also be viewed through the MyASTROApp and in the Virtual Poster Library.

Mentoring Opportunities
Whether you are a mentor or a mentee, just starting out in your career or well established, mentoring relationships can have powerful, positive effects in your personal, academic and professional life. ASTRO created Mentor Match to help connect mentors and mentees and through this program we are offering a host of mentoring opportunities at this year’s ASTRO Annual Meeting. Learn more about the program at www.astro.org/mentormatch.

One-on-one mentoring connections: When registering for the Annual Meeting, registrants are prompted to indicate if they are interested in mentoring or meeting with a mentor during the Annual Meeting. An ASTRO representative will follow up with those expressing an interest to assist in making the connection.

Speed Mentoring: Back by popular demand, Speed Mentoring will take place on Tuesday, October 3, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Room 10, Upper Level of the San Diego Convention Center. Mentees will rotate to different mentors to participate in a series of short, focused conversations on specific topics.

Establish mentor/mentee relationship: If you already have a mentor and/or mentee, take advantage of being at the Annual Meeting by scheduling an in-person meet up. ASTRO created the Early Career and Mentoring Lounge in Room 10 at the convention center to provide more dedicated spaces for meetings and networking.

Continued on following page
Practical Radiation Oncology (PRO) Program
Continuing for its sixth year, the PRO Program offers a condensed, two-day program specifically designed for the community practice radiation oncologist. The program is included with your full registration and takes place Saturday and Sunday. Program content is curated to address the needs of a community practice physician and will include disease site reviews, interactive case-based discussions, a coding update and a scientific overview. PRO is also available as a weekend-only event.

Meet ASTRO’s Journal Editors
Discuss special features and learn more about getting involved. Stop by the journal signs near the ASTRO Resource Center at the times listed below to connect with Sue Yom, MD, PhD, MAS, FASTRO, Editor-in-Chief of the Red Journal and Robert Amdur, MD, Editor-in-Chief of Practical Radiation Oncology.

Red Journal: Cover Art & Gray Zone
Monday, October 2
11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Practical Radiation Oncology:
Lessons in Art and Literature & Narrative Oncology
Wednesday, October 4
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

ASTROmerch
Browse the all new ASTRO store, located near the ASTRO Resource Center to purchase a vest or pullover to keep you comfy in the chilly meeting rooms or a water bottle to keep you hydrated during your yoga session! Additional items will be available for purchase on site with the full store available online later this year.

Career Center and Job Board
Employers and job seekers: take advantage of the updated Annual Meeting job posting and appointment scheduling features and for those seeking a new position, be sure to post your résumé on the Career Center. Whether attending the Annual Meeting as an employer or a job seeker, don’t miss the opportunity to connect with potential candidates or your new employer!

Annual Meeting Portal
We are excited to introduce the new and improved ASTRO Annual Meeting Portal, a state-of-the-art platform designed to elevate the meeting experience for both in-person and virtual attendees. The Annual Meeting Portal empowers all attendees to optimize their participation through a range of features:

Plan ahead:
• Explore the comprehensive event schedule and create your personalized schedule.
• Easily find and connect with exhibitors.

Participate and learn:
• New! All attendees — in person and virtual — will be able to livestream sessions.
• Engage in interactive sessions by asking questions or participating in polls.
• Access onDemand sessions for future viewing.
• Claim credit for attended sessions.
• Explore abstracts and posters.

Visit www.astro.org/AMportal to begin planning your ASTRO 2023 experience. The portal syncs with the MyASTROApp, which is available on major app stores.
As an individual who has focused his career on clinical trials, I was disheartened by the outcome of a debate at last year’s Annual Meeting which pitched clinical trials against real world “big” data. Big data won that debate, but in my mind and the opinion of many others, the randomized clinical trial remains at the top of the pyramid of levels of evidence. Well designed, well conducted, prospective clinical research helps sift through many disparities and biases inherent in retrospective studies.

The Annual Meeting theme “Pay it Forward, Partnering with Our Patients” comes from conversations I have had with patients when discussing their motivation to participate in a clinical trial. The treatment they are receiving today is the result of past patient participation in clinical studies. The techniques, the doses, and the accompanying medical therapies that radiation oncologists prescribe today were the topic of clinical trials that have taken place a decade earlier. The willful participants of those past studies delivered a gift to the patients of today. Enrollment in a clinical trial today is an opportunity to pass one’s gratitude along to the next generation.

The Presidential Symposium is intended to challenge the audience to think of new ways to approach clinical research in their offices, in their institutions, with their patients. This will be led off by James Dignam, PhD, who has assembled a panel of innovative statisticians to consider how we may make trials more efficient. Then Eleanor Walker, MD, will host a panel of clinical investigators who will emphasize the importance of diversity in research. Research results are far more robust and generalizable when the patients and investigators reflect a broader portrait of our society. A session devoted to listening to patient voices and their experiences will inspire practicing physicians to approach them in a meaningful manner. Undoubtedly, we will learn better methods to introduce innovative approaches to cancer care from them. Finally, we will hear from leaders in clinical research around the globe. From the high-tech investigations conducted by the National Clinical Trials Network to the challenges of limited access addressed by the International Atomic Energy Association, we will all enjoy a glimpse of research strategies on a global scale.

Symposium Introduction | 12:00 p.m. - 12:05 p.m.

**Moderator:**
Jeff Michalski, MD, MBA, FASTRO, Washington University St. Louis

ASTRO President Jeff Michalski, MD, MBA, FASTRO, will set the stage of his symposium by providing an introduction to the topic at large and introducing Session I, which will focus on Clinical Trial Design.

Session I: Clinical Trial Design | 12:05 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Moderator:**
James Dignam, PhD, NRG Oncology Statistics and Data Management Center

**Speakers:**
- Nolan Wages, PhD, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Matthew Sydes, MSc, CStat, MRC Clinical Trials Unit

Discussion will focus on how novel trial designs can be more efficient and effective, exploring the means to reduce the number of enrollees and shorten the time to obtain meaningful results. Statistical design will be explored, along with a look at how NCI is developing an innovative clinical trial unit.

Continued on following page
Session II: Diversity in Clinical Trials | 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Moderator:
Eleanor Walker, MD, Henry Ford Health System

Speakers:
• Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD, FASTRO, Vanderbilt University
• Electra Paskett, PhD, The Ohio State University
• Chanita Hughes-Halbert, PhD, University of Southern California
• Desirée A. H. Walker, Patient Advocate, SHARE Cancer Support

This session will focus on the necessity of clinical trials to have a diverse enrollment along with a diverse study team, with patient perspectives from those who have participated in radiation clinical trials.

Session III: Patient Perspectives | 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Moderator:
Bryan Hwang, MD, Mountain View Center
Barbara Barclay, Patient advocate

Patient Advocate Speakers:
• Catherine Circo
• Corinne Casebeer
• Roberta Albany

Honing in on the meeting’s theme, Session III will explore Patient Perspectives. This session will provide a unique learning opportunity, as patients and patient advocates share their stories and experiences from clinical trials. Advocates will share how they appreciate being approached about clinical trials or their research into trials.

Session IV: International Trial Reports | 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Moderator:
Mitchell Machtay, MD, FASTRO, Penn State University, NRG Oncology

Speakers:
• Winette van der Graaf, MD, PhD, European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC)
• Trevor Leong, MD, Trans-Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG Cancer Research)
• May Abdel-Wahab, MD, PhD, FASTRO, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
• Quynh-Thu Le, MD, FASTRO, Stanford University, NRG Oncology

The session will focus on the future strategy of Cooperative Group Trials with an emphasis on radiation oncology around the world. The speakers will share their experiences in this exciting session.

Connect with attendees. Tweet #ASTRO23

Thank you to our promotional sponsors for your generous support of ASTRO’s Survivor Circle.
FOUR ESPECIALLY IN-DEPTH EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES are being offered this year in the form of Master Classes. These classes, which last from 1.5 hours to 4.5 hours, are offered as separate ticketed experiences and are taught by world-renowned experts in the field. **New this year, registration is free for students and members-in-training.**

You may add a Master Class at registration or modify your already-existing registration. Questions? Contact annualmeeting@astro.org.

The Master Classes being offered this year are:

- **Advanced Quantitative Imaging Techniques for Personalized Radiotherapy and Lung Toxicity Avoidance**  
  Saturday, September 30 | 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
  $25 Members/Nonmembers  
  This session will provide an in-depth exploration of advanced quantitative imaging techniques for personalized radiotherapy, focusing on addressing barriers to clinical implementation and improving the management of lung toxicity. Attendees will be introduced to the latest developments in quantitative imaging modalities, including their applications in radiotherapy treatment planning, response assessment and functional lung avoidance.

- **Safety Is No Accident: Building Inclusive Cultures**  
  Saturday, September 30 | 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
  $25 Members/Nonmembers  
  Participants will explore 1) what it means to make the shift from unconscious bias to conscious considerations to promote inclusivity, 2) how to define a full concept of safety for human capital, and 3) the systems required to provide individuals with a voice/platform to address issues related to safety, including but not limited to issues of safety for historically marginalized groups based on race and/or ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and gender identity. This class is in-person only and will not be livestreamed or available on Demand.

- **Radiopharmaceutical Therapy**  
  Saturday, September 30 | 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
  $150 Members/Nonmembers  
  Radiopharmaceuticals are an increasingly utilized therapeutic option for the treatment of malignancies. This session will focus on clinical indications, difficult cases, medical physics considerations, development of standard operating procedures for clinical implementation, billing and troubleshooting theranostic delivery. Specifically, Radium-223, Lutetium-177 dotatate and Lutetium-177 PSMA-617 will be discussed. The session will include didactic presentations from physician experts from radiation oncology, nuclear medicine, medical oncology and medical physicists, with question and answer sessions to discuss practice implementation in various clinical settings. The purpose of the Master Class is to increase physician, physicist, billing and administration understanding on how to effectively and safely develop a radiopharmaceutical program at their respective institutions.

- **Beyond RTOGv2.0: The First Ten Years of NRG Oncology and Paying It Forward for Many Years Ahead**  
  Sunday, October 1 | 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.  
  $25 Members/Nonmembers  
  The goals of this session will be threefold: 1) Outline the NRG’s broad accomplishments and future plans, including goals to broaden research in combined modality therapy (e.g., in oligometastatic cancer) and improving diversity in its clinical trials; 2) Describe some of the behind-the-scenes work of NRG protocol development, conduct and analysis, and how to locate this information for interpreting trial results and in caring for patients whether on or off trial; and 3) Promote engagement with NRG/RTOG-F, not only opening studies and enrolling patients, but also directly participating in research development.

Registration is free for students and members-in-training.
THE ANNUAL MEETING SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE is excited to see everyone in San Diego! ASTRO’s Annual Meeting is the premier scientific radiation oncology event of the year, and the Annual Meeting Scientific Committee has created another exceptional program for 2023.

The theme of this year’s meeting is Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients. The meeting will offer an array of scientific sessions featuring innovative research that will impact patient care and practice. Abstracts in the scientific program will also explore the topics of challenges and changes in radiation oncology practice in response to the global pandemic, approaches to improving the care of patients from underrepresented minority groups and underserved communities, and effective practices to reduce treatment side effects.

The scientific program will encompass abstracts presented in a variety of different formats: Plenary and Clinical Trial sessions, which showcase abstracts of scientific significance deemed to have the highest merit and greatest impact on radiation oncology research and practice; interactive Oral Scientific and Quick Pitch sessions; Science Highlight sessions, which feature expert discussants to provide an overview of the abstracts that each track/disease site has selected to best represent the research for their disease site; Digital Posters with audio narration from the abstract author; and a Cancer Breakthroughs session, featuring top research from ASTRO’s oncology partner organizations.

The Annual Meeting will also include multiple workshops, panels and education sessions, but to see the latest scientific research, do not miss the scientific sessions! There will be more than 300 abstracts as part of Oral Scientific and Quick Pitch sessions and over 1,600 as digital posters covering all the major disease sites as well as Physics, Biology, Palliative Care, Digital Innovations and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Health Care.

The meeting will include a virtual component for those who are unable to travel. All the Annual Meeting scientific sessions will be livestreamed with access for both virtual and in-person attendees. Also, again this year, both in-person and virtual full conference registration will include seven months of onDemand session access, with CME credit available for most meeting sessions. So, if you miss any sessions in San Diego, you will be able to view that content after the meeting.

Although abstracts are embargoed until the start of the meeting, you can preview the schedule, which includes abstract titles, in the new Annual Meeting Portal at www.astro.org/AMportal. This is also where you will livestream sessions, view posters and access onDemand recordings. We encourage you to review the sessions and build your schedule in advance of the meeting. The AM Portal will sync with the mobile app, so be sure to download the MyASTROApp, which is available for iOS and Android.

We look forward to seeing you in San Diego!
Here are some of the top-scoring abstracts thus far that will be presented:

- **Long-Term Outcomes of NRG/RTOG 0126, a Randomized Trial of High Dose (79.2Gy) vs. Standard Dose (70.2Gy) Radiation Therapy (RT) for Men with Localized Prostate Cancer**
  - Jeff M. Michalski, MD, MBA, FASTRO, Washington University School of Medicine

- **Consolidative Radiotherapy in Place of Autologous Stem Cell Transplant in Patients with Low-Risk Relapsed/Refractory (R/R) Classic Hodgkin Lymphoma (cHL) Treated with Nivolumab plus Brentuximab Vedotin: CheckMate 744**
  - Bradford S. Hoppe, MD, MPH, FASTRO, Mayo Clinic

- **High Dose Hyperfractionated Thoracic Radiotherapy vs. Standard Dose for Limited Stage Small-Cell Lung Cancer: A Multicenter, Open-Label Randomized, Phase 3 Trial**
  - Jiayi Yu, PhD, Peking University Cancer Hospital & Institute

- **Dosimetry Reconstruction in Radiopharmaceutical Therapy Using a Sparse Network of External γ-Sensors**
  - Rahul Lall, BS, University of California, Berkeley

- **Long-Term Follow-Up Analysis of NRG Oncology RTOG 0415: A Randomized Phase III Non-Inferiority Study Comparing Two Fractionation Schedules in Patients with Favorable-Risk Prostate Cancer**
  - W. Robert Lee, MD, MS, FASTRO, Med, Duke University Medical Center

- **TROG 15.03/ANZUP International Multicenter Phase II Trial of Focal Ablative Stereotactic Radiation Therapy for Cancers of the Kidney (FASTRACK II)**
  - Shankar Siva, PhD, MBBS, FRANZCR, University of Melbourne

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### Virtual Meeting

For those unable to attend in person, the Virtual Meeting provides access to most meeting sessions livestreamed in real time September 30 to October 4. Watch engaging sessions live with the opportunity to submit questions for presenters. If you can’t watch live, the Meeting onDemand is included with Virtual Full Conference registration. Learn more at [www.astro.org/AMvirtual](http://www.astro.org/AMvirtual).

### Meeting onDemand

The Meeting onDemand gives you access to session recordings to extend your educational experience beyond the live meeting. Both In-person and Virtual Full Conference registration include onDemand access with credit claiming for most meeting sessions. Session recordings will be available within 24 hours of the end of the session. Access the recordings and claim CME credit until June 1, 2024. Learn more at [www.astro.org/AMonDemand](http://www.astro.org/AMonDemand).

### Continuing Education Credits

ASTRO is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Credit amounts are subject to change with changes in the program.

**Live Meeting (In Person):** ASTRO designates this live course activity for a maximum of 36.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Live Meeting (Virtual):** ASTRO designates this live course activity for a maximum of 35.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Meeting onDemand:** ASTRO designates this enduring material activity for a maximum of 171.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Credits must be claimed by June 1, 2024.

### Dosimetrist credits

Dosimetrist credits must be claimed by November 3, 2023.

### Physicists

An application will be submitted to the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs (CAMPEP) for Medical Physics Continuing Education Credits (MPCEC). Physicist credits must be claimed by November 3, 2023.
IQ + EQ = ?

Find out the answer at Booth #1635
ACCELERATING RADIATION RESEARCH: Impact of ASTRO’s Research Foundation

SINCE THE RADIATION ONCOLOGY INSTITUTE (ROI) was founded in 2006, the 501c3 charity has funded $4.3 million in research and education to accelerate outcomes for cancer patients.

With more than one million cancer patients receiving radiation therapy each year, funding for radiotherapy research is surprisingly low. ROI aims to close the gap, focusing on driving innovations that will help patients receive the best treatment possible.

ROI Researcher: David Byun, MD, presents CurieUx

Using immersive holographic displays, Dr. Byun and Dr. Naamit Gerber at the NYU Langone Health’s Perlmutter Cancer Center, created a tool to help increase patient knowledge, reduce anxiety and improve patient experience.

The tool, Curietherapy User eXperience, is an augmented reality patient education tool that uses a hologram-based display to help patients visualize disease site specific anatomy, linear accelerator and treatment specific positions. The first patient used the tool in March 2022 in a prospective trial to evaluate how using the tool during consultation impacts patient anxiety. Dr. Byun will present outcomes from this pilot study during the Annual Meeting.

ROI Research Results at the Annual Meeting

Sunday, October 1
4:45 p.m. | SS 06 - DHI 1
Curietherapy User eXperience Pilot Study: A Novel Augmented Reality Educational Tool During Radiation Oncology Consultation for Patients with Breast Cancer

4:45 p.m. | Poster Q&A 01 - Lung Cancer and DEIH
AI-Derived CT Body Composition in Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: A Multicohort Study

Monday, October 2
10:45 a.m. | Poster Q&A 02 - Central Nervous System and Palliative Care
Communicating the External Beam Radiotherapy Experience (CEBRE) Discussion Guides: Real World Implementation and Evaluation

5:00 p.m. | Poster Q&A 04 - Biology and PRO
Understanding Treatment Anxiety and Utility of Mixed Media Educational Tools in Radiation Oncology Consultation: A Qualitative Study

Tuesday, October 3
8:00 a.m. | EDU 16 - Sex, Screening and Savings after Head and Neck Cancer Treatment
Financial Toxicity Among Survivors of Head and Neck Cancer: The Lasting Costs of Cure and Managing Treatment-Related Toxicities

4:00 p.m. | QP 14 - Patient Safety 1
Natural Language Processing Identification of Symptoms in Emergency Department Visits in Patients Receiving Radiation

5:15 p.m. | Poster Q&A 08 - Gynecological Cancer, Pediatric Cancer and Professional Development
Pilot Study Assessing Student Interest in Combined Residency Training Pathways with Radiation Oncology

Wednesday, October 4
10:30 a.m. | Poster Q&A 09 - Head & Neck Cancer and Health Services Research
Voxel Based Analysis of Local Dose Patterns on Radiation Induced Xerostomia in Head and Neck Cancer with Machine Learning Methods

Environmental Toxicity of Driving Distance to External Beam Radiotherapy (EBRT) for Head and Neck Cancer Patients

Visit the ROI Booth
Hall E Lobby, Ground Level

RUN FOR RESEARCH: Tuesday, October 3
Lace up your running (or walking!) shoes and enjoy a beautiful, flat, fast course along the San Diego waterfront.

Learn more and register online at: ROIinstitute.org/5k

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NEW! BG-95 Sub-Compact Self-Shielded Cyclotron with Optional Second Chemistry Module and Novel Target

- Low energy compact system, can be placed next to PET/CT
- Easy to operate push-button graphic interface
- Automated quality control testing
- Ideal for Nuclear Cardiology/Oncology and other applications
- Capable of producing: $^{18}$FDG, Na$^{18}$F, $^{18}$F-MISO, $^{18}$FLT, $^{18}$F-Choline, $^{18}$F-DOPA, $^{18}$F-PSMA, $^{13}$N and $^{68}$Ga

NEW! Best Model B25p Cyclotron

- 25 and 20 MeV fixed energy H- cyclotron
- 400 μA extracted proton beams
- 2 simultaneous extracted beams
- 4 target positions

NEW! Best 6–15 MeV Compact High Current/Variable Energy Proton Cyclotron

- 1–1000 μA extracted beam current
- Capable of producing the following isotopes: $^{18}$F, $^{68}$Ga, $^{89}$Zr, $^{99m}$Tc, $^{11}$C, $^{13}$N, $^{15}$O, $^{64}$Cu, $^{67}$Ga, $^{111}$In, $^{124}$I, $^{225}$Ac and $^{103}$Pd
- Up to $5 \times 10^{13}$ neutrons per second from external target
- 21 stripping foils at each stripping port for 2 minute rapid change
**NEW!** Best Model B35adp Alpha/Deuteron/Proton Cyclotron for Medical Radioisotope Production and Other Applications

- **Proton Particle Beam:** 1000 µA Beam Current up to 35 MeV Energy
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- **Alpha Particle Beam:** 200 µA Beam Current up to 35 MeV Energy

**B70 MeV Cyclotron Ideal for Sr-82/Rb-82 & Other Radioisotopes Production**

- 35-70 MeV variable energy H-cyclotron
- 700 µA extracted beam current (upgradable to 1000 µA)
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**NEW!** Best Model 200p Cyclotron for Proton Therapy*

- From 70 MeV up to 200 MeV Non-Variable Energy
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- For all Medical Treatments including: Benign and Malignant Tumors, Neurological, Eye, Head/Neck, Pediatric, Lung Cancers, Vascular/Cardiac/Stenosis/Ablation, etc.

*Some products shown are under development and not available for sale currently.
THE ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTS IN RADIATION ONCOLOGY (ARRO) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE is excited for the upcoming ARRO Annual Seminar colloquially known as “ARRO Day.” This year’s Annual Seminar will take place on Saturday, September 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific time followed by an evening reception. Additionally, during the following evening on Sunday, October 1, from 4:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., residents will have the opportunity to join invited faculty for a free form, intimate networking event. This networking reception was held in a similar format at last year’s ASTRO Annual Meeting and was met with great enthusiasm by those in attendance.

ARRO Day Agenda, September 30

10:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.
The 2023 Annual Seminar will begin with opening remarks by the senior chairs of the ARRO Executive Committee: ARRO Chair Michael LeCompte, MD, MS, who also serves as chair of Equity and Inclusion; Vice-chair of Education Kelsey Corrigan, MD, MPH; Vice-chair of Communications Abhishek Kumar, MD, MAS; and Vice-chair of Global Health Emily MacDuffie, MD. The ARRO Executive Committee will provide details regarding ARRO’s recent accomplishments and a brief discussion about residents’ contributions to the future of the field of radiation oncology.

10:20 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.
The academic session of ARRO Day will follow, starting with a novel panel discussion entitled “Speaking up at Tumor Board: Advice for Junior Physicians,” featuring Jillian Tsai, MD, PhD; David Palma, MD, MSc, PhD; Abhishek A. Solanki, MD; and Manisha Palta, MD. This session will focus on strategies to educate oncologists about the role of radiation therapy, especially in contexts in which radiation therapy is an emerging indication. Topics will include how to prepare for tumor board as a new attending and how to collaborate with other specialties.

11:15 a.m. - 11:25 a.m.
After this session, the winners of the ARRO Faculty Awards in Global Health and Equity and Inclusion will be announced. These awards highlight faculty who have demonstrated excellence in both mentorship and dedication to each respective field.

11:25 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. Lunch Break

12:20 p.m. - 1:05 p.m.
Following lunch, over 50 academic and community practice radiation oncologists will participate in the “Mentorship Meet and Greet” session. The ARRO Executive Committee is extremely grateful to be joined by such a supportive group of mentors, many of whom have participated in ARRO Day year after year to provide advice and guidance to trainee attendees.

1:05 p.m. - 1:55 p.m.
The mixer will be followed by another excellent panel discussion session titled “Radiation Oncologists as Leaders: Career Paths beyond the Field,” featuring Bridget Koontz, MD, FASTRO, Chief Medical Officer of GenesisCare, Deepak Khuntia, MD, FASTRO, Chief Medical Officer of Varian, and Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD, FASTRO, who currently serves on the National Cancer Advisory Board. This session will focus on career trajectories in leadership outside the clinic and discuss the broad impact that radiation oncologists have in advancing oncology care nationally and globally.

2:00 p.m. - 3:35 p.m.
Our next session will feature a very popular jobs panel. Unlike years past, we are conducting two separate job panels: one dedicated to academic careers and the other to private practice. Given the overwhelming positive feedback of our career panel last year, this year’s panels aim to amplify the unique aspects of challenges and benefits of each career path.

3:35 p.m. - 4:25 p.m.
Our keynote session this year is titled “Communication as Partnership: Finding Common Ground with Our Patients” and will be led by Joshua Jones, MD, and Kavita Dharmarajan, MD. As a nod to the ASTRO meeting theme of “Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients,” this session will focus on teaching attendees new approaches to communication with patients to strengthen the physician-patient relationship even during the most difficult discussions.

4:25 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
And finally, no ARRO Day is complete without presentation of the annual ARRO Graduating Resident Survey results for the radiation oncology residency graduating class of 2023. This survey has played an integral role in helping residents understand the ever changing landscape of the radiation oncology job market in the U.S. and is eagerly awaited every year.

We are extremely grateful to the residents and attending radiation oncologists who make ARRO Day possible this year and are excited to once again see faces from across the country joining together in San Diego!
ATTENDEE AND EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

**Hall D Lobby, Ground Level**

**Attendee registration hours:**
- Saturday, September 30: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 1: 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 2: 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 3: 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 4: 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Exhibitor registration hours:**
- Thursday, September 28: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 29: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 30: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 1: 6:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 2: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 3: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**San Diego Convention Center**

111 Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101
www.visitsandiego.com

All activities take place at the San Diego Convention Center unless otherwise stated. All information is current as of August 7, 2023, and is subject to change. All listed times are in Pacific time. Visit the AM Portal at www.astro.org/AMportal or MyASTROApp for the latest program and schedule information.

**IMPORTANT!**

Online registration will be open and available throughout the meeting at the standard registration rates. We encourage registrants who will be attending the meeting in person to register online in advance prior to arriving to the San Diego Convention Center. This will save time and expedite your badge and registration material pickup on site. Once you have registered online, please proceed to the registration area, located in the Hall D Lobby at the San Diego Convention Center, to obtain your meeting credentials.

ASRT and SROA registrants who would like to attend ASTRO 2023 and have yet to register should proceed to the ASRT/SROA registration counter for assistance.

**AFFILIATED MEETINGS**

**2023 ASRT Radiation Therapy Conference (RTC)**
**October 1-3 | Manchester Grand Hyatt**

The American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) Radiation Therapy Conference (RTC) will take place at the Manchester Grand Hyatt. ASTRO-registered attendees may attend the Radiation Therapy Conference by paying a reduced registration fee. Proof of ASTRO Annual Meeting registration (registration confirmation or badge) is required to receive this reduced rate. For more information about the ASRT Radiation Therapy Conference and registration rates, visit www.asrt.org.

**2023 SROA Annual Meeting**
**October 1-4 | Westin Gaslamp Quarter**

The 2023 Annual Meeting of the Society for Radiation Oncology Administrators (SROA) will take place at the Westin Gaslamp Quarter. ASTRO-registered attendees may attend the SROA general sessions by paying a reduced registration fee. Proof of ASTRO Annual Meeting registration (registration confirmation or badge) is required to receive this reduced rate. For more information about the SROA Annual Meeting and registration rates, visit www.sroa.org.
ABSTRACTS AND EMBARGO POLICY

All abstracts to be presented and posters are embargoed until 2:00 p.m. Pacific time on Friday, September 29, 2023. For abstracts selected for oral presentation, information beyond what is included in the abstract, such as updated or additional results, is embargoed until the date and time of scientific presentation or presentation at an ASTRO news briefing, whichever occurs first. The embargo policy applies to all abstracts regardless of whether information is obtained from another source.

Embargo violations by media professionals may result in suspension of credentials at ASTRO’s Annual Meeting and may impact access to advance media materials for future meetings. Embargo violations by abstract authors and/or sponsors may result in removal of the abstract from the scientific program. Abstract authors are responsible for notifying financial and other sponsors about this embargo policy. Questions about the embargo policy may be directed to press@astro.org.

The full text of the abstracts selected for oral and poster presentation will be available online in the Annual Meeting Portal and MyASTROApp at 2:00 p.m. Pacific time on Friday, September 29, 2023. Abstracts also will be published in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology • Biology • Physics* (Red Journal) at that time.

ASTRO RESOURCE CENTER

ASTRO representatives will be available to answer questions about the Annual Meeting, ASTRO membership, continuing education, session and meeting evaluations and provide information on any of ASTRO’s products and services. They can also offer assistance with MyASTROApp and the Annual Meeting Portal. Badge ribbons will be available for pick up for 25-year members, APEX participants, RO-ILS participants and *ASTROnews* Editorial Board members.

**Hours of operation:**
- Saturday, September 30: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 1: 6:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 2: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 3: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 4: 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

ASTROmerch

ASTRO apparel and promotional items are for sale at the new ASTRO Store. Limited inventory is available on site with a larger selection available to order online. Stop by the ASTRO Store near the ASTRO Resource Center to purchase a vest or pullover to keep you comfy in the chilly meeting rooms or a water bottle to keep you hydrated during your yoga session! Additional items are available.

ASTRO ANNUAL MEETING CAREER FAIR

Employers and job seekers: Check out the ASTRO Career Center! Employers attending the Annual Meeting will want to take advantage of the updated Annual Meeting job posting and appointment scheduling features. Job seekers, be sure to post your résumé on the Career Center. Whether attending the Annual Meeting as an employer or a job seeker, don’t miss the opportunity to connect with potential candidates or your new employer!

ASTRO JOB BOARD

A job board is available near registration, off of Hall D Lobby. Employers who are attending the Annual Meeting can flag job postings online prior to the meeting and connect with job seekers on site. Copies of job postings will be available onsite. Job seekers may bring copies of their resumes to post on the on-site job board, in addition to posting it online.

ASTRO PRIVATE AND SEMI-PRIVATE INTERVIEW ROOMS

Private interview rooms are available for rent. These rooms are ideal if you have multiple interviews to conduct or prefer to interview applicants in a private setting. A limited number of private interview rooms are available for three-hour periods. For more information, contact Todd Karstaedt at todd.karstaedt@astro.org. On site, stop by the ASTRO Resource Center located in the Hall D Lobby to check availability. Also available this year are semi-private interview booths which can be scheduled on the ASTRO Career Center website.
ASTRO PAC POD
📍 Hall D Lobby, Ground Level
ASTRO's political action committee (PAC) pod allows members to get information on ASTRO’s advocacy and political giving, contribute on site and charge their electronic devices. ASTRO PAC provides ASTRO with the opportunity to more fully participate in the political process and ensure our members’ voices are being heard by key policymakers on Capitol Hill. Stop by the ASTRO PAC pod to get the most recent legislative updates. For more information, please email astropac@astro.org or visit www.astro.org/astropac.

Hours of operation:
Sunday, October 1 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday, October 2 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

ASTRO GAME ZONE
📍 Back of Hall C, Exhibit Hall
Back again! Need a brain break or just want to crush your colleague in spirited game of corn hole? The ASTRO Game Zone, sponsored by AstraZeneca, is a place for attendees and exhibitors to take a break from their day and have a little fun. There will be a variety of games offered in this area, and we invite you to come join in the fun!

ASTRO Bistro
The ASTRO Bistro will once again be offered in the Exhibit Hall. The Bistro menu includes buffet-style meals with different cuisine options offered each day. The ASTRO Bistro provides a comfortable place to eat, meet and network with colleagues and exhibitors. View a sample menu at www.astro.org/astrobistro.

ASTRO Bistro tickets are valid for lunch only on the day requested and are only redeemable at the ASTRO Bistro and cannot be used at other concessions within the San Diego Convention Center. Unredeemed ASTRO Bistro tickets cannot be used on the following day. ASTRO Bistro tickets are nonrefundable. Advance ticket purchase is strongly encouraged.

Location: Back of Hall G, Exhibit Hall
Dates: Sunday, October 1 - Tuesday, October 3, 2023
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
ASTRO Bistro Lunch Ticket (per person/day): $32

ASTRO Bistro tickets can be purchased online via the attendee registration process at www.astro.org/AMregister.

After Friday, September 22, ASTRO Bistro tickets are no longer available for advance purchase. A limited number of tickets may be available for purchase on site. Please inquire at the ASTRO Bistro for availability.

ASTRO EVENT CODE OF CONDUCT
ASTRO is committed to providing a professional, collegial, safe and respectful environment for all aspects of the Annual Meeting.


BUSINESS CENTER
📍 Hall D Lobby, Ground Level
A FedEx Store is conveniently located on the Ground Level of San Diego Convention Center. Here you can ship, mail, fax, copy or create last minute presentations. This location also has self-service computers and copiers. To contact the business center, please call 619-525-5450.

Hours of operation:
Saturday, September 30 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 1 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday, October 2 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 4 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING AND LUNCHEON
📍 Room 6A
Tuesday, October 3 | 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

ASTRO voting members (Active, Affiliate and International members) are invited to attend the Annual Business Meeting. Leaders of the Society will discuss topics of interest to ASTRO members. Lunch will be served.

Attendee General Safety Tips
All attendees are encouraged to follow general safety guidelines when traveling.

• Share your travel itinerary with someone you trust.
• Travel with a buddy throughout the city.
• Stay aware of your surroundings.
• Remove your Annual Meeting Badge when away from convention center.
• In case of emergency, dial 911. For convention center security and first aid, dial 619-525-5911 or extension 5911 from a house phone.
GENERAL INFORMATION

EARLY CAREER AND MENTORING LOUNGE
Room 10, Upper Level
A networking space for early career members to relax and connect with peers. One-on-one mentoring sessions may also take place here. On Tuesday afternoon, the room will hold the Speed Mentoring event.

EXHIBIT HALL
Halls B-G
Learn more about the latest products in cancer treatment and care in the Exhibit Hall.

Hours of operation:
- Sunday, October 1: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 2: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
  - Networking Reception: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 3: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

All registered attendees are invited to the Exhibit Hall Networking Reception hosted by ASTRO. This is a great opportunity for you to meet with industry partners over a beverage and refreshments while learning about the latest products, technology and services in cancer treatment and care. You will receive a beverage ticket on site when you check in to receive your registration materials.

EXHIBITOR PRODUCT INFORMATION
Your registration badge will include a scan code that contains your contact information. This code can be scanned by exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall, so that you may request information on products and services offered by the company. Your contact information will include your email address, unless you opted not to include it during the registration process. Please stop by Attendee Registration, located in the Hall D Lobby, if you would like to change your contact information.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY SERVICES
ASTRO welcomes caregivers and working parents along with their children to the Annual Meeting. We have compiled the following resources and information to assist with your family’s plans.

San Diego Attractions
San Diego is a unique destination for conventions that lends itself for either extending your stay or having your family accompany you. Explore the many fun and exciting family experiences in San Diego, such as the San Diego Zoo, Seaworld San Diego, beautiful beaches and the breathtaking natural surroundings!

Off-site Child Care Services
If you are traveling with your children and are in need of child care services during the day or evening, the following child care provider is available for in-room babysitting. Please contact the provider directly in advance to make your reservation.

Sitterwise
- Rates start at $30/hour with a four-hour minimum and 24-hour cancellation policy.
- All Sitterwise caregivers are hired on a referral basis only, are vetted by Sitterwise (including LiveScan fingerprinting) and are CPR and First Aid certified.
- All infants under the age of 12 months are assigned a baby specialist. This is a caregiver who has either raised children of her own or who has significant experience caring for infants.
- You can make your reservation directly online through at www.sitterwise.com or call directly at 619-663-4379.

Disclaimer
This resource is provided solely as information for the convenience of ASTRO Annual Meeting attendees and is based on information made publicly available on the internet. ASTRO does not endorse or recommend any specific child care provider or individual person, including any listed herein. ASTRO has not conducted any inspection of the child care providers listed and does not guarantee nor warranty, either express or implied, the accuracy, completeness, suitability or reliability of any child care providers or information associated therewith. ASTRO expressly disclaims any and all responsibility for any current or future problems that may arise with regard to child care. All ASTRO Annual Meeting attendees are encouraged to exercise their own good judgment when evaluating a child care provider.
At the Meeting
Because of the nature of the programs and forums, no one under the age of 18 will be admitted to any official ASTRO function without first being registered by their parent or guardian. There is no fee to register a child accompanying an adult on site. Children and caregivers will need to be registered at the on-site registration counter at the San Diego Convention Center. All attendees must adhere to the Annual Meeting Attendee Policies which are available online at www.astro.org/policies.

Strollers, baby carriers or similar devices are permitted in meeting rooms and the Exhibit Hall as long as they do not block aisles or emergency exits. Parents/guardians who bring children into meeting sessions, the Posters or Exhibit Hall, or any other meeting functions or areas are asked to help maintain a professional, disturbance-free environment. Children must be supervised at all times.

Mother’s Lounge
Room 21, Upper Level
For nursing mothers, please feel free to use the Mother’s Lounge located in Room 21 on the upper level of the San Diego Convention Center.

Meditation Room
Room 27A, Upper Level
In need of a quiet place to meditate or pray? A Meditation Room will be available in Room 27A on the upper level of the San Diego Convention Center.

FACULTY/VIP OFFICE
Room 23 B/C, Upper Level
Faculty members and VIPs should check in at the Faculty/VIP Office to pick up registration materials and receive last-minute updates and program changes. The Faculty/VIP Office is conveniently located next to the Speaker Ready Room. Faculty and VIPs are welcome in the Faculty/VIP Office throughout the meeting.

Faculty and VIPs include:
• Educational session chairs and speakers
• Panel moderators and speakers
• Scientific program moderators and discussants
• Presidential Symposium speakers
• Keynote speakers and introducers
• International symposium speakers
• 2023 ASTRO Fellows
• 2023 ASTRO Gold Medalists
• 2023 ASTRO Mentorship Awardees

Note: Presenters of abstracts, including poster presenters, are not classified as faculty and should follow attendee registration instructions.

Hours of operation:
Saturday, September 30 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 1 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday, October 2 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 4 7:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

FIRST AID
Box Office E, Ground Level
For First Aid and Building Emergency, dial 619-525-5911, or extension 5911 from a house phone. First Aid is located in Box Office E at the San Diego Convention Center. In an emergency, please dial 619-525-5911 to contact First Aid or go to ASTRO Registration, located in Hall D Lobby, and have a staff person contact security.

Hours of operation:
Monday, September 25 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 26 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, September 27 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, September 28 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Friday, September 29 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 30 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 1 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday, October 2 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Wednesday, October 4 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 5 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

LOST AND FOUND
ASTRO Resource Center, Hall D Lobby, Ground Level
To report a missing item, check if an item has been turned in to security or turn in a lost item, stop by the ASTRO Resource Center located in the Main Lobby.

Hours of operation:
Saturday, September 30 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 1 6:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday, October 2 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 4 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
GENERAL INFORMATION

LUGGAGE/CLOTHS CHECK

Hall D Lobby, Ground Level

Luggage and coat check will be available at the San Diego Convention Center in the Hall D Lobby on the Ground Level.

Hours of operation:
- Saturday, September 30: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 1: 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, October 2: 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 3: 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 4: 7:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

NEWS BRIEFINGS AND PRESS OFFICE

Rooms 25 B/C and 26, Upper Level

Registered media professionals are provided with press materials and access to cover ASTRO’s Annual Meeting. ASTRO news briefings will highlight abstracts presented at the Annual Meeting and topical issues that impact cancer care. For more information about ASTRO’s press program, news briefings and press policies, visit www.astro.org/annualmeetingpress or email press@astro.org.

PARKING

There is an underground parking garage at the San Diego Convention Center managed by ACE parking. You can enter the parking garage on Harbor Drive. There are no in-and-out privileges. Overnight and RV parking are not permitted. Parking rates range based on event activity and payment is due upon entry. ACE Parking sets the rates.

Please note that ASTRO does not validate for parking. Parking rates are subject to change at any time.

POSTERS

Hall B2

Over 1,600 posters will be presented at this year’s meeting. Poster Q&A sessions will provide all presenters with five minutes for individual presentation and Q&A followed by open Q&A time for all presenters. Poster Q&A sessions will only be included as part of the in-person program. However, all poster authors are encouraged to add audio narration to their posters, so virtual meeting attendees can listen to these presentations and ask questions through the Virtual Poster Library.

Attendees are encouraged to view and listen to narrated posters prior to attending Poster Q&A sessions and come to sessions with questions for presenters. Posters can be viewed on the AM Portal at www.astro.org/AMPortal and MyASTROApp, as well as the ASTRO website.

POSTER PRESENTER CONCIERGE

Hall B2

Poster Q&A presenters may check in at the Concierge Desk, located in Hall B2, 24 hours prior to their presentation time. Staff will be available to assist presenters with uploading any last-minute changes and to help presenters find their assigned station.

MyASTROApp

Your Annual Meeting Resource

MyASTROApp, the official ASTRO 2023 meeting app, provides you with access to the meeting program and the ability to customize your meeting experience with maps and planners. You can search sessions by day, track, session type or speaker; search exhibitors by name or product/service category and locate them on the Exhibit Hall floor plan; view abstracts and posters and listen to narration and much more!

MyASTROApp is integrated with the Annual Meeting (AM) Portal (www.astro.org/AMPortal), so you can start your planning early. On the AM Portal, you can add sessions to your schedule and bookmark exhibitors, abstracts and posters. MyASTROApp is available for iOS and Android devices and can be downloaded from your device’s app store.

MyASTROApp login instructions

- Search for MyASTROApp.
- Select ASTRO 2023 under Latest events.
- Log in using your ASTRO.org credentials (email address and password).
- If you do not know your password, select Forgot Password.

Download in advance of arrival in San Diego to get organized.
POSTER Q&A SESSIONS
Poster Q&A sessions are in person only and will not be livestreamed or available onDemand.

Sunday, October 1
Poster Q&A Session 1 | 4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Lung Cancer and DEIH

Monday, October 2
Poster Q&A Session 2 | 10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Central Nervous System and Palliative Care
Poster Q&A Session 3 | 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Breast Cancer and Nonmalignant Disease
Poster Q&A Session 4 | 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Biology and PRO

Tuesday, October 3
Poster Q&A Session 5 | 12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Gastrointestinal Cancer and Sarcoma
Poster Q&A Session 6 | 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Genitourinary Cancer, Patient Safety, and Nursing
Poster Q&A Session 7 | 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Hematologic Malignancies and Digital Health Innovation
Poster Q&A Session 8 | 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Gynecological Cancer, Pediatric Cancer, and Professional Development

Wednesday, October 4
Poster Q&A Session 9 | 10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Head & Neck Cancer and Health Services Research
Poster Q&A Session 10 | 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Physics

ROhub ANNUAL MEETING COMMUNITY
The Annual Meeting community on the ROhub brings you the latest news and updates leading up to the meeting through daily emails. Upon registration, full meeting attendees in-person and virtual, are added to the community and will receive emails of recent posts and activity. Visit the community to interact with fellow attendees and presenters, ask questions about the meeting, gain insights from presenters and more!

Hall E Lobby, Ground Level

The Radiation Oncology Institute (ROI) — ASTRO’s Research Foundation — accelerates radiotherapy research to improve the outcomes for cancer patients. Learn about available grants and awards and discover how you can join our team by becoming a monthly or annual donor at the ROI booth. As a 501c3 charity, the work of ROI is only made possible with the generosity of those who are passionate about the impact of radiotherapy.

Registration and bib pick-up for the ROI 5k are available at the ROI booth!

Hours of operation:
Sunday, October 1 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday, October 2 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Get your running (or walking!) shoes ready and join hundreds of your colleagues for a fun event during the ASTRO Annual Meeting! Whether you challenge yourself or join a team, you’ll enjoy a beautiful morning along the San Diego waterfront.

Tuesday, October 3, 2023
Start time: 7:00 a.m.
Race Start/Finish: Bayfront Park in front of the Hilton Bayfront
Route: A beautiful route along the Embarcadero

All funds raised will benefit the Radiation Oncology Institute (ROI) - ASTRO's research foundation. Register at www.ROInstitute.org/5k
SCIENCE HIGHLIGHTS
These sessions will highlight important abstracts in six disease site tracks. Expert discussants will provide an overview of three to five of the top-rated abstracts, highlighting clinically applicable information and comparing the abstracts with similar studies.

Monday, October 2  |  8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Science Highlights 1: Central Nervous System  
Room 6 C/F
Science Highlights 2: Breast  
Room 6 D/E

Tuesday, October 3  |  8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Science Highlights 3: Head and Neck Cancer  
Room 1
Science Highlights 4: Genitourinary Cancer  
Room 6 D/E

Wednesday, October 4  |  8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Science Highlights 5: GI: Understanding Toxicities, Optimizing Dose, and CROSSing the Threshold for Immune Therapy  
Room 5
Science Highlights 6: Lung Cancer/Thoracic Malignancies  
Room 31

ORAL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS
There are 37 Oral Scientific Sessions, labeled as SS 01 – SS 37. These are 60- or 75-minute sessions where abstract presenters have seven minutes to discuss their study, followed by three minutes of Q&A with the audience. Oral Scientific Sessions are organized by disease site and include radiation physics, radiation biology, palliative care, patient reported outcomes/quality of life/survivorship, pediatrics and digital health innovation and informatics. Oral Scientific Sessions are scheduled throughout the meeting and run concurrently with the other session types, such as the Education and Panel sessions.

QUICK PITCH SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS
Quick Pitch Scientific Sessions, labeled as QP 01 – QP 24, are oral scientific presentation sessions formatted with an introduction by the moderator and short presentations by abstract presenters followed by a moderated Q&A period between presenters and the audience, ending with a brief closing by the moderator. Abstract presentations will be quick — five minutes with five slides — including any important “take-aways.”

SMOKING
The San Diego Convention Center is a nonsmoking facility.

SPEAKER READY ROOM
Room 24, Upper Level
Faculty members and abstract presenters should upload their PowerPoint presentations in advance of their sessions through the online Speaker Center by Tuesday, September 26 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific time. To ensure presentations have been properly uploaded, faculty members and abstract presenters MUST check in at the Speaker Ready Room upon arrival to the San Diego Convention Center to review their presentation and make any last-minute edits. Presentations received less than 24 hours prior to presentation are at the risk of having AV difficulties that are outside of ASTRO’s control.

Hours of operation:
Saturday, September 30 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 1 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday, October 2 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 4  7:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

SPEED MENTORING
Tuesday, October 3, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Room 10, Upper Level
Speed Mentoring is a series of short, focused conversations on specific topics. You can rotate to different mentors during the allotted time period. ASTRO will invite mentor volunteers to staff tables to discuss assigned topics. A ticket is not required to participate in Speed Mentoring.

FOLLOW ASTRO
Follow ASTRO on social media for all the latest updates and announcements during the Annual Meeting. Use the hashtag #ASTRO23 on all your posts and to follow discussions. The #ASTRO23 Social Champions will be announced in September. Find out more about our social media policies and use of hashtags at astro.org/About-ASTRO/Social-Media.

@ASTRO_org, @ASTRO_Chair and @RO_Institute
@ASTRO_org and @RT_Answers (new!)
@AmericanSocietyforRadiationOncology
@american-society-for-radiation-oncology
ASTROTargetingCancer and RTAnswers
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SUNRISE YOGA
Sunday, October 1 – Tuesday, October 3
6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
Hilton San Diego Bayfront Promenade
Take time to relax and recharge! ASTRO will host complimentary sunrise yoga classes from Sunday, October 1 to Tuesday, October 3. Enjoy the beautiful outdoors as you center yourself in preparation for the upcoming day, both mentally and physically. Each class is limited to 50 people and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Mats will be provided for each student by the instructor.

SURVIVOR CIRCLE
Hall D Lobby, Ground Level
Stop by the Survivor Circle booth to meet this year’s recipients of the Survivor Circle Grants: Breast Cancer Angels and Cancer Support Community Los Angeles. While you are there, fold an origami crane. Help us reach our goal of 1,000 cranes and make a wish for the comfort and healing of our cancer patients.

*Survivor Circles grants are generously funded by Annual Meeting Promotional Sponsors.

TRANSPORTATION
San Diego offers a variety of convenient transportation options to help attendees easily get around the city. For more information, visit www.astro.org/travel.

Rental Car Reservations
Avis Rent-A-Car
Avis is offering ASTRO attendees special rates on car rentals during the Annual Meeting. To reserve your Avis rental car, call 1-800-331-1600. Be sure to mention the Avis Worldwide Discount number, J657704, when making your reservation.

To and From the Airport
San Diego International Airport (SAN) is approximately three miles and is 10-15 minutes from the San Diego Convention Center. The MTS Trolly is the public transportation system that offers stops at the convention center and other areas outside of downtown San Diego. Visit https://www.sdmts.com/ for more information.

Taxi
On average, a one-way taxi ride from the San Diego International Airport (SAN) to the San Diego Convention Center is approximately $15-$20 (gratuity not included).

Ride Sharing
San Diego has a multitude of rideshare car service options, such as Uber or Lyft.

FRED: Free Ride Everywhere Downtown
A unique form of transport in San Diego is the electric, open-air vehicles called FRED (Free Ride Everywhere Downtown). This completely free service works through a mobile app and can be a great option if the pick-up times align with your schedule. Download the Ride Circuit app to request a ride. Hours of operation can be found at www.ridecircuit.com/fred.

WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS
Complimentary wireless internet access is provided in all common areas, session rooms and the Exhibit Hall. Laptops must have a Wi-Fi card to connect.

ASTRO SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE
ASTRO is committed to doing its part to mitigate the effects of climate change on patient care and promote environmental sustainability practices within our field. While we recognize that face-to-face events offer a valuable way for our specialty to connect and network in person, we also understand the importance of organizing an Annual Meeting that is environmentally and socially responsible. Scan the QR code to learn more about ASTRO’s green initiatives and how you can help lessen your environmental footprint while attending ASTRO 2023.

UNRESTRICTED EDUCATIONAL GRANT SUPPORTERS
As of August 8, 2023
Merck & Co., Inc
Novocure
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<tr>
<th>Map Location</th>
<th>Hotel</th>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>Collection</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Pendry San Diego</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Westin San Diego Bayview</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Westin San Diego Gaslamp Quarter</td>
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**SHUTTLE SERVICE TO SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER**

This is preliminary information only, which is subject to change at any time without notice. Please refer to the sign in your hotel lobby for updated information.

**Hours of operation:**
Service will operate every 20 minutes.

- **Saturday, September 30**: 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, October 1**: 6:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- **Monday, October 2**: 6:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, October 3**: 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday, October 4**: 7:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**Hotels and Boarding Locations**

All travel times are approximate pending time of day, day of week and traffic conditions.

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<td>Curbside Harbor Drive by driveway exit</td>
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<td>US Grant, The, A Luxury Collection Hotel</td>
<td>Curbside 4th Ave Entrance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Westin San Diego Bayview</td>
<td>Curbside Broadway at Columbia Street</td>
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<td>Westin San Diego Gaslamp Quarter</td>
<td>Curbside 1st Ave Near Lobby</td>
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**Walk**
- Courtyard San Diego Gaslamp
- Hard Rock Hotel San Diego
- Hilton San Diego Bayfront
- Hilton San Diego Gaslamp
- Horton Grand Hotel
- Hotel Z – A Staypineapple Hotel
- Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina
- Margaritaville Hotel San Diego, formerly Solamar San Diego Hotel
- Omni San Diego Hotel
- Pendry San Diego
- Residence Inn by Marriott Gaslamp
- San Diego Marriott Gaslamp Quarter

Hotels are located within walking distance to the San Diego Convention Center.

*Guests attending the ASRT Radiation Therapy Conference may walk to the convention center or ride the appropriate ASTRO shuttle route to/from the convention center, which is located 5 blocks from the Manchester Grand Hyatt.*
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INDUSTRY-EXPERT THEATER

This activity allows companies to present their noteworthy products and services through live presentations. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Attend the Industry-Expert Theaters in the back of Exhibit C and Room 28 AB, Upper Level during the times below. IETs are not available onDemand through the ASTRO Annual Meeting Portal, however, some sessions may be livestreamed through Zoom on the ASTRO website at www.astro.org/AMIET.

Lunch or other food and beverages may be provided by the companies, which may subject you to reporting under the Federal Sunshine Act (the Open Payments Program) or other state laws. Otherwise, food may be available for purchase prior to the start of an event in the concessions area.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023

- **Theater 1**
  12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
  Blue Earth Diagnostics, Inc.
  POSLUMA: Precision PET Imaging that is Truly Revealing

- **Theater 2**
  12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
  AstraZeneca
  Optimizing CRT

- **Theater 1**
  2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
  Accuray Incorporated
  Expert Encounters: A Live Debate on the Merits and Controversies of SBRT and ADT in the Management of Prostate Cancer

- **Theater 2**
  2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
  Palette Life Sciences
  Why Data Matters: New Findings from the Barrigel Clinical Trial

Visit www.astro.org/amiET for the most current schedule and company contact information.

The Industry-Expert Theater content and views expressed therein are those of the companies and not of ASTRO.

*Current as of August 9, 2023

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023

- **Theater 1**
  12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
  Boston Scientific
  Current Controversies in Prostate Cancer Perirectal Gel Spacing

- **Theater 2**
  12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
  GammaTile
  Improving Local Control of Brain Tumors with Surgically Targeted Radiation Therapy (STaRT): A GammaTile Overview

- **Room 28 AB, Upper Level**
  12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
  Lantheus
  PSMA PET in Prostate Cancer: A Case-Based Discussion Case Study Review

- **Theater 1**
  2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
  Philips
  Innovation in Practice: Philips Delivers Precise, Adaptive and Personalized Care Solutions to Radiotherapy

- **Theater 2**
  2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
  Novartis Pharmaceutical Corporation
  Title: TBD

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2023

- **Room 28 AB, Upper Level**
  12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
  Novartis Pharmaceutical Corporation
  Understanding PSMA Imaging
INDUSTRY SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

The American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) has reviewed and approved these symposia for presentation. These symposia represent the content and views of the supporters and are not part of the official ASTRO Annual Meeting. ISSs are not livestreamed or available onDemand through the ASTRO Annual Meeting Portal.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1
6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.: Registration and Dinner
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.: Symposium

Tumor-Treating Fields as an Innovative Modality of Cancer Therapy: From CNS to Thoracic Malignancies and Beyond

Location: Hilton San Diego Bayfront
Indigo Ballroom BC
1 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA

For more information or to register, please visit https://PeerView.com/SanDiego23-Live

CME Credits:
Physicians
PVI, PeerView Institute for Medical Education, designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Physician Assistants
PVI, PeerView Institute for Medical Education, has been authorized by the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 1.5 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

Target Audience: This activity has been designed to meet the educational needs of radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, neuro-oncologists, advanced practice clinicians, and other healthcare professionals involved in the management of solid tumors.

This activity is supported by an educational grant from Novocure, Inc.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Dinner and registration will begin at 6:30 p.m.
CME-Accredited Symposium

Revolutionary Approaches to Improve Therapeutic Results in Unresectable Locally Advanced Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck

Location: Manchester Grand-Hyatt San Diego
Hillcrest ABCD
1 Market Place
San Diego, CA


CME Credits: Global Learning Collaborative designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Target Audience: This activity is designed to meet the educational needs of medical oncologists, pathologists, radiation oncologists, and other healthcare professionals treating patients with head and neck cancers.

This activity is supported by an independent educational grant from EMD Serono, Inc. EMD Serono, Inc. is the Healthcare business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

For complete details on the ISSs, including learning objectives and scheduled presenters, please visit www.astro.org/amlISS.

*Current as of August 7, 2023
Each patient is unique, each condition complex, each journey its own.

Discover your home for smart, personalized cancer care.

A unified software experience designed to help you keep pace with fast-changing technology and ultimately do more for your patients.

Elekta ONE™
Designed to do more
OLIVER SARTOR, MD:
The 2023 ASTRO Honorary Member

BY JENNIFER JANG, ASTRO COMMUNICATIONS

ASTRO HAS NAMED OLIVER SARTOR, MD, as the 2023 ASTRO Honorary Member. Dr. Sartor is the Director, Radiopharmaceutical Trials at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and was most recently the Laborde Professor of Medicine and Urology at Tulane University School of Medicine and Medical Director of the Tulane Cancer Center. ASTRO recognized him for his outstanding contributions to the development of new therapies for prostate cancer, especially “through his leadership of practice changing radiopharmaceutical clinical trials.”

Dr. Sartor has published over 500 articles, many showcasing his contribution to new therapies for prostate cancer. The radiopharmaceutical therapy (RPT) aspect of his career began in 1989, when he joined a team at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) focusing on new protocols for treating prostate cancer.

A pivotal moment occurred in 1993 upon meeting Bill Goecckeler, PhD, a nuclear chemist and patent holder for Samarium-153-EDTMP. He demonstrated how a radioactive particle could be sent to the bony metastasis and radiate the bone where the cancer was located, and Dr. Sartor began to consider how this could be applied to prostate cancer. The two combined their expertise, designing a trial that ultimately led to FDA approval for Samarium-153-EDTMP for prostate cancer treatment.

That was the beginning of Dr. Sartor’s journey exploring the potential of targeted radiation, including looking at alpha emitters that had not been medically used before and had advantages over beta emitters. Dr. Sartor designed radium-223 trials, observing that radium localized to the matrix produced in excess in prostate cancer. However, what Dr. Sartor determined was more necessary was a targeted therapy that would treat the cancer, not just the microenvironment.

Work that was based in Heidelberg caught his attention, where a pharmaceutical had put together PSMA-targeted RPTs, leading to the VISION trial that revealed the benefits of a tumor-binding RPT. The drug Pluvicto binds to PSMA and can be administered before chemo. Further research helped establish the concept that micro-targeted radiation can improve survival.

Alongside his professorship, Dr. Sartor is also involved with NRG Oncology and its predecessor RTOG since 2006. Dr. Sartor shared his thoughts on this year’s theme of Pay it Forward: Partnering with Our Patients, sharing that “The patients truly are our partners. We work on their behalf...Working with them is our privilege, our responsibility, and an inspiration. It’s their lives and health that we hope to impact in a positive way.”

Read more about Dr. Sartor: www.astro.org/AMG23.

2023 ASTRO Mentorship Award

THE ASTRO MENTORSHIP AWARD recognizes extraordinary role models in the field who have excelled as mentors through their commitment to the professional development of their mentees as clinicians, educators and researchers. Mentors play a critical role in the development of the next generation of radiation oncologists and radiation scientists. The award conveys ASTRO’s commitment to fostering the next generation by recognizing individuals who have dedicated their time, energy and expertise to support the careers of others.

Congratulations to the 2023 ASTRO Mentorship Award recipients: Fei-Fei Liu, MD, FASTRO, Scientific Director, Institute of Cancer Research at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and former chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Toronto and chief of the Radiation Medicine Program at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre; Phuoc Tran, MD, PhD, professor of radiation oncology and vice chair for research, University of Maryland; and Paul Harari, MD, FASTRO, professor and chair of the University of Wisconsin Department of Human Oncology in the School of Medicine and Public Health.
TWENTY-NINE DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) have been named Fellows of ASTRO. The ASTRO Fellow designation, or FASTRO, honors members who have given significant volunteer service to the Society and contributed to the field of radiation oncology in the areas of research, education, patient care or leadership. Typically, 15 years of ASTRO membership are required for consideration, however, individuals with less than 15 years of membership who have demonstrated substantial service to the Society may be considered for fellowship. Active, International and Emeritus members are eligible for nomination by current ASTRO Fellows and supported by leaders in the field. ASTRO is proud to announce the 2023 Class of ASTRO Fellows:

- **Thomas Boike, MD**, GenesisCare/MPH Radiation Oncology Institute, Troy, Michigan
- **Kristy K. Brock, PhD**, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas
- **David J. Carlson, PhD**, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut
- **Samuel T. Chao, MD**, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio
- **Christopher Chen, MD**, GenesisCare, Plantation, Florida
- **John P. Einck, MD**, The University of Kansas Health System, Kansas City, Kansas
- **Natia Esiashvili, MD**, Emory Winship Cancer Institute, Atlanta, Georgia
- **Dwight E. Heron, MD, MBA**, Bon Secours Mercy Health System, Youngstown, Ohio
- **Bradford Hoppe, MD, MPH**, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida
- **Ellen Jones, MD, PhD**, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- **Percy Lee, MD**, City of Hope National Medical Center, Irvine, California
- **Join Yang Luh, MD**, Providence Health St. Joseph Hospital, Eureka, California
- **Harvey Mamon, MD, PhD**, Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Brigham Cancer Center, Boston, Massachusetts
- **Loren K. Mell, MD**, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, California
- **Moyed Miften, PhD**, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado
- **Laeton J. Pang, MD, MPH**, The Cancer Center of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii
- **Joshua Petit, MD**, University of Colorado Health, Fort Collins, Colorado
- **Matthew Poppe, MD**, Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
- **Bradley Prestidge, MD, MS**, Bradley R. Prestidge MD PA, Spring, Texas
- **Charles B. Simone II, MD**, New York Proton Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York
- **Anurag K. Singh, MD**, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, New York
- **Jon F. Strasser, MD**, Radiation Oncologists, PA, Helen F. Graham Cancer Center, Christiana Care, Wilmington, Delaware
- **Rahul Tendulkar, MD**, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio
- **Tony Wang, MD**, Columbia University, New York, New York
- **Henning Willers, MD**, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts
- **Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD**, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee
- **Jean L. Wright, MD**, Johns Hopkins University, Washington, DC
- **Lei Xing, PhD**, Stanford University, Stanford, California
- **James B. Yu, MD, MHS**, Connecticut Radiation Oncology, Hartford, Connecticut

The 2023 Fellows will be recognized during the Awards Ceremony on October 3. Nominations for 2024 ASTRO Fellow will be accepted immediately following the 2023 ASTRO Annual Meeting through May 3, 2024.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 ASTRO GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENTS, Najeeb Mohideen, MD, FASTRO, Simon Powell, MD, PhD, FASTRO, and Randall K. Ten Haken, PhD, FASTRO, who join the revered class in receiving ASTRO’s highest honor. Awarded annually, ASTRO Gold Medal winners represent a premium class of leaders who contributed to the field through their clinical patient care, research, teaching, mentorship and service.

Najeeb Mohideen, MD, FASTRO, is a radiation oncologist at Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights, Illinois. A long-standing active member of ASTRO, much of his work occurs behind the scenes. Whether advocating for fair compensation or planning the Practical Radiation Oncology track for the Annual Meeting or brainstorming the next topic for ASTROnews, Dr. Mohideen’s influence on the field is monumental. As one of his peers put it, “Never was so much owed by so many (our entire specialty) to an individual.”

Dr. Mohideen grew up in Kerala, India, where encouragement from his mother pointed him in the direction of a career in medicine. He earned his MBBS from the Armed Forces Medical College in Pune, India. A family history of cancers diverted his interest to the field, and he spent two years as a Post Graduate Resident in Radiotherapy and Oncology at the Regional Cancer Center, Government Medical College, Trivandrum, under the mentorship of Dr. M. Krishnan Nair, “a doyen of cancer care.” Dr. Nair started the department in Trivandrum after training at Christie Hospital in Manchester, United Kingdom (UK). Dr. Mohideen followed Dr. Nair’s path to the UK to further study oncology in Cardiff and Leeds, acquiring his fellowship in Clinical Oncology (FRCR).

Dr. Mohideen then moved to the United States to pursue research opportunities. He completed a residency in radiation oncology at Loyola University and joined the faculty there for eight years, rising to Associate Professor, before joining Northwest Community Hospital in 2005, where he continues to practice. “I truly love my job and the challenges that it gives me. I like to help people and have the privilege to meet and get to know some incredibly brave people at a challenging time in their lives. We are so fortunate to have the training to use some really powerful tools to help cure or palliate their disease.”

Dr. Mohideen was integral in helping shape the fiscal status of radiation oncology. Much of his work in the early 2000s was behind the scenes through his role as the radiation oncology advisor for the AMA’s Relative Value Update Committee (RUC). As a peer stated, “[Dr. Mohideen’s] ability to negotiate without appearing pretentious or sanctimonious…led to an admiration that bordered on reverence at the RUC table.” Another describes his “tireless efforts and talents as a skillful negotiator and ambassador for our field.” A partial list of accomplishments at the RUC include bringing to the specialty SBRT treatment management and delivery, 4-D simulation, and revaluation of IMRT, bringing stabilization to the compensation platform. Never one to take credit without first acknowledging the team he works alongside, Dr. Mohideen reflected on one of the highlights of his time on the RUC: “It’s the teamwork involved in creating and valuing the SBRT codes, including physician management. Like IMRT, it has transformed our field and enabled access to this technology across the nation to help many patients. It’s rewarding when you have research, clinical trials, advocacy and health policy come together to positively impact patient care.”

Dr. Mohideen served on the RUC in this all-encompassing role for a record 10 years and continues to advise on and be an active member of many health policy committees for ASTRO. He was chair of the ASTRO Health Committee and then the Health Policy Council, serving on the ASTRO Board of Directors from 2009 to 2013. “I always had an interest in health equity and policy. The two go together — when you have good health policy, health care is available for more people and there is better health and quality overall.”
In addition to his many roles within ASTRO, he is current chairman and long-time member of the Board of Directors at The Radiosurgery Society, served as Economic Committee Chair of the Commission on Radiation Oncology for the American College of Radiology, is an active member of the Medicare Evidence Development and Coverage Advisory Committee (MEDCAC) at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and, since 2016, has served as the Senior Editor of ASTROnews.

As senior editor, Dr. Mohideen set out to address key issues impacting the field “through the lens of very different perspectives to generate a discussion on the progress and future of our specialty.” He’s been applauded by peers for leading the charge for inclusiveness and equity long before high-profile tragedies raised the collective awareness of racial inequities with the proactive, forward-thinking 2018 issue, “Thoughts and Reflections on Diversity in Radiation Oncology.” He expanded the editorial board to be more diverse, including international representation, and sought authors from varying backgrounds to bring different perspectives. “It has been so rewarding to get feedback on many of these issues both positive and negative; it tells me that we are a vibrant, thoughtful specialty who care deeply about our patients and the society we all live in.”

Another long-lasting impact was leading the development of the Practical Radiation Oncology track at the ASTRO Annual Meeting. Dr. Mohideen served as inaugural chair of the task force from 2018 to 2020. Now in its sixth year, this weekend program for community-based practitioners and academicians who cannot attend the full meeting has created a sense of camaraderie and engagement.

Dr. Mohideen has received many accolades: two-time recipient of ARRO’s Teacher of the Year award, ASTRO Fellow in 2014 and Fellow of the American College of Radiology in 2015, among others. He has mentored countless students and made a lasting impact on colleagues.

“I love working with the next generation. I am excited about the future of our field and the amazing talent that we have,” Dr. Mohideen remarked when discussing what’s next. “Both technology and biology will advance to help us treat patients more effectively and safely and there will be increasing use of AI and big data. We need to underscore the need for radiation oncologists to be central to multidisciplinary care.” He’s concerned cancer will pose an enormous and growing challenge to health care systems worldwide. Disparities need to be addressed and diversity needs to be promoted. Leaders like Dr. Mohideen influence the next generation, especially through the humble and visionary perspective by which he helps shape the future.

Simon Powell, MD, PhD, FASTRO, chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology and an attending radiation oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering in New York City, is a world-renowned physician-scientist, internationally recognized for his research in the genetics and molecular biology of DNA repair and the application of this to clinical radiation oncology. Dr. Powell is also a highly respected leader and representative of the specialty, mentor to many and an active volunteer to ASTRO.

Dr. Powell originally hails from Manchester, England. He received his undergraduate and master’s from the University of Oxford followed by his MBBS from the University of London, where he also went on to receive a PhD in cell and molecular radiation biology. Under the tutelage of Michael Peckham, a professor of oncology at the Royal Marsden Hospital, Dr. Powell decided to shift his initial focus of neuroscience to oncology. “My medical student elective with Michael Peckham was undoubtedly the turning point,” said Dr. Powell. “Although he was head of an academic department of radiotherapy, there was an extensive component of chemotherapy in the department’s work, since the specialized practice of the group grew from treating testicular tumors and lymphomas.”

After completing his PhD, Dr. Powell was recruited by the late Herman Suit, MD, FASTRO, to complete a fellowship in radiation oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He secured an R01 and over the course of 12 years, established his research laboratory in DNA repair and moved up the faculty ranks to associate professor. In 2004, Dr. Powell became professor and head of radiation oncology at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. In 2008, Dr. Powell was recruited as professor and to lead the Department of Radiation Oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where he continues to practice and teach today.

Dr. Powell is lauded as a preeminent physician-scientist and his portfolio includes more than 240 publications on DNA repair, cell-cycle control and radiation therapy. His research provides a direct link to the basic sciences and the translational research that

Continued on following page
impacts patients daily. When looking back at the years, he summarizes: “In the 1980s, the detailed biology of how radiation killed cancer cells was still quite limited, and while radiosensitive cells had been identified, the reason for their sensitivity was still largely unsolved. The 1990s led to an explosion of gene cloning and understanding the mechanisms of DNA double-strand break repair, which has been the focus of my laboratory and translational research for more than 30 years. DNA double-strand break repair is not limited to radiation repair. It is a relevant mechanism of carcinogenesis, exemplified by BRCA1/BRCA2 genes, as well as required in the repair of a number of cytotoxic drugs (e.g., cisplatin, etoposide, doxorubicin).”

More specifically, Dr. Powell’s translational studies revealed a number of early observations on the role of BRCA1 and BRCA2 in modulating DNA repair induced by radiation. These findings have been translated from the lab into clinical trials for women with breast cancer, including ongoing evaluations of DNA repair as a marker of response in women with triple negative breast cancer. His work influences not just radiation oncology, but all cancer research and has influenced the design of clinical trials at multiple institutions. Dr. Powell's leadership in the field is demonstrated in his role as the Principal Investigator (PI) of the NCI’s Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) grant in breast cancer. As a peer remarked, it is rare to have a radiation oncologist as PI on a SPORE grant and “a visible reflection of the key role our field plays in oncologic research and the accomplishments our researchers can provide.” Dr. Powell’s reputation as both a researcher and respected leader in oncology led to this accomplishment.

Inside and out of the lab, Dr. Powell has mentored countless trainees, influencing the next generation of radiation oncologists. Many of his mentees now lead their own departments and programs, contributing to both research and clinical disciplines in radiation oncology. When considering the future, he believes much improvement remains in the delivery of radiation therapy — to make each radiation plan more precise to the individual tumor of the patient. Combinations of radiation therapy with cytotoxic chemotherapy or biological therapy or immunotherapy can be fine-tuned to genotype and phenotype of the tumor, which includes the tumor microenvironment. Improved precision radiation oncology will enlarge the therapeutic ratio: better tumor control and less side effects. He views another exciting and growing research area in the increasing role of radionuclides conjugated to antibody or ligand-based targeting. As he mentors, he encourages radiation oncologists to be involved, since they are the only specialists who understand radiobiology, an area of increasing importance to optimize effectiveness.

He has been heavily involved in modernizing board exams through his role on the Radiation Biology Section with the ABR and increasing the scientific footprint of ASTRO’s Annual Meetings and specialty meetings and workshops.

Dr. Powell is described by ASTRO peers as “a clinical leader in our own community, a scientific leader in the broader oncologic community, and a mentor to a whole new generation of investigators.” Not surprisingly, he views the Gold Medal as “a wonderful culmination to [his] career in radiation oncology.” He was honored to be linked to all the previous awardees of the Gold Medal and hopes to continue to spread the mindset that “asking important questions is the best way to move the field forward.” This inquisitive spirit is present in his many other involvements, including as a long-standing volunteer both within ASTRO and many other professional organizations, including the Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom, ESTRO, and the Radiation Research Society. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Radiologists of the United Kingdom and received ASTRO Fellow designation in 2014. He is also an active member of the ASTROnews Editorial Board, helping shape each issue by providing insights and guidance on topics relevant to the field.

Dr. Powell’s influence has raised the profile of radiation oncology, whether through his leadership at MSKCC, his work in the lab or with his many mentees, his impact is felt throughout the specialty.

A Wisconsin native, from the outset Randall K. Ten Haken, PhD, FASTRO, always had an enthusiasm for science, as evinced by an undergraduate degree in applied math and engineering physics at the University of Wisconsin, followed by a PhD in experimental nuclear physics. An accelerator was located in the lab where he did experiments in nuclear physics, and another physicist spent time there making PET isotopes for his nuclear medicine studies. The two started to discuss their work, and Dr. Ten Haken learned more about the medical physics field, something that was intriguing for its more applied nature. As one who always enjoyed the hands-on aspects of experimental nuclear physics, his initial plan was to do a post doc in nuclear medicine and build and work with PET scanners. However, digging further, he
learned about radiation oncology, and appreciated the immediate positive impact he could make in the clinic by treating patients.

While making inroads in the field, Dr. Ten Haken’s work has touched all aspects from teaching at the University of Michigan, to research in the lab, to practicing in the clinic. Following his post doc in medical physics at Tufts-New England Medical Center in Boston, he spent four years at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Illinois, where neutron therapy was the focus. Dr. Ten Haken noted this was a particularly fruitful time in his career, as he and his colleagues spent several days a week treating patients and several doing research, all the while bumping into Nobel Laureates in the cafeteria and enjoying the intellectual richness of that environment.

Around that time Dr. Ten Haken attended an American Association of Physicists in Medicine Meeting, and met Benedick Fraass, PhD, FASTRO, another medical physicist who came from a similar background of experimental physics. They hit it off, having similar thoughts and backgrounds, and some months later, Dr. Fraass asked him if he’d be interested in joining him, Allen Lichter, MD, FASTRO, and Daniel McShan, PhD, at the University of Michigan. Reflecting on this time, Dr. Ten Haken remarked, “I knew I had to get back into the mainstream of medical physics and radiation oncology. This seemed like a good chance to join the jet stream.” Together, in 1984, they started the Radiation Oncology Department at the University of Michigan and introduced 3-D treatment planning to the clinic.

As a team, they checked each other’s work, did research on building 3-D treatment planning and making it work in the clinical setting. They started out with the 3-D treatment planning systems, but at that time, they were used for research and not widely used in the clinic. The Department was among the first to make the systems clinically useful. “When I think of what I’m proud of, in the earliest studies that we did, we looked at patient motion and set uncertainties and their impact on treatment outcomes.”

Dr. Ten Haken and his colleagues also were among the first to discuss the dosimetric impact of prostate motion due to differential filling of the rectum and bladder, a factor rarely considered at the time. This discovery was followed by more studies and the impact of breathing on the design of treatment, especially for tumors in the lungs and liver. They published these findings, and they learned that treatment teams needed to incorporate patient-specific anatomy and setups certainties and organ motion into the treatment planning process.

This led to a career of integrating these findings into clinical practice, and to the development of phase one dose escalation methodologies. Initially a one-size-fits-all approach was the standard for radiation treatments. But Dr. Ten Haken was the primary innovator for a more customized method, incorporating a dose escalation scheme that led to clinical trials demonstrating the ability to safely deliver higher doses of radiation to tumors in the liver and lung that had been deemed not possible prior to that work.

Dr. Ten Haken and his colleagues shared their discoveries at AAPM and ASTRO meetings and were often initially met with skepticism. Attendees commented that they had nice pictures, but Dr. Ten Haken and colleagues were persistent and kept their findings at the forefront of important conversations. The liver and lung in particular revealed themselves to be “volume effect” organs, where the dose escalation scheme they devised for treatment of tumors located in them allowed the team to give higher doses than had been attempted prior. They made outcomes models for complications, and designed treatments that took the dosage up to a tolerable level of toxicity for each patient, allowing for the individualization of tumor treatments and, ultimately, the optimization of treatment plans. Dr. Ten Haken and the team also noticed the impact of motion and started to include that factor in the models for individualized treatment. Most recently, he noted that they have used physiological imaging and treatment response assessment for both tumors and normal tissues to individualize patient treatments. Looking ahead, he is excited about the continued individualization of treatments, and the ability to better adapt during the course of therapy.

Dr. Ten Haken noted that one of the advantages of radiation oncology is the opportunity to see the patient over several treatments, and the chance to see how the tumor and normal tissues are responding to the radiation and change the course of therapy if need be — termed “response-based adaptive therapy.” This ability can be attributed to the answers provided in particular imaging of anatomy and physiological changes. Furthermore, machine learning and artificial intelligence applications will contribute to more personalized treatments and ultimately better outcomes.

Dr. Ten Haken remarked that the Gold Medal award is a team effort, brought about by working for decades with physicists, physicians, dosimetrists, therapists, computer scientists, and the entire patient support team, and an honor to be shared.
Survivor Circle Celebrates 20 Years of Providing Grants to Organizations Supporting Patients with Cancer

HAPPY 20TH BIRTHDAY TO SURVIVOR CIRCLE! Survivor Circle was created in 2003 to honor cancer survivors by recognizing organizations that further the fight for survivorship. Since the program’s inception, ASTRO has granted over $500,000, almost wholly from the generous support of our exhibitors, 100% of which has gone to 40 grant recipients in total from eight states. ASTRO awards two grants of $12,500 (an increase this year from $10,000) each to support organizations located in the state that hosts the Annual Meeting.

ASTRO awarded this year’s recipients, Breast Cancer Angels and Cancer Support Community Los Angeles (CSCLA), with the Survivor Circle grant. Stop by the Survivor Circle booth to learn more about the great work these groups do and take a few minutes to fold a paper crane or two. Japanese tradition holds that folding 1,000 paper cranes gives a person the chance to make a wish come true – come make a wish for the comfort and healing of the cancer patients these special organizations serve.

Survivor Circle Grant Recipients (2022 – 2003)

- Breast Cancer Resource Center (2022)
- ThriveWell Cancer Foundation (2022)
- The Cancer Support Center (2021)
- LivingWell Cancer Resource Center (2021)
- Caring Friends Cancer Support Group (2020)
- Gilda’s Club South Florida (2020)
- ALAS-Wings (2019)
- Sisters Network Inc., Chicago Chapter (2019)
- Candlelighters of El Paso (2018)
- Light and Salt Association (2018)
- Cancer Angels of San Diego (2017)
- The Seany Foundation (2017)
- Boston Cancer Support (2016)
- The Samfund (2016)
- Dan’s House of Hope (2015)
- ThriveWell Cancer Foundation (2015)
- Breast and Gyn Health Project (2014)
- Kids Konnected (2014)
- Cancer Foundation of Northeast Georgia (2013)
- South Georgia Medical Center, Pearlman Cancer Center (2013)
- The Center for Cancer Support and Education (2012)
- Surviving and Moving Forward: The SAMFund for Young Adult Survivors of Cancer (2012)
- Cancer Support Community Greater Miami (2011)
- Gilda’s Club South Florida (2011)
- Emilio Nares Foundation (2010)
- Mama’s Kitchen (2010)
- Gilda’s Club Chicago (2009)
- Halos of Hope (2009)
- The Kenneth B. Schwartz Center (2008)
- The Wellness Community - Greater Boston (2008)
- The Wellness Community - South Bay Cities (2007)
- Vital Options International (2007)
- Cancer Hope Network (2006)
- Gilda’s Club Denver (2005)
- Ronald McDonald House Charities of Denver Inc. (2005)
- American Cancer Society - Atlanta Chapter (2004)
- CURE Childhood Cancer (2004)
- American Cancer Society - Salt Lake City Chapter (2003)
- Rocky Mountain Candlelighters (2003)
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