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Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

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Alex Kentsis, MD, PhD

We study the biology of cancers that affect children and young adults ranging from embryonal tumors in infants, leukemias and brain tumors in children, and sarcomas in young adults. Scientists in our group use inter-disciplinary experimental tools as they work to understand the fundamental causes of cancer and to develop definitive therapies for their control. Detailed information about our research is available at <https://alexkentsis.net>.

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Kentsis Research Group, Summer 2023

Featured News



[Epigenetic Combination Therapy Could Overcome Treatment Resistance in Epithelioid Sarcomas and Rhabdoid Tumors](#)

Learn about a possible new treatment approach for soft tissue sarcomas.

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[Research Shows How Common Feature of Blood Cancers Can Be Targeted](#)

Research points to the role of a protein called MYB, which has long been known to play a role in cancer.

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[Analyzing Urine Can Guide the Treatment of Childhood Kidney Tumors](#)

A protein detected in the urine of children with Wilms' tumor led to the development of a test to improve diagnosis and treatment.

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Publications Highlights

Jubierre L, Rodriguez Fos, Planas-Felix, Lewis, Cameron, Demarest, Nabila, Zhao, Bergin, Reed, Yamada, Socci, Hayes, Rabadan, Torrents, Kruer, Toth, Kentsis A. A transposase-derived gene required for human brain development. bioRxiv.

Bigot Y, Yamada M, Mueller H, Morell V, Alves S, Lecomte T, Kentsis A. Analysis of DNA transposition by DNA transposases in human cells. bioRxiv.

Takao S, Morell V, Brown FC, Koche R, Kentsis A. Epigenetic mechanisms controlling human leukemia stem cells and therapy resistance. bioRxiv.

Kazansky Y, Cameron D, Demarest P, Zaffaroni N, Arrighetti N, Zuco V, Kuwahara Y, Qu R, de Stanchina E, Dela Cruz F, Kung A, Gounder M, Kentsis A. Overcoming clinical resistance to EZH2 inhibition using rational epigenetic combination therapy. Cancer Discovery, 2024.

Yamada M, Keller R, Cameron D, Suzuki H, Sanghrajka R, Vaynshteyn J, Gerwin J, Maura F, Hooper W, Shah M, Robine N, Demarest P, Bayin SN, Jubierre L, Reed C, Taylor MD, Joyner AL, Raju PG, Kentsis A. Childhood cancer mutagenesis caused by transposase-derived PGBD5. Science Advances, 2024.

People



Alex Kentsis, MD, PhD

Cancer biologist and pediatric oncologist Alex Kentsis leads research in the functional proteomics and molecular pharmacology of refractory childhood cancers.

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PhD, New York University

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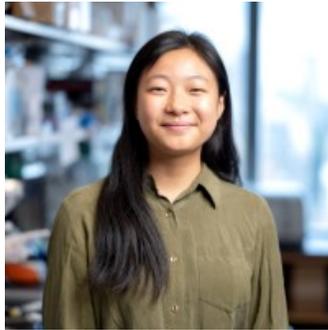
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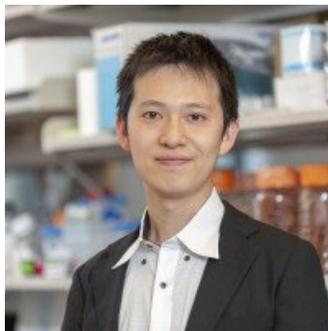
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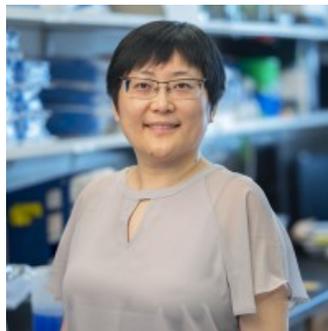
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Slavitt
Research Technician



Stephanie Tingue
Administrative Assistant



Masahiro
Uni
Research Fellow



Ning Wang
Research Fellow



Makiko Yamada
Senior Research Scientist

Anna Zychlinsky-
Scharff
Research Fellow

Lab Affiliations
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Achievements

Louise and Allston Boyer Award for Clinical Research
Terry Ann Krulwich Physician-Scientist Alumni Award
Pershing Square Sohn Prize
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Scholar Award
[Josie Robertson Investigator \(2013-2018\)](#)

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Lab News & Events

UPCOMING EVENT

[Attenuating Oncogenic Transcription with Small Molecules](#)

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 - 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Zuckerman Research Center
417 East 68th Street
Room ZRC-105
New York, NY 10065

Open Positions

To learn more about available postdoctoral opportunities, please visit our [Career Center](#)

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Disclosures

Doctors and faculty members often work with pharmaceutical, device, biotechnology, and life sciences companies, and other organizations outside of MSK, to find safe and effective cancer treatments, to improve patient care, and to educate the health care community.

MSK requires doctors and faculty members to report (“disclose”) the relationships and financial interests they have with external entities. As a commitment to transparency with our community, we make that information available to the public.

Alex Kentsis discloses the following relationships and financial interests:

Blueprint Medicines

Professional Services and Activities

Day One Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.

Professional Services and Activities

Novartis

Professional Services and Activities

Rgenta Therapeutics Inc.

Equity; Professional Services and Activities

U.S. Department of Justice

Professional Services and Activities

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This page and data include information for a specific MSK annual disclosure period (January 1, 2022 through disclosure submission in spring 2023). This data reflects interests that may or may not still exist. This data is updated annually.

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