



Gerstner Sloan Kettering  
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

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CANCER BIOLOGY & GENETICS PROGRAM

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## The Craig Thompson Lab

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Craig B. Thompson, MD

Professor

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The Thompson laboratory has proposed that the basis of metazoan cell survival is determined by the inability of cells to take up nutrients in a cell-autonomous fashion. This hypothesis was formulated to explain how multicellularity might have arisen during evolution. We believe the lack of a cell-intrinsic mechanism to regulate nutrient uptake provides the first and most fundamental barrier to cell

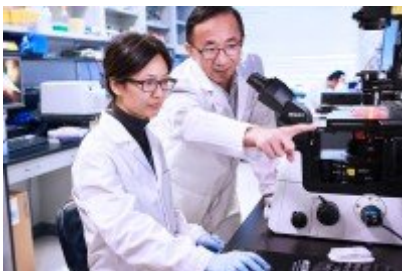
transformation.

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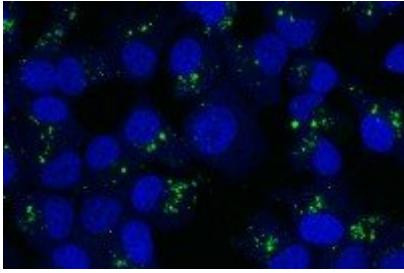
## Featured News

### IN THE LAB



[More Evidence that Cellular ‘Death by Iron’ Could Be Promising Avenue of Cancer Treatment](#)

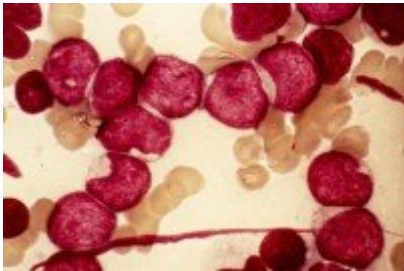
Cancers with certain mutations are vulnerable to ferroptosis, a form of iron-dependent cell death.



## [Research Published in Genes and Development from Craig Thompson Lab](#)

New research from the Craig Thompson Lab offers a closer look at the transcriptional activators, Yap/Taz, and the role they play in cell growth and macropinocytosis.

### FINDING



## [Findings from Two Patients Shed New Light on Drug Resistance in AML](#)

A team at MSK has discovered a previously unknown type of resistance to a new leukemia drug.

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## Publications

[King, B., Araki, J., Palm, W., & Thompson, C. B. \(2020\). Yap/Taz promote the scavenging of extracellular nutrients through macropinocytosis. \*Genes & development\*, 10.1101/gad.340661.120. Advance online publication.](#)

[Vardhana, S. A., Hwee, M. A., Berisa, M., Wells, D. K., Yost, K. E., King, B., Smith, M., Herrera, P. S., Chang, H. Y., Satpathy, A. T., van den Brink, M., Cross, J. R., & Thompson, C. B. \(2020\). Impaired mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation limits the self-renewal of T cells exposed to persistent antigen. \*Nature immunology\*, 21\(9\), 1022–1033.](#)

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[Schwörer, S., Berisa, M., Violante, S., Qin, W., Zhu, J., Hendrickson, R. C., Cross, J. R., & Thompson, C. B. \(2020\). Proline biosynthesis is a vent for TGF \$\beta\$ -induced mitochondrial redox stress. \*The EMBO journal\*, 39\(8\), e103334.](#)

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[Li, A. M., Ducker, G. S., Li, Y., Seoane, J. A., Xiao, Y., Melemenidis, S., Zhou, Y., Liu, L., Vanharanta, S., Graves, E. E., Rankin, E. B., Curtis, C., Massagué, J., Rabinowitz, J. D., Thompson, C. B., & Ye, J. \(2020\). Metabolic Profiling Reveals a Dependency of Human Metastatic Breast Cancer on Mitochondrial Serine and One-Carbon Unit Metabolism. \*Molecular cancer research : MCR\*, 18\(4\), 599–611.](#)

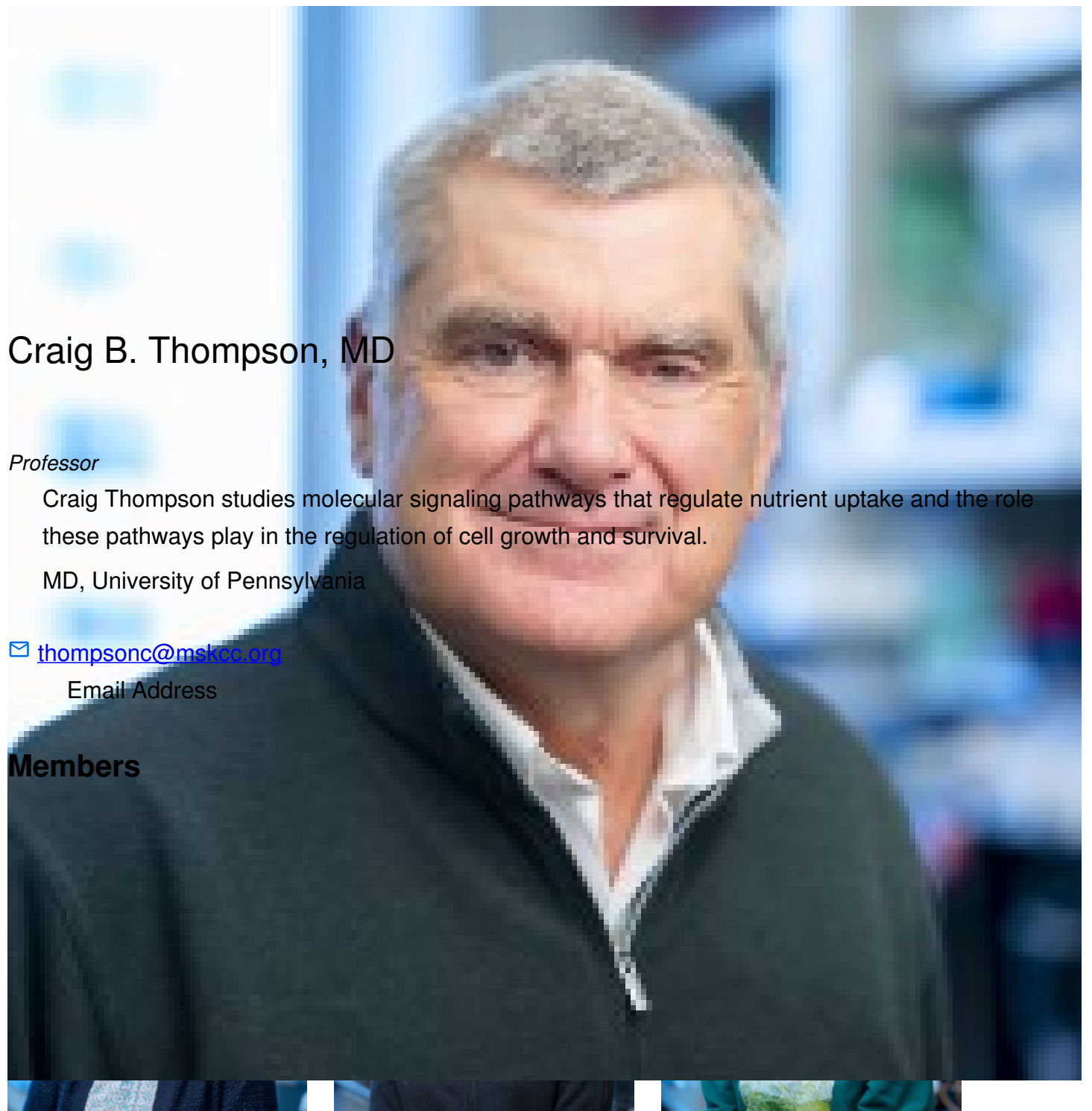
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[Zhu, J., Berisa, M., Schwörer, S., Qin, W., Cross, J. R., & Thompson, C. B. \(2019\). Transsulfuration Activity Can Support Cell Growth upon Extracellular Cysteine Limitation. \*Cell metabolism\*, 30\(5\), 865–876.e5.](#)

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## People



## Craig B. Thompson, MD

### *Professor*

Craig Thompson studies molecular signaling pathways that regulate nutrient uptake and the role these pathways play in the regulation of cell growth and survival.

MD, University of Pennsylvania

✉ [thompsonc@mskcc.org](mailto:thompsonc@mskcc.org)

Email Address

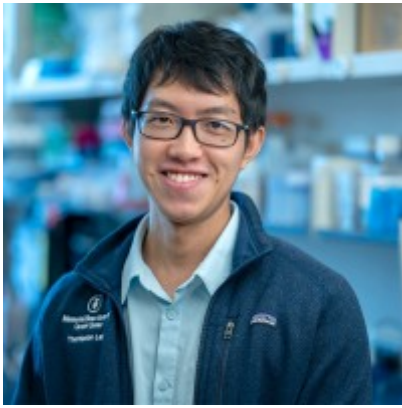
### **Members**

Tullia Lindsten  
Laboratory Member

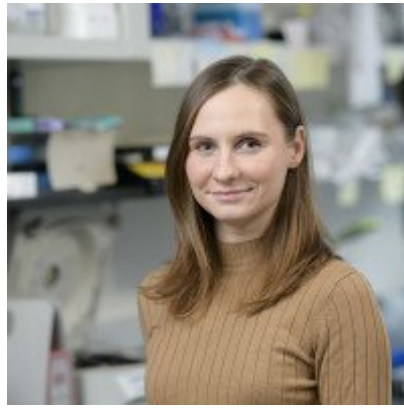
Daphne Baker  
Research Tech

Ruobing  
Cui  
Rotational Student





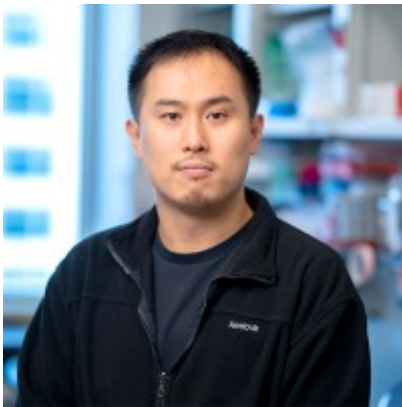
Tak Shun  
Fung  
Research Fellow



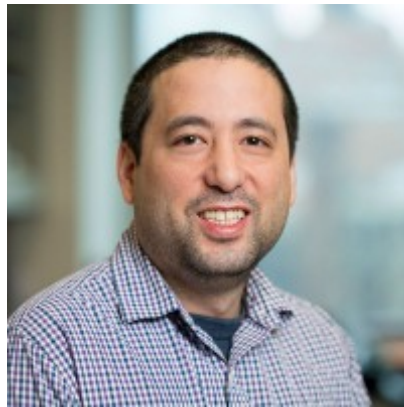
Viktoria Gabor  
Lab Administrative  
Assistant



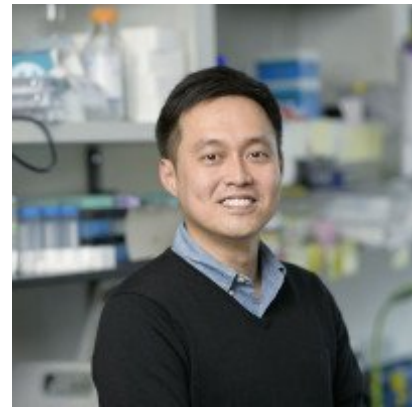
Olivia  
Jones  
Research Tech



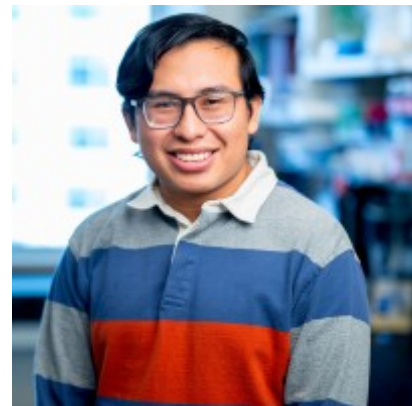
Dayi Li  
Rotational Student



Charles  
Ng  
Research Fellow



Keunwoo Ryu  
Postdoctoral fellow



Elias Tzoc-  
Pacheco  
Research Tech

Lab Alumni

+

Lab Affiliations

+

## Get in Touch

 [thompsonc@mskcc.org](mailto:thompsonc@mskcc.org)

Lab Head Email

 [646-888-3285](tel:646-888-3285)

Lab Phone

 [646-888-3010](tel:646-888-3010)

Lab Fax

## 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.

Craig B. Thompson discloses the following relationships and financial interests:

**Agios Pharmaceuticals**

Professional Services and Activities

**Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation**

Professional Services and Activities

**Charles River Laboratories**

Equity; Fiduciary Role / Position

**Economic Club of New York**

Fiduciary Role / Position



Elsevier

Intellectual Property Rights

Hakluyt & Company

Professional Services and Activities

Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Professional Services and Activities

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Equity; Fiduciary Role / Position

University of Michigan

Intellectual Property Rights

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