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Charles L. Sawyers, MD

Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis Chair in Human Oncology and Pathogenesis; Chair, Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program

Dr. Sawyers is an HHMI Investigator searching for molecularly targeted approaches to treat cancer. He has identified cell signaling components critical to the growth of cancer cells in chronic myeloid leukemia, prostate and other cancers, resulting in the development of multiple FDA-approved inhibitors in clinical use today.

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Featured News

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Resistance to molecularly targeted therapies is often due to mutations in the drug target, but there is growing recognition of other modes of tumor esc...



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Scientists have found a protein that empowers prostate tumors to resist hormone therapy.



[MSK Experts Featured at the AACR Virtual Annual Meeting I](#)

Thousands of oncology experts from around the world will tune in April 27 and 28 for the American Association for Cancer Research's (AACR) virtual annual meeting I. The meeting is the first of two virtual sessions, with clinical trial plenary sessions, clinical trial poster sessions, several minisymposia, and more. The AACR virtual annual meeting II will be held June 22 through 24.

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Publications Highlights

[Zhang Z, Karthaus WR, Lee YS, Gao VR, Wu C, Russo JW, Liu M, Mota JM, Abida W, Linton E, Lee E, Barnes SD, Chen HA, Mao N, Wongvipat J, Choi D, Chen X, Zhao H, Manova-Todorova K, de Stanchina E, Taplin ME, Balk SP, Rathkopf DE, Gopalan A, Carver BS, Mu P, Jiang X, Watson PA, Sawyers CL. Tumor Microenvironment-Derived NRG1 Promotes Antiandrogen Resistance in Prostate Cancer. *Cancer Cell*. 2020 Aug 10;38\(2\):279-296.e9. doi: 10.1016/j.ccell.2020.06.005. Epub 2020 Jul 16. PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7472556.](#)

[Karthaus WR, Hofree M, Choi D, Linton EL, Turkekul M, Bejnood A, Carver B, Gopalan A, Abida W, Laudone V, Biton M, Chaudhary O, Xu T, Masilionis I, Manova K, Mazutis L, Pe'er D, Regev A, Sawyers CL. Regenerative potential of prostate luminal cells revealed by single-cell analysis. *Science*. 2020 May 1;368\(6490\):497-505. doi: 10.1126/science.aay0267. PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7313621.](#)

[Wasmuth EV, Hoover EA, Antar A, Klinge S, Chen Y, Sawyers CL. Modulation of androgen receptor DNA binding activity through direct interaction with the ETS transcription factor ERG. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2020 Apr 14;117\(15\):8584-8592. doi: 10.1073/pnas.1922159117. Epub 2020 Mar 27. PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7165421.](#)

[Zhang Z, Zhou C, Li X, Barnes SD, Deng S, Hoover E, Chen CC, Lee YS, Zhang Y, Wang C, Metang LA, Wu C, Tirado CR, Johnson NA, Wongvipat J, Navrazhina K, Cao Z, Choi D, Huang CH, Linton E, Chen X, Liang Y, Mason CE, de Stanchina E, Abida W, Lujambio A, Li S, Lowe SW, Mendell JT, Malladi VS, Sawyers CL, Mu P. Loss of CHD1 Promotes Heterogeneous Mechanisms of Resistance to AR-Targeted Therapy via Chromatin Dysregulation. *Cancer Cell*. 2020 Apr 13;37\(4\):584-598.e11. doi: 10.1016/j.ccell.2020.03.001. Epub 2020 Mar 26. PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7292228.](#)

[Adams EJ, Karthaus WR, Hoover E, Liu D, Gruet A, Zhang Z, Cho H, DiLoreto R, Chhangawala S, Liu Y, Watson PA, Davicioni E, Sboner A, Barbieri CE, Bose R, Leslie CS, Sawyers CL. FOXA1 mutations alter pioneering activity, differentiation and prostate cancer phenotypes. *Nature*. 2019 Jul;571\(7765\):408-412. doi: 10.1038/s41586-019-1318-9. Epub 2019 Jun 26. PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6661172.](#)

People



Charles L. Sawyers, MD

Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis Chair in Human Oncology and Pathogenesis; Chair, Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program

Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program Chair Charles Sawyers develops molecularly targeted cancer therapy.

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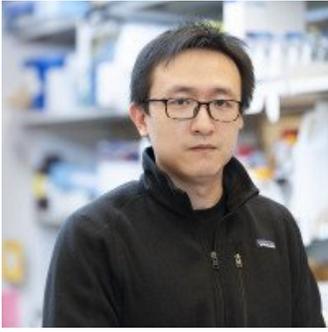
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Daniel (Henry)
Kates
Research Technician

Harmanpreet Kaur
Research Technician



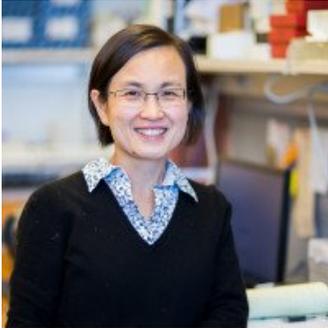
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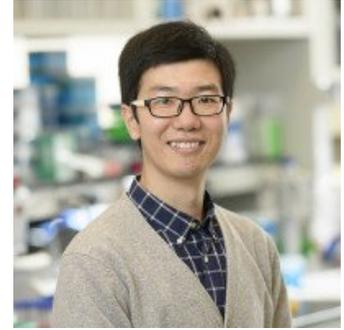
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Zhen Sun
Postdoctoral Fellow



Marie Will
Assistant Attending



Serina
Young
MSKCC Bridge Program
Scholar



Samir Zaidi
Fellow

Lab Alumni
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Achievements

NCI Alfred G. Knudson Award in Cancer Genetics (2020)

STAT Biomedical Innovation Award (2019)

AACR Princess Takamatsu Memorial Lectureship and Award (2019)

The Scheele Award, Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences (2017)

American Cancer Society Medal of Honor (2017)

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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.

Charles L. Sawyers discloses the following relationships and financial interests:

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Oric Pharmaceuticals

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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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