mskccpeople

MICHEL SADELAIN WINS WILLIAM B. COLEY AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH IN TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY



In October, Memorial Sloan-Kettering's Michel Sadelain was a recipient of the 2012 William B. Coley Award for Distinguished Research in Tumor Immunology. Dr. Sadelain was recognized for his "groundbreaking work on the development of chimeric antigen receptor T cell therapy for cancer, a highly promising new approach to strengthening a patient's immune

response to cancer." At the ceremony, MSKCC physician-scientist Jedd D. Wolchok presented Dr. Sadelain with the award.

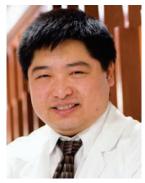
A leader in the field of cell engineering, Dr. Sadelain is focused on developing treatments for cancer patients that make use of an approach called adoptive cell transfer (ACT). ACT involves removing some of a patient's T cells, enhancing their cancer-fighting abilities, and then infusing the enhanced cells back in to the patient. This can provide a patient with an army of immune cells specifically programmed to fight cancer. Based on this approach, clinical trials to treat leukemia, prostate cancer, and other cancers are being conducted at MSKCC as well as centers in the United States, Europe, and Japan.

Dr. Sadelain also has played a leading role in developing a cell-based treatment for the inherited blood disorder beta-thalassemia, in which patients' own blood-forming stem cells are engineered to carry a normal copy of the beta-globin gene. The first US trial evaluating this treatment is now in an early stage at Memorial Sloan-Kettering.

Dr. Sadelain earned his MD degree from the University of Paris and his PhD degree in immunology from the University of Alberta. He completed a residency at Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Saint-Antoine in Paris and was a fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before joining the MSKCC faculty in 1994. Dr. Sadelain is director of the Center for Cell Engineering and holds the Stephen and Barbara Friedman Chair. He also was recently appointed a member of the Stand Up To Cancer Dream Team for Cancer Immunology.

The William B. Coley Award was established in 1975 in honor of Dr. Coley, a pioneer in cancer immunotherapy who did seminal work at the New York Cancer Hospital (MSKCC's predecessor) at the turn of the 20th century. The award is presented by the Cancer Research Institute, a group dedicated to cancer immunology. Previous winners from MSKCC are the late immunology researcher Lloyd J. Old (1975), cell biologist Malcolm A. S. Moore (1995), and former Immunology Program Chair James P. Allison (2005).

TIMOTHY CHAN AND INGO MELLINGHOFF WERE PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE MEMBER.



Timothy A. Chan is a physician-scientist in the Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program and the Department of Radiation Oncology. He heads a cancer genetics laboratory that explores the genetic changes that lead to cancer, with the goal of developing better diagnostic and therapeutic modalities to improve the care of patients. Clinically, Dr. Chan specializes in the use of radiosurgery and radiation therapy to treat both benign and malignant brain tumors. He is a member of the central nervous system disease management team and the Brain Tumor Center. Dr. Chan received his MD and PhD degrees from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where he also completed a residency and fellowship. He joined the MSKCC faculty in 2007.



Physician-scientist Ingo Mellinghoff's research program focuses on the development of novel therapeutic targets for the treatment of primary brain tumors. This includes the molecular annotation of human brain tumors, functional studies of aberrant pathways in experimental brain tumor models, and proof-of-principle, earlyphase clinical trials. Current projects include the further characterization of various growth factor receptor pathways and their contribution to drug response. He is also a medical oncologist who specializes in the treatment of primary brain tumors. Dr. Mellinghoff received his MD degree from the Technical University of Munich, in Germany, and completed residencies and fellowships at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is board certified in internal medicine, medical oncology, and hematology. 🌣