

The **MSK Tow Center for Developmental Oncology** proudly presents the

Robert Steel Symposium in Developmental Oncology

MAY 19—20, 2025

Zuckerman Research Center
New York City



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

Now in its fourth year, the **The Robert Steel Symposium in Developmental Oncology** unites outstanding scientists from across the country to discuss the latest discoveries into the molecular mechanisms of cancers in children and young adults, and the development of new approaches for their definitive therapy and control.

Symposium Organizers



Alex Kentsis, MD, PhD

Member, Molecular Pharmacology Program;
Director, Tow Center for Developmental Oncology
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



Andrew Kung, MD, PhD

Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



Lisa Roth, MD

Professor of Pediatrics;
Director, Pediatric Oncology
Weill Cornell

Join the conversation with us:

#MSKDevOnc #MSKkids

Overview

This two-day in-person event offers a unique opportunity to discuss genetic and epigenetic regulation of developmental processes, the molecular characterization of childhood cancers, and the identification of novel therapeutic strategies.

The program aims to **address key unanswered questions**, including:

- How do normal developmental and genetic processes prevent cancer in children and young adults?
- What causes cancer in children and young adults without inheritance of cancer-predisposing mutations or exposure to environmental mutagens?
- How do predisposing alleles and exposures contribute to cancer development?
- What developmental processes are dysregulated to cause mutations and cell transformation in otherwise healthy tissues?
- How do mutations in developmental pathways involving transcription factors and epigenetic signaling cause cancer?
- How do we design effective therapeutics to block, activate, and modulate protein interactions that control transcription factors and other developmental regulators?
- How do we identify targets for immune therapy in developmental tumors that have relatively few mutations?

This Symposium also serves as a **forum for established and early-career investigators to engage in discussions about emerging questions and interdisciplinary approaches** in the study of young-onset cancer biology.

Networking Reception & Dinner

We invite attendees to a complimentary networking reception on **Monday, May 19**, Upstairs at The Kimberly Hotel. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.

Upstairs at The Kimberly Hotel

145 East 50th Street
New York City

RSVP is required to attend. Please confirm your attendance during the registration process.



Target Audience

The target audience for the Symposium includes scientists, physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, and other healthcare professionals interested in the latest advancements in the biology and treatment of childhood cancers.

We welcome students and trainees to attend the Symposium free of charge. Additionally, complimentary registration is extended to participants residing and practicing in low- and lower-middle-income countries.

Objectives

At the conclusion of this Symposium, learners will be able to:

- Explain biologic and developmental causes of childhood cancers.
- Review recently developed therapies for patients with childhood and young-onset cancers.
- Discuss new biologic questions in order to accelerate the development of definitive therapies for patients.

Monday • May 19

Time	Session/Faculty
8:00 AM	BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION
8:30 AM	Welcome and Introduction Alex Kentsis, MD, PhD
8:45 AM	 Developmental Origins and Lineage-Specific Targeting in Pediatric High-Grade Gliomas Mariella Filbin, MD, PhD
9:25 AM	H3K27me3-Mediated Epigenetic Repression Regulates Neuroblastoma Development and Contributes to Biological Heterogeneity Charlotte Butterworth, MRes
9:45 AM	Inhibiting eIF4A is a Highly Effective, Non-Genotoxic Therapy for MYC-Driven Neuroblastoma Urmila Sehrawat, PhD
10:05 AM	Gut Microbiota Associations with GD2/GD3 Vaccine Response in Patients with High-Risk Neuroblastoma Oriana Miltiadous, MD
10:25 AM	Pre-targeted 225Ac Radioimmunotherapy Using Self-Assembling Dis-Assembling Bispecific Antibodies Karina Leung, BA
10:45 AM	BREAK
11:00 AM	 Next Generation Cell Therapies for Pediatric Solid Tumors Catherine Bollard, MBChB, MD
11:40 AM	Dual Targeting of DNMT1 and EZH2 in EBV+ Lymphomas Induces Immunogenic Viral Antigen Expression and Enhances T Cell Mediated Killing Isabella Kong, PhD
12:00 PM	Development of CAR T cells Targeting U5 snRNP200 for the Treatment of Acute Myeloid and B-Lymphoid Leukemias Takeshi Fujino, MD, PhD
12:20 PM	Breaking HLA Restriction to Therapeutically Target a Fusion-Derived Public Neoantigen in Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumor Using T Cell Receptor Gene Therapy Lauren Baker Banks, MD, PhD
12:40 PM	Using Long-Read Sequencing to Elucidate Aberrant Gene Expression in Childhood and Young-Adult Sarcomas Asher Preska Steinberg, PhD
1:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK

2:00 PM

Dysregulated AKT Reprograms High-Risk Osteosarcoma to Drive Selective Reliance on EP300

Adam Durbin, MD, PhD

2:20 PM

Unraveling the Origin of Ewing Sarcoma Using Zebrafish Transgenic Models

Elena Vasileva, PhD

2:40 PM



Predisposition to Childhood Cancer in the Genomic Era

Sharon Plon, MD, PhD

3:20 PM

BREAK

3:35 PM

Predisposition Footprints in the Somatic Genome of Wilms Tumours

Taryn D. Treger, MB, BChir, MSc, BSc

3:55 PM

Establishing Models for Pediatric Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumor in MEN1 Syndrome for Genetic Investigation and Disease Biology

Pallavi Mohapatra, PhD

4:15 PM



Arrested Development: Unraveling the Dysfunctional Life History of Pediatric Brain Tumors

Paul A. Northcott, PhD

4:55 PM

Closing Remarks

Andrew Kung, MD, PhD

5:00 PM

ADJOURN

Networking Reception & Dinner

Upstairs at The Kimberly Hotel

6:00—9:00 PM

145 East 50th Street

RSVP REQUIRED IN ORDER TO ATTEND.

Tuesday • May 20

Time	Session/Faculty	
8:15 AM	BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION	
8:45 AM	Welcome and Introduction Lisa Roth, MD	
9:00 AM		Genomic Instability and Stem Cell Attrition as a Preleukemia Condition Jean Soulier, MD, PhD
9:40 AM	CEBPA Repression by MECOM Blocks Differentiation to Drive Aggressive Leukemias Travis Fleming, PhD	
10:00 AM	Ontogeny and Inflammation Shape BCR::ABL1+ Pre-Leukemia Initiation and Evolution Miguel Quijada-Alamo, PhD	
10:20 AM	MSI2-Associated RNA-Binding Protein Complex Regulates HOXA9 Translation and Leukemia Stem Cell Function in AML Xueqin Xie, PhD	
10:40 AM	BREAK	
10:55 AM		New Insights Into the Biology and Treatment of T-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia David Teachey, MD
11:35 AM	Plasticity of Tumor Cell-States in Group 3/4 Medulloblastomas Piyush Joshi, PhD	
11:55 AM	A Specific Form of Canonical PRC1 Containing CBX4 \ Drives Oncogenic Gene Repression in DMG Richard Phillips, MD, PhD	
12:15 PM		Embryonal Origin of Childhood Tumors - and How We Can Potentially Exploit this Diagnostically!? Stefan Pfister, MD
12:55 PM	Closing Remarks Alex Kentsis, MD, PhD	
1:10 PM	ADJOURN & LUNCH	

Faculty

Symposium Peer Reviewer

Makiko Yamada, MD, PhD

Senior Research Scientist
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Symposium Faculty

Lauren Baker Banks, MD, PhD

Assistant Attending Physician
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Catherine Bollard, MBChB, MD

Senior Vice President,
Chief Research Officer, and Director,
Center for Cancer and Immunology Research
Children's National Research Institute;
The George Washington University

Charlotte Butterworth, MRes

PhD Student, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow
Institut Curie

Adam Durbin, MD, PhD

Assistant Member, Division of Molecular
Oncology, Department of Oncology
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Mariella Filbin, MD, PhD

Jan Paradise Chair in Brain Cancer Research;
Co-Director, Brain Tumor Center;
Research Director, Pediatric Neuro-Oncology;
Attending Physician, Dana-Farber/Boston
Children's Blood Disorders Center;
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard
Medical School

Takeshi Fujino, MD, PhD

Research Associate,
Molecular Pharmacology Program
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Travis Fleming, PhD

Postdoctoral Scientist
Harvard Medical School

Piyush Joshi, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow,
Pediatric Neuro-oncology
German Cancer Research Center

Isabella Kong, PhD

Postdoctoral Associate,
Department of Pediatrics
Weill Cornell Medicine

Karina Leung, BA

Research Technician,
Department of Pediatrics
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Oriana Miltiadous, MD

Instructor, Department of Pediatrics
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Pallavi Mohapatra, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow,
Developmental Biology
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Paul A. Northcott, PhD

Endowed Chair in Molecular
Neuro-Oncology;
Director, Center of Excellence in
Neuro-Oncology Sciences (CENOS)
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Stefan Pfister, MD

Director Preclinical Program, Hopp Children's Cancer Center Heidelberg (KITZ);
Head, Division of Pediatric Neurooncology, DKFZ;
Deputy Head, KITZ Clinical Trial Unit (ZIPO)
and Pediatric Brain Tumors,
Heidelberg University Hospital

Richard Phillips, MD, PhD

Attending Neuro-Oncologist;
Division Chief in Neuro-Oncology,
Department of Neurology
University of Pennsylvania

Sharon Plon, MD, PhD

Dan L. Duncan Cancer Research
Professorship, Department of
Pediatrics/Hematology-Oncology
Baylor College of Medicine;
Texas Children's Cancer Center;
Texas Children's Hospital

Miguel Quijada-Alamo, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Urmila Sehrawat, PhD

Research Associate,
Department of Cancer Biology and Genetics
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Jean Soulier, MD, PhD

Professor of Hematology
Hopital St-Louis AHPH

Asher Preska Steinberg, PhD

Senior Computational Biologist,
Halvorsen Center for Computational Oncology;
Tow Center for Developmental Oncology
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David Teachey, MD

Attending Physician; Researcher
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia;
Associate Professor of Pediatrics,
Perelman School of Medicine at the
University of Pennsylvania

Taryn D. Treger, MB, BChir, MSc, BSc

Little Princess Trust Clinical PhD Fellow,
Behajti Lab, Cellular Genetics
Wellcome Sanger Institute

Elena Vasileva, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Xueqin Xie, PhD

Research Associate,
Molecular Pharmacology Program
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Accreditation

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center designates this live activity for a maximum of **11.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

ABP MOC Recognition Statement

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the learner to earn up to 11.00 MOC points in the American Board of Pediatrics' (ABP) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program.

It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit learner completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABP MOC credit.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center adheres to the ACCME's Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.



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Registration

For additional details and registration, scan the QR code or visit:

msk.org/DevelopmentalOncology



Included in registration, attendees will be offered continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshment breaks. Please contact cme@mskcc.org at least one week prior to this event if you have any special dietary requests or require any specific accommodations for joining us onsite.

Registration Fees	
Physicians (MDs, PhDs, and DOs)	\$225
Other Healthcare Providers	\$40*
Industry Professionals**	\$350
Students, Trainees, and Registrants in Low-and Lower-Middle-Income Countries	Complimentary
MSK Employees	Complimentary

Discounted registration is available for specific groups. If eligible, you will receive further instructions and a promotion code to use during registration.

For additional details, including information on our **cancellation terms**, visit the Symposium website: msk.org/DevelopmentalOncology

*Registration for “**Other Healthcare Providers**” is non-refundable.
An “industry professional**” is defined as any individual, regardless of their profession type (such as MDs, PhDs, APPs, RNs, etc.) that is employed by an ineligible company.

The **Tow Foundation** has been a leading benefactor of Memorial Sloan Kettering since 1976, supporting areas including cell therapies, inflammation and cancer, radiotheranostics, skin cancer research, and, especially, pediatric cancer research. The Foundation's visionary and generous 2018 commitment established the **Tow Center for Developmental Oncology**, which seeks to unite scientists across MSK to develop fundamental insights into the molecular mechanisms of cancers in children and young adults and to devise new approaches for definitive therapy and control.

The **Robert Steel Foundation for Pediatric Cancer Research** was established to honor the memory of Robert Steel, who died in 1984 at the age of eighteen after a heroic two-year struggle against rhabdomyosarcoma. Throughout the years, the Foundation supported MSK programs and initiatives devoted to speeding progress against childhood cancers, and its farsighted generosity has made **The Robert Steel Symposium in Developmental Oncology** possible. By bringing together leading scientists to address the latest challenges and opportunities in pediatric cancer research and treatment, **The Robert Steel Symposium in Developmental Oncology** continues to advance the vital work launched by the **Robert Steel Foundation for Pediatric Cancer Research** more than three decades ago.



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