6th Annual Symposium on Global Cancer Research
Addressing Disparities, Locally and Globally
The Hilton Midtown, New York City
Thursday, March 15, 2018

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Electra Paskett, PhD

Dr. Paskett, Marion N. Rowley Professor of Cancer Research at The Ohio State University, is the Director of the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control in the College of Medicine, a professor in the Division of Epidemiology in the College of Public Health and the Associate Director for Population Sciences and Program Leader of the Cancer Control Program in the Comprehensive Cancer Center of the Ohio State University. She is also Director of the Center for Cancer Health Equity at the James Cancer Hospital. Dr. Paskett’s research program is nationally recognized for studying cancer health disparities. The program has four major areas of focus and has evolved to utilize a “team science approach” to understanding and intervening in these problems: energy balance and cancer prevention; promoting the use of early-detection exams; improving access to diagnostic and treatment services; and lymphedema prevention.

Wafaa El-Sadr, MD, MPH, MPA

Dr. El-Sadr is the founder and Director of ICAP, Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine and Mathilde Krim-amfAR Professor of Global Health at Columbia University. As the founder of ICAP, she was instrumental in supporting the establishment of large-scale programs in sub Saharan Africa and Asia that integrate research, education, training and practice. ICAP’s work in 29 countries around the world is focused on confronting and advancing major public health challenges including HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, women’s health and non-communicable diseases among other health threats. ICAP aims to bridge the divide between knowledge and action, taking discoveries to implementation in the real world. Prior to her work at ICAP, Dr. El-Sadr spent more than two decades at Harlem Hospital in New York City during the height of the HIV epidemic. She led the establishment of a novel program to respond to the epidemic that was centered on meeting the needs of affected individuals and families. A prolific researcher, Dr. El-Sadr has close to 400 publications. Her research interests are diverse and include research on the prevention and treatment of HIV, tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases and maternal and child health among others. Dr. El-Sadr was named as McArthur fellow in 2008 and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.
Panel Speakers

Dr. Bishal Gyawali, MD, PhD

Dr. Bishal Gyawali is a medical oncologist with experience in cancer care in both low and high income countries. After graduating from medical school in Nepal with seven gold medals, he received his postgraduate training and PhD in medical oncology from Nagoya University in Japan as a MEXT scholar. His original and opinion articles have been published in top oncology journals (e.g. Journal of Clinical Oncology, JAMA Oncology, Journal of Global Oncology and Annals of Oncology). Dr. Gyawali is also a reviewer for top medical journals including Annals of Internal Medicine, Annals of Oncology, Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Cancer, is an editorial adviser to the British Medical Journal, an editorial board member at ecancer and a Journal of Global Oncology Editorial Fellow for 2017. His areas of clinical and research interests include evidence-based oncology practice, biomarkers, global oncology, cancer policy, cancer management in resource-limited settings, financial toxicities of cancer treatment, clinical trial methods and supportive treatment of cancer. He writes a monthly blog "Last Month in Oncology" at ecancer and tweets at @oncology_bg.

Dr. Gilberto de Lima Lopes Junior, MD, MBA, FAMS

Dr. Gilberto Lopes, a medical oncologist, is the Medical Director for International Programs and Associate Director for Global Oncology at the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Associate Professor at the Miller School of Medicine, and Associate Editor for American Society of Clinical Oncology University and for the society’s Journal of Global Oncology. He previously worked at Johns Hopkins University and was Chief Medical and Scientific Officer for the Oncoclinicas Group, the largest oncology provider in Latin America. Dr. Lopes has published more than 100 papers in journals such as the Journal of Clinical Oncology, Cancer, Nature Reviews, Lancet, Lancet Oncology and Health Affairs. He has been Principal, co-Principal Investigator or steering committee member in more than 100 studies and clinical trials covering breast, gastrointestinal, genitourinary and thoracic cancers. His other main areas of research interest are health economics, value, policy and access to cancer drugs and treatment in low- and middle-income countries. He is currently a committee member for the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer, a member of the European Society of Medical Oncology Expensive, Innovative Medicines Working Group and the Chair for the International Clinical Trials Workshop Working Group and track leader for global health at the American Society of Clinical Oncology, as well as an Executive Board Member for the Latin American Cooperative Oncology Group. Dr. Lopes has served as an expert for the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Health Organization and the Pan-American Health Organization and advised governments, professional societies and industry on issues related to cancer control and treatment in low- and middle-income countries.

Dr. Verna Vanderpuye, MD

Dr. Vanderpuye is a radiation and clinical oncologist at the National Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine Centre, Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra. She completed her medical training in Ghana and was awarded an International Atomic Energy Agency international fellowship in radiation oncology at Howard University Hospital in Washington DC. Following this, Dr. Vanderpuye was awarded a Union for International Cancer Control/American Cancer Society fellowship for further medical oncology training at the University of Chicago. She is the immediate past Faculty
Chair of Radiotherapy and Oncology in Radiology faculty of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons (2012-2017). Dr. Vanderpuye is the current Secretary Treasurer for the African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer and the World Health Organization expert on cancer for Ghana. Additional past and current committee appointments include: Regional Representative for European Society of Medical Oncology; the American Society of Clinical Oncology International Affairs Committee; several World Health Organization committees; and the Union on International Cancer Control Fellowship Committee. She has co-authored 35 peer reviewed articles, contributed to five technical documents and ten book chapters and has given over 25 presentations at national and international conferences. Dr. Vanderpuye mentors young African cancer specialists and her focus is on developing cost-effective and sustainable cancer management options in lower income settings.

Dr. Rengaswamy Sankaranarayanan, MD, MBBS

Dr. Sankaranarayanan has a medical degree in radiation oncology followed by postdoctoral training in the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Cambridge. After several years of experience in clinical oncology and cancer control in India, Dr. Sankaranarayanan joined the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in 1993. Through the Screening Group and Early Detection and Prevention Section of the IARC, and through innovative partnerships with other international organizations, national institutions and investigators, Dr. Sankaranarayanan conducted several pivotal studies world-wide with the aim of providing scientific evidence to support the development of appropriate public health policies of screening for common cancers in a range of health care settings, particularly low- and medium-resourced countries. These studies provide valuable data on the accuracy, reproducibility, efficacy, benefits, harmful effects and cost-effectiveness of different screening interventions for cervical, oral and breast cancers leading to rational utilization of health care resources in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of screening programs. He is an author in more than 200 papers in international peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. You-Lin Qiao, MD, PhD

Dr. You-Lin Qiao is Professor and Director of the Department of Cancer Epidemiology, National Cancer Centre, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, and Peking Union Medical College in Beijing, China. He is also Director of the International Collaboration Department, Cancer Foundation of China, and Deputy Director of the National Expert Committee for Cancer Screening and Prevention of Ministry of Health in China. Before returning to China in 1997, Dr. Qiao trained for 11 years at Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health and at the Cancer Prevention Studies Branch, National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health. He is an author of over 480 peer-reviewed publications in both English and Chinese. As an expert in cancer prevention and control, he served on the World Health Organization director-general’s cancer control advisory committee and on the WHO’s cancer technical advisory groups for promoting cancer prevention and control programs in developing countries. In 2011 he received a World Health Organization/International Agency for Research on Cancer Medal of Honor.
Dr. Silvina Arrossi, PhD, MSc

Dr. Silvina Arrossi is a sociologist at the University of Buenos Aires, an Independent Researcher at the National Scientific and Technical Research Council and Associate Researcher at the Center for State and Society Studies. Between 1999 and 2007 she worked in the Screening Group of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC-WHO, France), with particular emphasis on research on the social determinants of women's participation in screening programs. Dr. Arrossi was also a member of the research team of the Alliance for the Prevention of Cervical Cancer, composed of IARC, Pan-American Health Organization, PATH, EngenderHealth and JHPIEGO. She is a consultant for the World Health Organization, Scientific Coordinator of the National Cervical Cancer Prevention Program, Ministry of Health of the Nation, and Coordinator of the Operative Group for the prevention of cervical cancer of RINC-UNASUR. Her research focuses on the organizational components of cancer prevention programs, the analysis of inequality in access to health services and the social and economic cost of cancer. Currently, she directs a demonstration project for the introduction of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) test for primary screening in Jujuy, Argentina, and the implementation of the HPV self-test as a strategy to increase screening coverage among women with low access to health services. She is the Principal Investigator of an R01 implementation research project funded by the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health to study the use of mobile technology to increase access to diagnoses and treatment of HPV positive women.

Dr. Richard Sullivan, MD, PhD

Dr. Richard Sullivan is Professor of Cancer and Global Health at Kings College London (KCL), Director of KCL Institute of Cancer Policy (ICP) and Director, KCL Centre for the Study of Conflict & Health. Richard qualified in medicine and trained in surgery (urology), gaining his PhD from University College London. He was Clinical Director of Cancer Research UK for nearly ten years. He is also former UK Director of the Council for Emerging National Security Affairs. He has led programs for NATO, UN, OSCE and other organizations in global health and post conflict health reconstruction in many parts of the world. His most recent work has been focused on the basic package of health services in Afghanistan, civil-military co-operation in health in South Sudan, polio eradication and insecurity in Pakistan, and use of health intelligence in high security disease outbreaks. He has worked on over nine Commissions for the Lancet and Lancet Oncology, including Global Cancer Surgery, and most recently being the Lancet Series on Pathology and Future Cancer Research Priorities in the USA: a Lancet Oncology Commission. Personal research interests include global cancer systems strengthening, particularly around value and affordable cancer care in fragile and conflict-impacted countries, and the use of novel technologies e.g. VR-enhanced surgery, to build capacity and capability. Richard is non-communicable disease advisor to the World Health Organization, Save the Children, and the National Cancer Grid of India.
CS Pramesh, MD

Dr C S Pramesh is Professor and Head of Thoracic Surgery at the Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai and a Visiting Professor at the Division of Cancer Studies, King’s College London and the Institute of Cancer Policy, King’s Health Partners, London. He is the convener for the National Cancer Grid, a large network of 131 cancer centers in India, which provide uniform standards of cancer care across the country. His primary clinical areas of interest include the treatment of esophageal and lung cancers and minimally invasive surgery. He is the Secretary of the Indian Society for Diseases of the Esophagus and Stomach and the Principal Investigator of several investigator-initiated research studies including randomized trials on cancer screening, surgical techniques, and neoadjuvant treatment of thoracic cancers. He has written more than 170 peer-reviewed journal articles, abstracts and book chapters on topics in his specialty, including esophageal and lung cancers, minimally invasive surgery, tracheal, mediastinal and chest wall tumors, clinical research methods, translational research and cancer policy. Dr. Pramesh has strong interests in clinical trial designs, surgical trials, biostatistics, comparative effectiveness research and promoting collaborative research and cancer policy. He is highly committed to efforts towards eliminating disparities in cancer care and making cancer treatment accessible to all geographic regions and strata of society.

Dr. Anne Ng’ang’a, BDS, MSc

Dr. Anne Ng’ang’a is the Head of the National Cancer Control Program at the Ministry of Health in Kenya. She is a public health specialist with a Master’s degree in Health Systems Management and a Bachelor’s Degree in Dental Surgery from the University of Nairobi. She also holds a certificate in Implementation Science and Health Metrics from University of Washington in Seattle, USA. She Ng’ang’a has vast experience in health programs management having worked in various departments within the Ministry of Health in Kenya. During her tenure at the National AIDS Control Program (NASCOP) from 2010 to 2014, she was in charge of the HIV Testing and Counseling program during which time Kenya achieved universal access to HIV testing and counseling. Her current role as the Head of the newly established National Cancer Control Program in Kenya is to provide stewardship in cancer control in the country. This involves policy formulation, forging partnerships and stakeholder coordination to ensure synergy in cancer control efforts in Kenya. Her current focus is on improving access to cancer care in Kenya through public private partnership projects.