



# What's Happening at The Pancreas Center?



## Recent Highlights

### Initiatives and Achievements

In the past year, we have cared for **1863 patients** with **pancreatic disease**.

**Over 20 papers** were **published** this year, including the most important findings recently published in the journal *Cancer*.

- Subjects with inoperable cancer were treated with an aggressive pre-treatment regimen of chemotherapy and radiation. We reported the best results ever published, with the median survival approaching three years.

We have treated over **50 patients** with **Nanoknife**, a new technology that can be used when surgery is otherwise impossible.

- One third of patients have not required further chemotherapy or treatment.

**The Pancreatic Cancer Interactome Project** is a new personalized initiative in advancing the treatment of pancreatic cancer.

- Following diagnosis, patients would have their tumors analyzed for the complete set of genetic interactions in their particular tumor.
- The patient's oncologist could then tailor a customized combination of medications based on specific tumor vulnerabilities.

We have developed **health history questionnaires** that ask questions about general health history, the participant's family history, and lifestyle factors (for example: diet, tobacco use, alcohol consumption, and physical activity).

- We compile the results into a database, which can be used for future research. These factors may be found to increase or lower their risk of certain cancers.

Pancreas Center-**developed mice** spontaneously and **reliably develop pancreatic cancer** that **resembles** the **human strain** of the disease, helping to elucidate the mechanisms and traits of pancreatic cancer.

## The Herbert Irving Highlight of the Month:

### Precision Medicine

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Lee Bollinger, President of Columbia University, has made precision medicine one of the university's highest priorities.

Ken Olive, PhD of The Pancreas Center is teaming up with Andrea Califano, PhD, Chair, Department of Systems Biology, to dissect mutations from 600 high quality frozen pancreatic cancer samples to understand the causes and consequences of those mutations. This should steer us to an understanding of the key choke points of the disease. Knowing the vulnerable points of pancreatic cancer will help facilitate the development of novel, efficient treatments that are otherwise not considered.

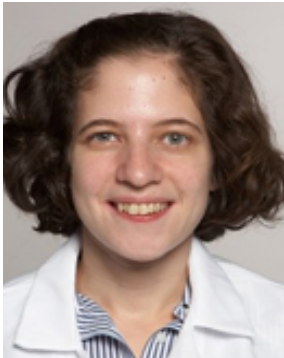
### Columbia Care, Closer to Home

Dr. Kluger and Dr. Gress will alternatively see patients at our 51<sup>st</sup> street location every Thursday. For location information, call us at 212 – 305 – 9467.



## Recent Additions

Help Us Welcome Our New Physicians



### Yvonne Saenger, MD

Chemotherapy, Immunology, and Internal Medicine

- Went to Harvard College for undergrad and Columbia University for her medical degree. Previously worked at Mt. Sinai.
- Specializes in immunology and oncology.
- Research includes investigation into novel treatment options for melanoma, the immune biomarkers and mechanisms of action of melanoma, the developmental pathology of melanoma, role of epigenetic factors in cancer progression, leukocyte integration in cancer treatment, and mapping genetic and molecular patterns of various cancers.



### Paul Oberstein, MD

Medical Oncology, Clinical Trials, Translational Research

- Received M.D. from Ohio State University.
- Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, NY.
- Research includes the uptake and molecular patterns of chemotherapy treatments for pancreatic cancer, the developmental mechanism and profile of gastric large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma, and biochemical patterns of GI and pancreatic cancers.



### Gerri Lipschitz, Social Worker, Oncology

- Outpatient social worker with oncology patients and their families
- Manages and helps with support group



## Important Information



Come visit us online at [pancreascenter.com](http://pancreascenter.com)

For any questions, comments or concerns, you can reach us at: 212-305-9467



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