

# Spring To Life™

*The 6th Annual  
Spring to Life™ Conference on Immuno-Oncology:  
Harnessing the Power of our Immune System in Cancer Therapy,  
a CE-accredited, 1-day educational conference*

**Saturday, May 11, 2019**

**Healthcare Professional Program – 7:30 AM – 1:15 PM**

**Patient-Centered Program – 1:30 PM – 3:45 PM**

**Albany Marriott Hotel**

189 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12205

Host

**NYO<sup>H</sup>** New York  
Oncology  
Hematology

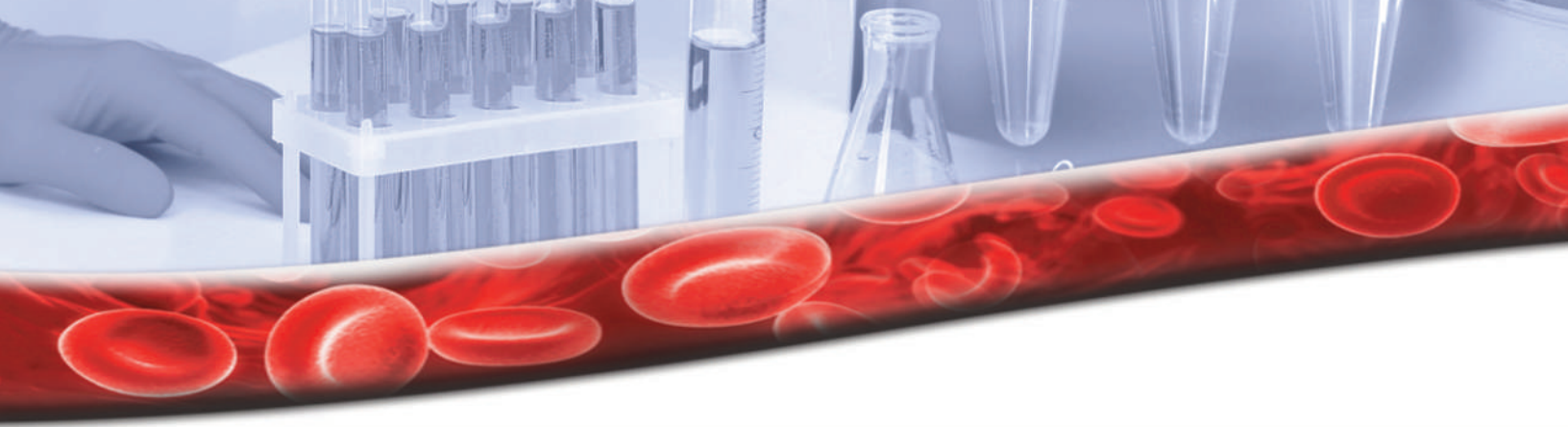
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**CEME**  
Center for Emergency Medical Education

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### **PRESENTATION DOWNLOAD**

The accredited content presented during the conference will be posted online for viewing and download within 7-10 days after the conference. An email will be sent to all participants with viewing and download instructions. Not all presentations will be shared due to reprint and permission restrictions.



### **INTERNET ACCESS**

Complimentary Wi-Fi is available using code “Marriott2019” to log in.



### **HOW TO CLAIM CREDIT**

#### **Physicians and Allied Health Professionals:**

- Sign in at the registration desk if you have not done so already.
- You will be emailed instructions for completing a program evaluation, claiming credit and printing your certificate within 7 days.

#### **Nurses and Social Workers:**

- Sign in at the registration desk if you have not done so already.
- Complete the blue Continuing Education/Program Evaluation form included in your program packet.
- Return the form to the registration table and sign out before leaving today.
- A certificate of completion will be issued to you via email within 30 days.



# Spring To Life™

Dear Healthcare Professional Colleagues:

Welcome to our **Sixth Annual Spring to Life™ Conference on Immuno-Oncology: *Harnessing the Power of our Immune System in Cancer Therapy***. Thank you for choosing to attend to update your knowledge, understanding, and also earn CE credits.

This springtime conference is dedicated to the true blossoming of the immune therapies and strategies to treat cancer. The pace of scientific progress and innovation in developmental therapeutics and translated clinical research is breathtaking and makes this topic timely and necessary. For this, we draw again on our regional expertise as speakers and panelists from Albany Medical College, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Dana Farber Cancer Institute join those of us from New York Oncology Hematology.


Also, please join us for our enriching afternoon session, “Community Dialogues on Living With Cancer”, with patients, caregiving partners and family, friends, and community as we continue to share the challenges and lessons of our holistic human experience of living with cancer. This year’s focus is *Hopefulness During Change, Aging, Illness and Loss*. We will have patient-shared experience, a panel, and open discussion with the audience.

Please take note of our grantors and exhibitors, whose generosity and support are integral to making *Spring to Life* an ongoing reality for our region.

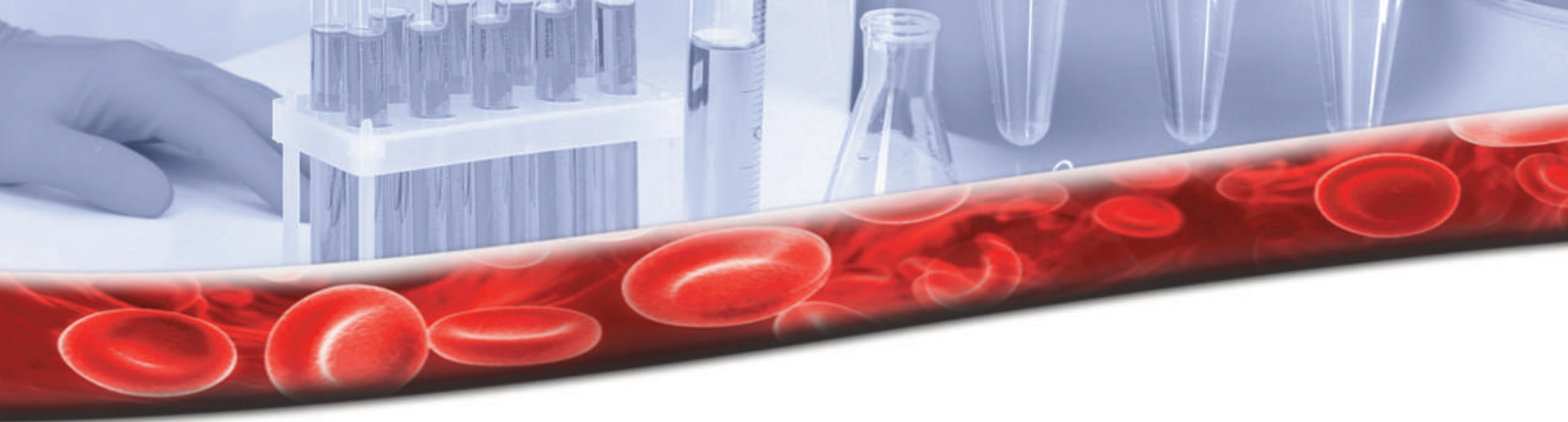
On behalf of our Organizing Committee, thank you again for taking the time out of your lives to join us and enhance your understanding and practice.

Enjoy!

Sincerely,



Ira Zackon, MD, Program Chair  
New York Oncology Hematology



## Agenda: Healthcare Professional Program

*Continuing Education Credit provided for physicians, nurses, social workers, and allied health professionals.*

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	<b>Registration, Breakfast, and Exhibits</b>	
8:00 AM - 8:10 AM	<b>Opening Remarks and Pre-Test</b>	– Ira Zackon, MD
8:10 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>The Drama of Immuno-Oncology: Cast of Characters</b>	– Michael D. Robek, PhD
8:30 AM - 9:10 AM	<b>Cutaneous Melanoma: Paradigm of Immuno-Oncology Therapeutics</b>	– Marc Ernstoff, MD
9:10 AM - 9:40 AM	<b>Checkpoint Inhibition: The Tumor Agnostic Release of the Immune System Brake</b>	– Stephen Wrzesinski, MD, PhD
9:40 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>Break, Snack, and Exhibits</b>	
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>Updates on Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplant: Managing the Immunologic Playing Field</b>	– Ira Zackon, MD
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS: CAR-T Cell and the Future of Cellular Therapies</b>	– Sarah Nikiforow, MD, PhD
11:15 AM - 11:50 AM	<b>Panel Discussion</b>	– Faculty Panel
11:50 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Closing Remarks and Post-Test</b>	– Ira Zackon, MD
12:00 PM	<b>Networking</b>	
12:15 PM - 1:15 PM	<b>Optional Breakout Session</b>	

## Agenda: Patient-, Family-, and Caregiver-Centered Sessions

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<b>Patient/Family Registration, Light Lunch, Exhibits</b>		
1:30 PM – 1:40 PM	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	Ira Zackon, MD	
1:40 PM – 2:40 PM	<b>Patient Interviews</b>	Edward Dick, LCSW	
2:40 PM – 3:40 PM	<b>Panelist Discussion</b>	Nischala Ammannagari, MD Amy Rudolph, Infusion RN Moderator: Claire Ralli, LCSW	Rev. Susan Vincent-Cox Frances Ford, LCSW
3:40 PM – 3:45 PM	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Ira Zackon, MD	
3:45 PM	<b>Adjourn</b>		



## Program Description

*Spring to Life™ Conference on Immuno-Oncology: Harnessing the Power of our Immune System in Cancer Therapy* is an accredited educational program developed by New York Oncology Hematology (NYOH), in collaboration with the Center for Emergency Medical Education (CEME), the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and a panel of expert faculty from the academic, research, and community practice settings.

With programming for both healthcare professionals and the community, the goal of this 1-day activity is to bring together cancer care providers and members of the community, including patients, survivors, their family and caregivers, to gain an up-to-date understanding of blood cancers, including ongoing research, clinical management, and emerging therapies. The program also provides perspectives on the impact of cancer on the lives of patients and families. The 2019 conference goal is to inform, update, and improve practitioners' understanding of existing and emerging immunologic therapies for cancer.

**The morning session will be accredited for continuing education credits for physicians, nurses, social workers, and allied health professionals.**

## Target Audience

The target audience for this conference is hematologists, oncologists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, oncology nurses, family and primary care practitioners, allied health professionals, and any other interested cancer care providers. Healthcare professionals are welcome and encouraged to participate in the afternoon patient-centered sessions.

## Fee Information

There is no fee for this educational activity.

## Learning Objectives

After completing this activity, participants should be better prepared to:

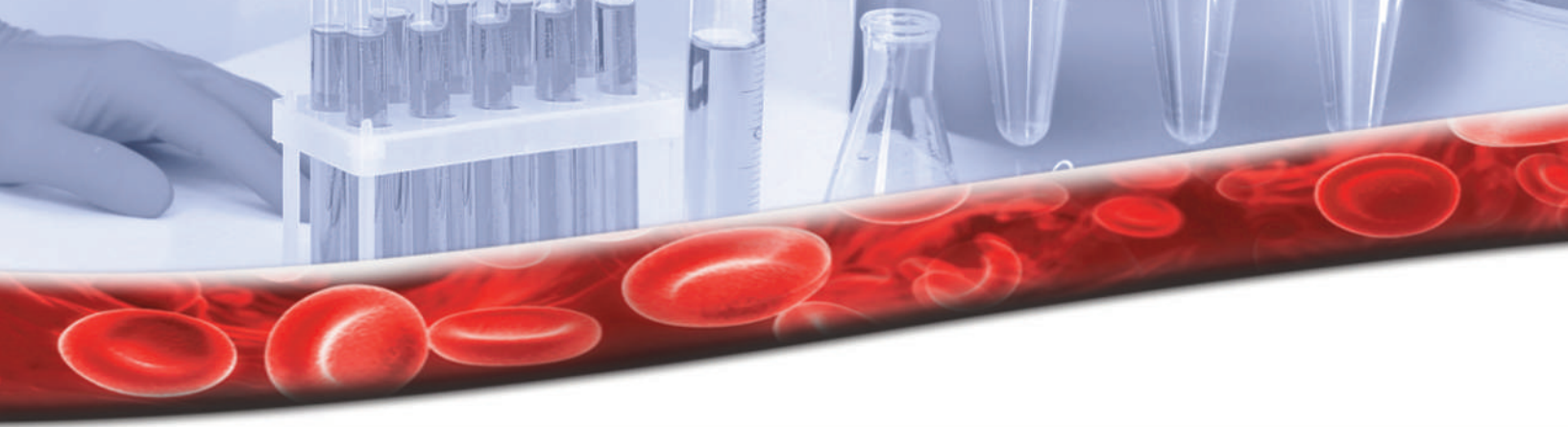
- Review the basic science of immune system interactions with cancer
- Discuss the existing and emerging data on checkpoint inhibition therapy
- Evaluate a variety of historical, contemporary, and emerging immuno-therapy approaches through the paradigm of cutaneous melanoma
- Describe the evolving paradigms and data on allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation
- Review the data on current and emerging Chimeric Antigen Receptor T cell (CAR-T) and other cellular therapy constructs

## Patient-Centered Session

The afternoon segment of this symposium will join patients and their loved ones with national experts, community oncologist/hematologists, and social workers to share stories and improve understanding in an entertaining and supportive environment.

The theme of the afternoon patient program is *Hopefulness During Change, Aging, Illness and Loss*.

***Healthcare professionals are welcome and encouraged to participate in the afternoon patient-centered sessions.***



## Accreditation Statements

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### Physician and Allied Health Professional Accreditation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint providership of the Center for Emergency Medical Education and myMedEd, Inc.



The Center for Emergency Medical Education (CEME) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The Center for Emergency Medical Education (CEME) designates this live activity for a maximum of 3.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The Center for Emergency Medical Education (CEME) designates this live activity for a maximum of 3.75 hours of participation for continuing education for allied health professionals.

### Nurse and Social Worker Accreditation

Approval for nurses has been obtained by the National Office of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society under provider number CEP 5832 to award 3.75 *continuing education contact hours through the California Board of Registered Nursing*. This document must be retained by the licensee for a period of four years after the course ends.

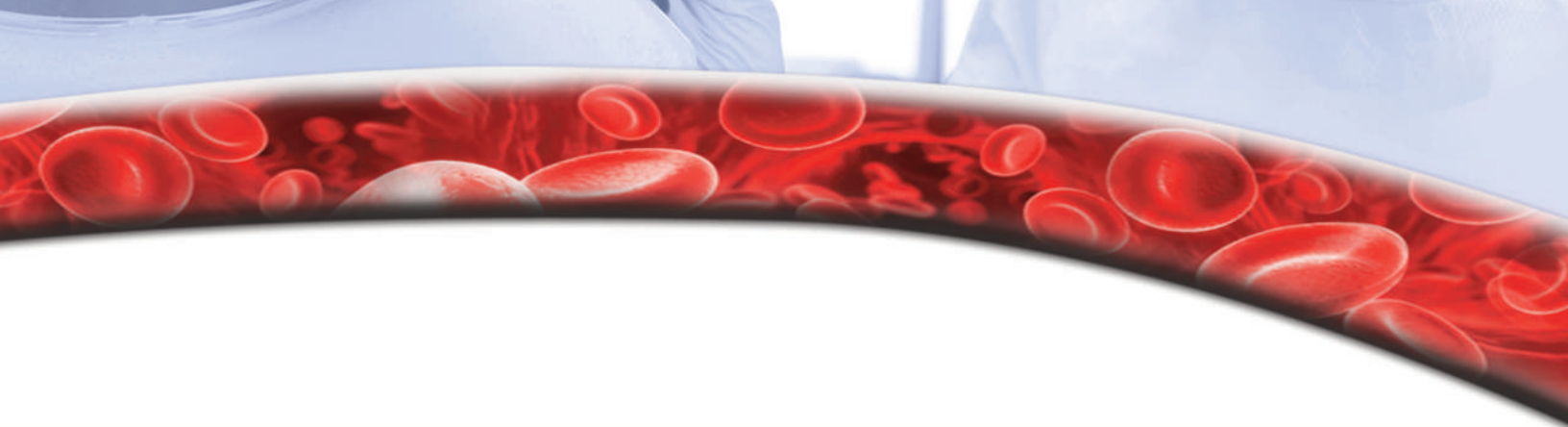
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), provider number 1105, is approved as a provider for social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) [www.aswb.org](http://www.aswb.org) Approved Continuing Education Program (ACE). Approval Period: 12/10/2017 to 12/10/2020. LLS maintains responsibility for the program. Social workers should contact their regulatory board to determine course approval. Social workers will receive 3.75 *CE (clinical) contact hours*.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #SW-0117. LLS maintains responsibility for this program. Social workers will receive 3.75 *CE (clinical) contact hours* for this activity.

## Fair Use Disclosure

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## Planning Committee

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### **Ira Zackon, MD (Chair)**

Medical Hematology and Oncology Director  
NYOH Hematology Stem Cell Transplant Program  
Hematologist/Oncologist  
NYOH, PC  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Albany Medical College  
Albany, NY

### **Courtney Bellomo, MD**

Hematologist/Oncologist  
NYOH Hematology Stem Cell Transplant Program  
NYOH, PC  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Albany Medical College  
Albany, NY

### **Edward Dick, LCSW**

Clinical Social Worker  
NYOH Consultant  
Albany, NY

### **Mary Jo Tomlinson, RN, BSN, OCN**

Stem Cell Transplant  
NYOH, PC  
Albany, NY

## Guest Faculty

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### **Marc S. Ernstoff, MD**

Professor & Katherine Anne Gioia Chair of Medicine  
Senior Vice President for Clinical Investigation  
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Elm & Carlton  
Buffalo, NY

### **Sarah Nikiforow, MD, PhD**

Clinical Instructor, Stem Cell Transplantation Program  
Asst. Medical Director, Cell Manipulation Core Facility  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, MA

## Faculty

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### **Ira Zackon, MD (Chair)**

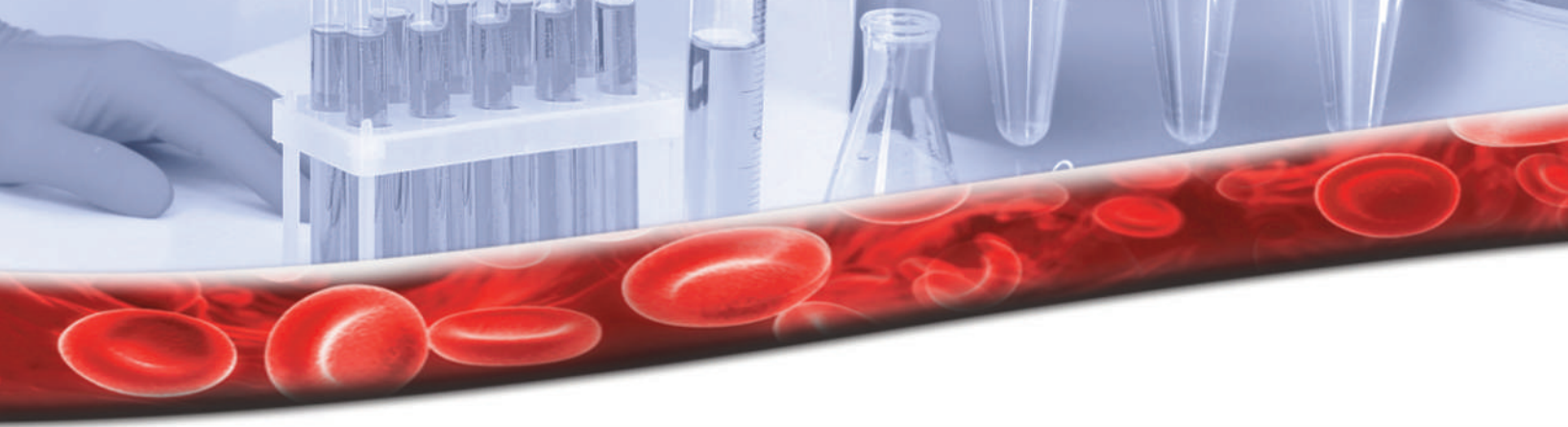
Medical Hematology and Oncology Director  
NYOH Hematology Stem Cell Transplant Program  
Hematologist/Oncologist NYOH, PC  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Albany Medical College  
Albany, NY

### **Michael D. Robek, PhD**

Professor  
Department of Immunology & Microbial Disease  
Albany Medical College  
Albany, NY

### **Stephen H. Wrzesinski MD, PhD**

Director of Immunooncology and Cellular Therapies  
New York Oncology Hematology  
Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Albany Medical Center  
Albany, NY



## Faculty Biographies

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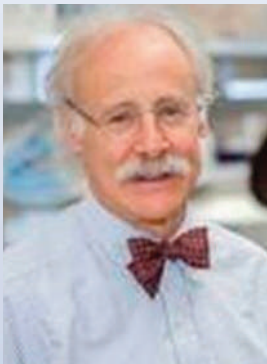


### **Ira Zackon, MD (Chair)**

Ira Zackon, MD, is a Hematologist/ Oncologist and Director of the Stem Cell Transplant Program and President of New York Oncology Hematology, PC (NYOH) and assistant clinical professor at Albany Medical College in Albany, New York.

After earning a medical degree in 1986 from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, he completed an internship and residency in medicine at Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal in 1987. Dr. Zackon completed fellowships in Hematology/Medical Oncology at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, New Hampshire (1990-1992), and Northwestern University Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois (1992-1994).

At NYOH, Dr. Zackon has developed the practice's autologous stem cell transplant program, expanded collaborative care for allogeneic bone marrow transplant patients at NYOH with regional transplant centers, and focused NYOH participation in research trials in the hematologic malignancies through the US Oncology Network and the Blood Cancer Research Partnership in association with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, Massachusetts.



### **Marc S. Ernstoff, MD**

Marc S. Ernstoff, MD, is Professor and Chair of the Department of Medicine and Senior Vice President of Clinical Investigation at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY, USA. Born in Brooklyn NY he studied History of Art at Emory University in Atlanta, GA and then medicine at NYU in NY, NY earning his MD degree in 1978. He completed his training in Internal Medicine at the Bronx Municipal Hospital and the Albert Einstein School of Medicine in the Bronx, NY and then oncology at Yale University New Haven, CT. He did a postdoctoral fellowship in cancer immunology and immunotherapy under the mentorship of Dr. John M. Kirkwood. Since then, he has focused his research on better understanding the immunobiology of cancer and on developing novel immune therapies for melanoma, renal cell carcinoma, myeloma, prostate cancer and gliomas. His research extends across a broad variety of immunotherapies including cytokine therapies, dendritic cell vaccines, immune checkpoint inhibition, targeted therapies and ex vivo expanded effector cells for adoptive transfer. Most recently he is investigating the role of tumor derived exosomes on the tumor microenvironment, and the impact of the beta adrenergic pathway on immune suppression. He currently serves on the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Melanoma Guidelines committees, the SITC and National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Immuno-oncology toxicity guideline committees, and the Cancer Immunotherapy Network (CITN) executive committee.

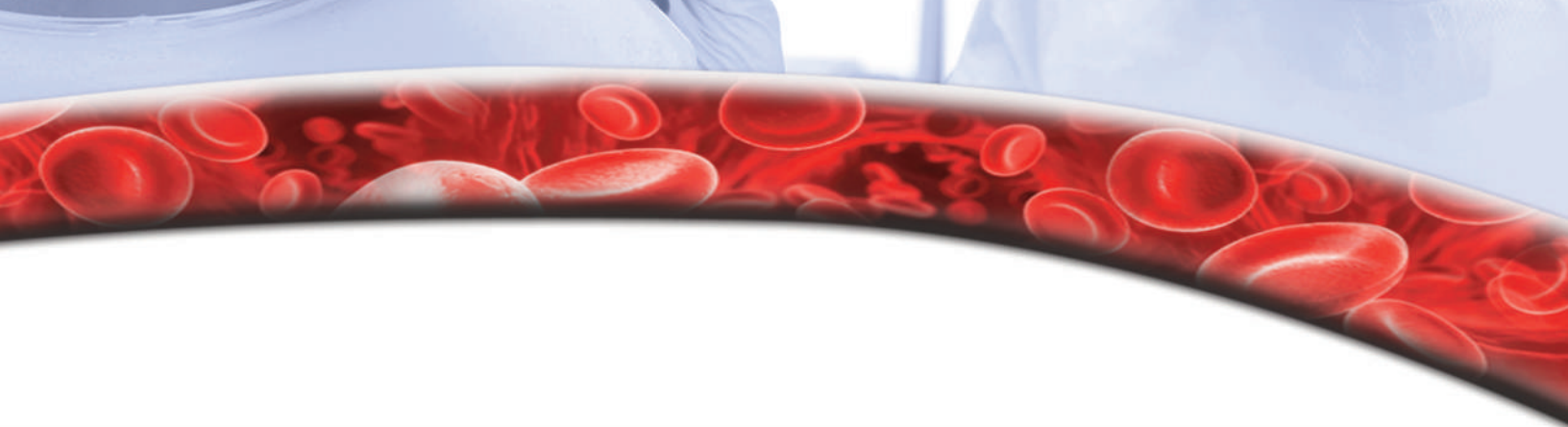


### **Sarah Nikiforow, MD, PhD**

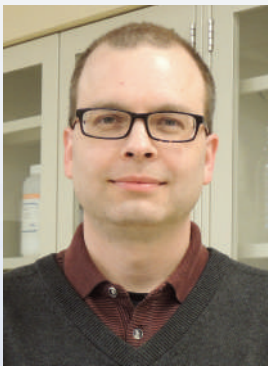
Sarah Nikiforow, MD, PhD, is currently a clinical instructor with the Stem Cell Transplant Program at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Assistant Medical Director of the Cell Manipulation Core Facility (CMCF), and Technical Director of DFCI's Immune Effector Cell Program. Dr. Nikiforow earned her MD and a PhD in Immunobiology at Yale University working on the differential roles of CD4 and CD8 T cells in immune control over Epstein-Barr virus-induced B cell transformation.

Dr. Nikiforow has embarked on a translational research career focusing on immune reconstitution after stem cell transplant and therapeutic use of adoptive cellular products. Through the CMCF and





as Principal Investigator of Phase I and II clinical trials, she is working to bring cellular therapies such as chimeric antigen-receptor T cells, genetically-modified stem cells, and regulatory T-cell infusions into the clinic at Dana-Farber. Her work with the International Society of Cellular Therapy, the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy and the Center for International Blood & Marrow Transplant Research aims to promote education and safe implementation within the broader and ever-growing cellular therapy field.



### **Michael D. Robek, PhD**

Michael D. Robek, PhD, is a Professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbial Disease at Albany Medical College. He received his Ph.D. degree in Microbiology from Washington University in St. Louis, where he studied the mechanisms of cancer induction by the human T-cell leukemia virus. He then carried out postdoctoral research at The Scripps Research Institute, where he studied the immune response to hepatitis B virus. Over the past fifteen years at Yale University and Albany Medical College, Dr. Robek's research has been aimed at understanding how virus-host interactions might be therapeutically manipulated in new ways to control chronic virus infection and cancer. First, they are characterizing the ability of antiviral and immunomodulatory cytokines to control virus replication and prevent tissue damage. Second, they are studying new methods for therapeutic immunization to eliminate viruses from chronically infected individuals. Third, they are working to understand how the cytopathic properties of viruses can be harnessed for treating cancer. These studies have not only provided new basic insight into virus replication and pathogenesis, but they have also identified new potential targets for therapy.



### **Stephen H. Wrzesinski MD, PhD**

Stephen H. Wrzesinski MD, PhD, is Chief of Medical Oncology/Hematology at St. Peter's Cancer Care Center and Clinical Assistant Professor at Albany Medical Center. Dr. Wrzesinski received his Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in chemistry at Hamilton College and subsequently attended SUNY Upstate Medical University for medical school and a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology. He completed his Internal Medicine training at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center and his Medical Oncology Fellowship training at the Yale Cancer Center. During his residency training he was the recipient of a Hitchcock Foundation grant to evaluate genetic signatures of dendritic cell subtypes considered for future tumor vaccine studies. Dr. Wrzesinski received a Yale Melanoma SPORE Career Development Award during fellowship training to study immunotherapy combinations in preclinical melanoma models. He subsequently joined the Yale faculty as Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine and Medical Oncology/Hematology attending at the West Haven VA Cancer Center.

Dr. Wrzesinski moved to the Capital District and joined the St. Peter's Cancer Care Center in 2011, becoming Division Chief of Medical Oncology/Hematology in 2015. Since joining St. Peter's Cancer Care Center, he has opened several clinical trials focusing on immunotherapies including checkpoint inhibitors for patients with advanced malignancies. Dr. Wrzesinski has a strong research interest in immuno-oncology, and has published in a number of journals including Nature Materials and the New England Journal of Medicine. He is an active member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC).

Dr. Wrzesinski will be joining New York Oncology Hematology in May, 2019 as Director of Immunology and Cellular therapies.





The Healthcare Professional session at the  
**6th Annual Spring to Life™ Conference on Immuno-Oncology:  
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is supported by an educational grant from:

## **Celgene Corporation**

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is proudly hosted by New York Oncology Hematology, PC