## ****September 28-20, 2020****

## *****Merck Research Labs, Boston*****

## ****PRELIMINARY TOPICAL AGENDA & SPEAKER LINE-UP****

## ****\*Please Note: Speakers are daily being confirmed/reconfirmed in light of current fluid Corona Virus situation\*****

**KEYNOTE AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTVE**

**Peter Adamson, MD Past** Chair of the Children’s Oncology Group (COG), Global Head, Oncology Drug Development & Lead, Pediatric Innovations Group, Sanofi, Inc; Dr. Adamson is Professor Emeritus at the Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania. He is Board Certified in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Clinical Pharmacology.

**VIEW FROM THE NCI: A 10 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE : THE STATE AND EVOLUTION OF COMPARATIVE CANCER RESEARCH**

**Amy LeBlan**c, **DVM** Director, Comparative Oncology Program, National Cancer Institute  
and Scientist, NCI Molecular Imaging Program

**COMPARATIVE ONCOLOGY OVERVIEW**

Significant challenges exist in oncology drug development. These are magnified when patient numbers are relatively small (as in pediatrics) and/or where the economics of developing drugs are challenging. This segment will provide an overview of traditional animal models in oncology drug development and introduce the potential inclusion of canine patient data to inform preclinical programs and to guide go/no-go decisions for clinical development. The challenges, limitations and opportunities will be framed, especially as they relate to translational value in development of new treatments for childhood cancer.

**Cheryl London, DVM, PhD, DACVIM** [Anne Engen and Dusty Professor in Comparative Oncology](http://sites.tufts.edu/vetmag/spring-2018/teamwork-at-its-finest/) Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine and Tufts University School of Medicine

**DATA-DRIVEN COMPARATIVE ONCOLOGY RESEARCH: INTELLIGENT NTEGRATION OF HUMAN/PEDIATRIC AND CANINE CANCER DATA TO FUEL DISCOVERY & ACCELERATE DRUG DEVELOPMENT**

Significant advances in comparative research hinge on adequately defined canine genomic and immunologic profiles (genomic sequencing, mutational load, and immunologic characterizations.) Efforts including the Precision Medicine and Moonshot Canine Immunotherapy initiatives are yielding exciting new datasets, which must be housed in an open-source environment (data commons) and harmonized to allow comparison/contrast with relevant human datasets. Here, leading experts provide insights into the status of various data generation and warehousing initiatives in the comparative context.

**Warren Kibbe, PhD** Chief for Translational Biomedical Informatics in the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics and Chief Data Officer for the Duke Cancer Institute

**Jeff Trent** President and Research Director of the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen)

**Adam Resnick, PhD** Director of Data Driven Discovery in Biomedicine (D3b) at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)

**Amy LeBlanc, DVM** Comparative Oncology Program, National Cancer Institute  
**Will Hendricks, DVM** Integrated Cancer Genomics Division, TGEN

**Heather Gardner** DVM, DACVIM (Oncology) Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine

**Andrea Webber,** Assistant Head, Clinical Biomarkers Translational Oncology, Merck  
**Connie Sommers, PhD** (Invited) Program Director at National Cancer Institute

**REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS AND COMPARATIVE BIOETHICS**

Canine clinical trials are increasingly viewed as potentially instructive to human drug development projects Additionally, understanding of the capabilities and limitations of both pediatric and veterinary clinical research are useful in approaching a framework for progress. This section will include insights from experts involved in thinking through these aspects of research and drug development particularly in light of the FDA’s list of Relevant Pediatric Molecular Targets and the early pediatric studies of relevant agents to be required by the RACE Act. Further, we will examine bioethical considerations, including the pediatric oncology clinical trials experience and how it may be instructive in the comparative setting.

**Moderator: Carol K. Robertson-Plouch, DVM, cert ACDRS** Founder and Chief Executive , Convergence Bioscience

**Invited Panelists: Gregory Reaman, MD,** Office of Hematology and Oncology in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, FDA**; Bruce Thomsen, USDA, and Chris Loss, DVM, FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine; Jonathan Marron, MD, MPH Boston Children’s Hospital**

**NUTS & BOLTS: INTEGRATING COMPARATIVE RESEARCH INTO THE PHARMA DRUG DEVELOPMENT PARADIGM**

The engagement of drug developers is critical to accelerating progress in human (especially pediatric) and canine cancers. Here we cover several significant case studies to demonstrate real world examples and the utility and value of intelligent integration of canine patients into the drug development pipeline. We also hear from pharma and biotech what their needs are and how they envision receiving canine data that is useful to complement and inform their preclinical and clinical drug development plans, with a particular eye also to RACE Act requirements.

**Moderator: TBD** with Invited members of industry, large and small pharma, biopharma

**COURAGEOUS WARRIORS: CANCER PATIENTS’ PERSPECTIVES**

Cancer patients are the reason we are gathered. Cancer warriors (survivors of childhood cancer, and human advocate of a canine cancer warrior) will participate in a moderated panel discussion, providing personal insights on the needs of the patient. (Several Cancer Survivors and/or their caregivers **) Len Lichtenfeld,** Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Moderator

**COLLABORATIONS AT BOTH ENDS OF THE LEASH**

Significant comparative research is underway which could inform and potentially advance our understanding of shared cancers in canines and in children and/or inform clinical trials of novel therapies or combinations for pediatric application. This section will include state of the art presentations regarding three major comparative cancers: osteosarcoma, brain cancers (notably gliomas) and lymphoma. Investigators involved in these critical projects will present updates on this ongoing research.

**Lee Helman, MD** Children’s Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases & Keck School of Medicine of University of Southern California

**Cheryl London, DVM, PhD, DACVIM** Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, School of Medicine  
**Amy LeBlanc, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM (Oncology)** Comparative Oncology Program, National Cancer Institute  
**Navin Pinto, MD** Seattle Children’s Hospital

**Alex Huang, M.D., Ph.D.,** Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine & UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital

**William Eward, MD, DVM Duke University School of Medicine & NC State School of Veterinary Medicine**

**Rowan Milner, DVM, University of Florida School of Veterinary Medicine**

**Steven W. Dow, DVM, MS, PhD, Diplomate ACVIM** Colorado State University, Flint Animal Cancer Center

**Dean Lee, MD, PhD D**irector of the Cellular Therapy and Cancer Immunotherapy Program for Nationwide Children’s Hospital (Invited)

**Carl H. June, MD** University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine

**Nicola Mason, PhD, BVetMed** University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine

**Jay Philip Storm, MD, Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania**

**John Rossmeisl DVM, MS** [Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine](https://www.facebook.com/VaMdVetMed/?tn-str=k%2AF)

**Roel Verhaak, PhD The Jackson Laboratories (tentative), potentially Samir Amin, PhD**

**Melissa Rene Chambers, DVM, MD** School of Medicine, University of Alabama

**Amy Heimberger, MD, MD Anderson Cancer Center**

**Mahua Dey, MD**, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine

**Timothy Bentley**, DVM, Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine

**GOLDEN RETRIEVER LIFETIME STUDY: REVIEW OF FIRST COHORT OF CANCER-AFFLICTED PARTICIPANTS**

**Rodney Page, DVM,** Flint Animal Cancer Center & Principal Investigator & **Janet Patterson-Kane** DVM, Chief Scientific Officer, Morris Animal Foundation

**NOVEL APPROACHES & THE CANINE CANCER PATIENT**

Important comparative work is ongoing in several areas that may serve to inform human/pediatric cancer diagnosis, treatment & Drug delivery. Here we look at several approaches that can inform pediatric cancer diagnosis, treatment & drug delivery

**Cancer Diagnostics**

* **Elinor Karlsson, PhD,** The Broad Institute, MIT
* **Heather Wilson, DVM** Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine

**Preventative Canine Cancer Vaccine Trial**

* **Douglas Thamm**, DVM  Director of Clinical Research, Flint Animal Cancer Center, Colorado State University. (Tentative)

**Tumor Ablative Technology**

Nick Dervisis, DVM & Shawna Klahan, DVM, Virginia Tech S