



# 2022 THINK TANK

PROGRAM GUIDE

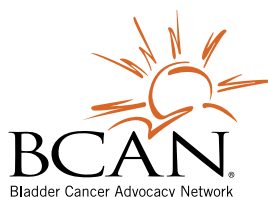
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Collaborating to  
Advance Bladder  
Cancer Research

AUGUST 3-5, 2022

## CONTENTS

About BCAN, About Think Tank	2
Letter from Co-Chairs	3
Thank Tank Steering Committee	4
Program Schedule	5-11
BCAN Store	12
Who to Contact at BCAN	13
John Quale Travel Fellows	14
BCAN Supporting Research	18
Thanks to Our Sponsors	19



### About BCAN

Since 2005, the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN) has cultivated a strong partnership with the leading members of the bladder cancer medical and scientific community to encourage collaboration among all the parties dedicated to the study of bladder cancer and its prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

### About the Think Tank

The Bladder Cancer Think Tank meeting is an essential vehicle for advancing collaborative research efforts in bladder cancer and is the premier annual bladder cancer-specific medical meeting in North America. From the beginning, the Think Tank meeting has focused on identifying obstacles and creating solutions in bladder cancer research and has fostered discussions to help define priorities for advancing bladder cancer research. Invited participants include urologists, oncologists, researchers, pathologists, social scientists, patient advocates and industry representatives, all whom are dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of bladder cancer.

## FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Dear Bladder Cancer Research Community, Patients, and Caregivers,  
It is our pleasure to welcome you to the 17th annual Bladder Cancer Think Tank. After meeting virtually for the last two years, we are delighted to get to see each other in person once again.

We have an exciting agenda this year, including presentations about artificial intelligence, early screening, the next generation of trials in NMIBC, and sequencing of therapies in metastatic urothelial cancer. You can also choose from a host of informative breakout sessions with topics like survivorship challenges, germline genetics, health equity, sexual intelligence in bladder cancer, and more.

We begin with the challenges presented by BCAN co-founder Diane Zipursky Quale and patient advocates on Wednesday and conclude with “outside the box” thinking on organ preservation on Friday.

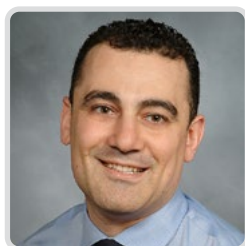
This meeting would not be possible without the hard work of dedicated volunteers, including the members of the 2022 Think Tank Steering Committee.

It is so encouraging that professional collaborations sparked during past Think Tank meetings continue, as does the important work of preventing, diagnosing and treating bladder cancer.

— Sima and Bishoy



**Sima P. Porten, MD**  
TT22 Chair



**Bishoy M. Faltas, MD**  
TT22 Co-Chair

## SPECIAL THANKS

### A special thank you to the 2022 Think Tank Steering Committee

**Chair - Sima Porten, MD, MPH**, University of California San Francisco

**Co-Chair - Bishoy Morris Faltas, MD**, Weill Cornell Medical Center

**Sumeet Bhanvadia, MD**, University of Southern California

**Mary Dunn Weinstein, RN, MSN, OCN, NP-C**, University of North Carolina Health Care

**Gail Dykstra**, BCAN Patient Advocate

**Petros Grivas, MD, PhD**, University of Washington Medicine

**Shilpa Gupta, MD**, Cleveland Clinic

**Max Kates, MD**, Johns Hopkins Medicine

**Joshua Meeks, MD, PhD**, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

**Helen Moon, MD**, Kaiser Permanente Southern California

**Kent Mouw, MD, PhD**, Dana Farber Cancer Institute

**Eugene Pietzak, MD**, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

**Sarah Psutka, MD**, University of Washington Medicine

**Bob Schreiber**, BCAN Patient Advocate

**Randy Sweis, MD**, University of Chicago Medicine

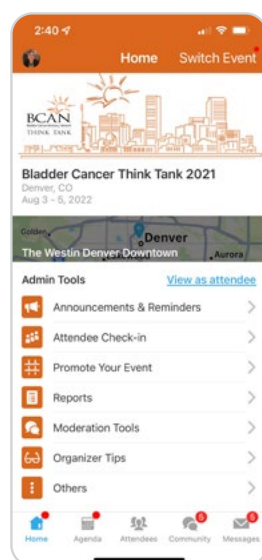
**Chana Weinstock, MD**, Food and Drug Administration

### Ex Officio Members:

**Yair Lotan, MD**, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

**Matthew Milowsky, MD**, University of North Carolina Lineberger Cancer Center

**Diane Zipursky Quale**, BCAN Co-Founder



### Connect and Collaborate at Think Tank and after! Download the TT22 Whova app today!

Have you downloaded the Whova app? Using it, you can see who is attending the Think Tank, introduce yourself to the group or set up time to meet with someone in particular you would like to collaborate or network with, send a tweet and share photos from the meeting, view your personal schedule and more!

Download the app from your preferred app store. Just search for “Whova.” Sign in with the email you used to register for Think Tank. Once you sign in or create your account, you will be taken to the 2022 Think Tank homepage. Don’t see it? Search for the event “Bladder Cancer Think Tank 2022” and use the invitation code **thinktank2022** to join the event. Interact with attendees in the Community tab. You can make plans to share rides to the airport, go to dinner, or just catch up!

Make sure to use **#BCANTT22** on your social media. You can check out what others are saying and see your posts on the Social Wall.



## 2022 BCAN THINK TANK SCHEDULE

### COLLABORATING TO MOVE RESEARCH FORWARD

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#### Wednesday, August 3, 2022

- 10:00 – 4:00**    **Registration Check In**
- 3:30 – 4:00**    **Welcome and Opening Remarks** with BCAN CEO Andrea Maddox-Smith and Co-Founder Diane Zipursky Quale, Chair Sima Porten, MD, MPH (@SimaPorten) and Co-chair Bishoy M. Faltas, MD (@FaltasLab)
- 4:00 – 5:00**    **Patient Voice Panel**
- 5:00 – 6:00**    **Meet the 2022 John Quale Travel Fellows**
- 6:00 – 7:00**    **Happy Hour – Meet & Greet**
- 7:00 – 9:00**    **Founders Dinner**
- 

#### Thursday, August 4, 2022

- 7:00 – 8:30**    **Breakfast**
- 8:30 – 10:00**    **BCAN Research Presentations**
- Young Investigator Awardees**
- Burles A. (Rusty) Johnson, III, MD, PhD (2020), Johns Hopkins Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute
  - Yuki Kita, MD, PhD (2020) University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
- Patient Centered Clinical Young Investigator Awardees**
- Matthew Mossanen, MD, MPH (@MattMossanen) (2020), Brigham and Women's Hospital
  - Svetlana Avulova, MD (@Svet\_MD) (2021), Albany Medical Center
- 10:00 – 10:30**    **Networking Break**
- 10:30 – 12:00**    **Breakout sessions** (see page 7)
- 12:00 – 12:15**    **Break**

**12:15 – 2:00 Lunch with BCAN Bladder Cancer Research Innovation Awardee Presentations**

- Philip Beachy, PhD (2019), Stanford University School of Medicine, presented by Kris B. Prado, MD
- Jeffrey Ravetch, MD, PhD (2020), Rockefeller University, presented by David Knorr, MD, PhD (@DavidKnorrMDPhD)

**2:00 – 2:30 Networking Break**

**2:30 – 5:00 Transforming the Future** – paradigm changing innovation opportunities to shape the future of bladder cancer management

**Part 1: Artificial Intelligence: The Future of Bladder Cancer Starts Now**

Co-chairs Randy Sweis, MD (@RandySweisMD) from the University of Chicago and Shilpa Gupta, MD (@shilpaonc) from the Cleveland Clinic

Artificial Intelligence (AI), including machine learning (ML) and deep learning (DL), are computational techniques designed to perform complex tasks and problem solve. AI is emerging as an important method to develop advanced diagnostics and therapeutics. In this provocative discussion, we will explore innovative and actionable uses of machine learning (ML) or artificial intelligence (AI) to reshape bladder cancer research and personalized clinical care.

*Invited panelists:*

- Alexander T. Pearson, MD, PhD, University of Chicago
- Bishop M. Faltas, MD (@FaltasLab), Weill Cornell

**Part 2: Early Screening** Co-chairs Yair Lotan, MD, from UT Southwestern and Philip Abbosh, MD, PhD, (@scientistatlrg) from Fox Chase Cancer Center

Screening for early cancers has the potential benefit of detecting disease when less invasive, resulting in less morbid treatments and improving survival. However, screening approaches can lead to unnecessary downstream tests, patient anxiety, and cost to patients without disease who have false positive test results.

Renowned Mayo Clinic breast cancer researcher, Minetta C. Liu, MD, will highlight her team's first-of-its-kind blood test for cancer screening in asymptomatic patients that was recently approved by the FDA. This portion of the panel will explore the theory, utility, and practicality of screening asymptomatic but high-risk patients for bladder cancer using next generation screening tools, including how screening trials might be designed.

*Invited panelists:*

- Minetta C. Liu, MD, Mayo Clinic (@BreastCancerMD1)

**5:00 – 6:30 2022 John Quale Travel Fellow Poster Session and Happy Hour**

*\* Dinner on your own.*

## Thursday Breakout Discussion Sessions Descriptions:

**Next Generation of Trials in NMIBC – Follow Up from the FDA Workshop.** Co-chairs Chana Weinstock, MD, (@chana\_weinstock) from the US Food and Drug Administration and Seth P. Lerner, MD, FACS, from Baylor College of Medicine.

In November 2021, FDA held a workshop on clinical trial design in NMIBC. The purpose of this workshop was to discuss challenges and opportunities in clinical trial design for patients with NMIBC. The ultimate goal of the workshop was to identify actionable next steps towards facilitating feasible trial designs that can capture interpretable and clinically meaningful results. This session will reflect on takeaways and next steps from the workshop.

*Invited discussion leaders:*

- Noah M. Hahn MD, Greenberg Bladder Cancer Institute at Johns Hopkins University
- Elaine Chang, MD, (@ElaineChangMD) US Food and Drug Administration

**Identifying the Hallmarks of Bladder Cancer - What Do We Need to Know?** Co-chairs Chong-Xian Pan, MD, PhD, from Harvard Medical School and Randy Sweis, MD, (@RandySweisMD) University of Chicago School of Medicine.

The Hallmarks of Cancer heuristic framework distilled the complexity of cancer into a set of key underlying mechanistic principles. Published in 2000 with six core features, the recent 2022 updates add four new proposed dimensions (unlocking phenotypic plasticity, senescent cells, nonmutational epigenetic reprogramming, and polymorphic microbiomes). Explore how each dimension is being addressed by current bladder cancer research. Help TT22 attendees identify opportunities that will lead to the next breakthroughs in understanding the hallmarks of bladder cancer.

*Invited discussion leaders:*

- William Y. Kim, MD, (@WilliamKimMD) Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of North Carolina
- Molly Ingersoll, PhD, (@ImmunoBladder) Institute Pasteur

**Navigating Through Sequencing of Therapies in Metastatic Urothelial Cancer in 2022.** Co-chairs Shilpa Gupta, MD, (@shilpaonc) from Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute and Srikala Sridhar, MD, MSc, FRCPC, (@kalasri3) from Princess Margaret Cancer Center.

The treatment landscape for metastatic urothelial carcinoma has evolved significantly over the last several years and there are several treatment options now available. The question of optimal sequencing of drugs remains an important question to address. In this session, we will discuss case studies and clinical scenarios based on clinical and biologic factors to discuss what sequence may be best for a patient to improve outcomes while maintaining quality of life.



**Breaking Barriers and Innovative Solutions: Community Oncology's Projects to Bridge Gaps in Bladder Cancer Care.** Co-chair Helen Moon, MD, from Kaiser Permanente and Lawrence Karsh, MD, FACS, from the Urology Center of Colorado.

Innovative quality projects within the community oncology system are exploring solutions for vexing problems in bladder cancer. Explore how challenges like the BCG shortage, high volume complex oncology care and clinical trial enrollment are being addressed. Let's remove barriers and encourage town and gown to work together to build bridges that improve access, quality and survival in the context of narrowing the survival gap in a historically disadvantaged population.

*Invited discussion leaders:*

- Elizabeth Guancial, MD, Florida Cancer Specialists and Research Institute
- Megan Matrenec, DO, Kaiser Permanente
- Stephen G. Williams, Jr., MD, Kaiser Permanente
- Adam J. Gadzinski, MD, (@Uro\_gadz) Comprehensive Urology

**From Prehab to Rehab and Beyond: Continuing to Improve Outcomes After Surgery.** Co-chairs Sarah Psutka, MD, MSc, (@spsutkaMD) from the University of Washington Medical Center and Sia Daneshmand, MD (@siadaneshmand) from USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Panelists discuss strategies that can be offered to patients to optimize performance and health in preparation for radical cystectomy. They will focus on nutritional optimization, pre-operative exercise interventions, and identification of other patient-specific vulnerabilities, as well as novel risk stratification measures including frailty, body composition, and multidimensional risk assessments. We will also discuss interventions to improve quality of life following urinary diversion.

*Invited discussion leaders:*

- Hannah Oh, MD, University of Washington Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

**Exposures to Environmental Contaminants as Important Risk Factors for Bladder Cancer: Existing Knowledge and Future Research Needs.** Co-chairs Joshua Meeks, MD, (@JoshMeeks) from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Carsten Prasse, PhD, MS, (@PrasseLab) from Johns Hopkins University.

Is bladder cancer caused by carcinogens? Humans are exposed to a large variety of environmental contaminants through drinking water, food, air, occupational or recreational activities. However, there is currently a considerable lack of knowledge to what extent these exposures contribute to bladder cancer and what the responsible carcinogens are. This interactive session will identify what is known about the environmental toxicology of bladder cancer, how these carcinogens may cause cancer at the molecular and cellular level and identify the most salient questions that need to be addressed with further investigation.

*Invited discussion leaders:*

- Stella Koutros, PhD, MPH, (@StellaKoutros) National Cancer Institute
- Molly Jacobs, MPH, Lowell Center for Sustainable Production
- Sunil Patel, MD, (@SHPatelMD1) Brady Urologic Institute, Johns Hopkins Medicine



## Friday, August 5, 2022

**7:00 – 8:30 Breakfast**

**8:30 – 10:00 BCAN Research**

### **Young Investigator Awardee Presentations (2021)**

- Filipe LF Carvalho, MD, PhD, ([@CarvalhoFilipeL](#)) Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Brendan Guercio, MD, ([@BrendanGuercio](#)) Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
- Benjamin Miron, MD, ([@BenMironMD](#)) Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Eugene Pietzak, MD, ([@eugene\\_pietzak](#)) Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

**10:00 – 10:30 Networking**

**10:30 – 12:00 Breakout sessions (See page 5)**

**12:00 – 2:30 Lunch and Panel: Advances in Organ-Sparing Management for Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer.** Co-chairs Kent W. Mouw, MD, PhD, ([@mouwlab](#)) Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Petros Grivas, MD, PhD, ([@PGrivasMDPhD](#)) of Washington and John Sfakianos, MD, ([@Drjohnsfakianos](#)) Mt. Sinai with BCAN patient advocate Robert Schreiber.

Radical cystectomy has been the most widely used curative treatment for muscle-invasive bladder cancer (MIBC). Selecting patients for organ-sparing treatment is currently based mainly on clinical factors; however, multiple ongoing studies are investigating molecular features that may help improve patient selection. This panel will focus on recent advances in organ-sparing treatment approaches for MIBC, providing the opportunity for multiple stakeholders to engage in an interactive discussion to highlight ongoing studies, identify critical unmet needs, and provide recommendations for future directions.

#### *Invited discussion leaders:*

- Leslie Ballas, MD, Keck School of Medicine
- Bernard H. Bochner, MD, ([@bbmdmsk](#)) Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Institute
- Benjamin Miron, MD, ([@BenMironMD](#)) Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Jason Efstathiou, MD, DPhil, Massachusetts General Hospital
- Elizabeth Plimack, MD, MS, ([@ERPlimackMD](#)) Fox Chase Cancer Center

**Closing remarks**

## Friday Breakout Discussion Sessions Descriptions:

**Navigating Survivorship Challenges with Patients Across the Spectrum of Bladder Cancer Care.** Co-chairs Mary Dunn, RN, MSN, OCN, NP-C, ([@MaryWDunn](#)) University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, and Krisztina Emodi, FNP, MPH, CNS, University of California San Francisco Health.

Patients with bladder cancer face multiple survivorship issues related to treatment-related toxicities, surveillance, and psychosocial challenges. Health care providers encounter challenges in managing these aspects of cancer care due to time constraints, lack of knowledge of specific survivorship needs, and limited resources, among other barriers. This breakout session will share input from patients and identify actionable areas for further research and clinical changes to improve patients and caregivers living with, though, and beyond bladder cancer.

**Germline Genetics in Bladder Cancer.** Co-chairs Bishoy M. Faltas, MD ([@FaltasLab](#)), Weill-Cornell Medicine and Guru Sonpavde, MD, ([@sonpavde](#)) Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

Clinically significant germline variants exist in bladder cancer patients. How do we best understand the impact of these variants on bladder tumors? Can somatic genomic profiling trigger germline testing? Should there be universal germline genetic testing offered to all bladder/urothelial carcinoma patients? Contribute to the discussion of surveillance of patients with Lynch syndrome and help determine the best biomarkers for trials testing germline-directed therapies in patients with urothelial carcinoma.

*Invited discussion leader:*

- Marianne Dubard-Gault, MD, MS, ([@DrDubardGault](#)) Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

**Identifying and Mobilizing Stakeholders and Allies for Health Equity in Bladder Cancer.** Chair Samuel L. Washington III, MD, MAS, ([@SamWashUro](#)) University of California San Francisco.

In this timely discussion, we aim to define equity across multiple 'levels' of healthcare (patient, facility, healthcare system) to understand what the actionable targets are for improving equity in bladder cancer care. As we identify key stakeholders and allies within each of these levels and their potential roles in efforts to improve health equity, join the discussion to help BCAN leverage resources to promote health equity for our patients with bladder cancer.

**Preclinical Modeling of Urothelial Cancer—Challenges and Opportunities** Co-chairs David DeGraff, PhD, Penn State Cancer Center and John K. Lee, MD, PhD, (@jklee\_lab) Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

Preclinical models of urothelial cancer are critical to understanding disease biology and evaluating new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches. Join the discussion of emerging approaches to model disease, focusing on relevant challenges faced by investigators including the diversity and plasticity of subtypes of urothelial cancer, disease heterogeneity, and complex interplay with the tumor microenvironment. Help identify unmet needs, opportunities, and strategies to advance the field in a collaborative manner.

*Invited discussion leaders:*

- Seth P. Lerner, MD, Baylor College of Medicine
- David Mulholland, PhD, Mt. Sinai
- Cathy Mendelsohn, PhD, Columbia University

**Sexual Intelligence in Bladder Cancer.** Co-chairs Svetlana Avulova, MD, (@Svet\_MD) Albany Medical Center and Daniela Wittmann, PhD, LMSW, (@DrWittmann) University of Michigan School of Medicine.

Expectations of the impact of bladder cancer treatment on sexual practices differ from the patient, partner, and clinician perspectives. What is sexually “normal” for patients diagnosed with bladder cancer? How can clinicians and patients work to optimize sexual outcomes throughout treatment and into survivorship? Join the discussion with leading sexual and urologic experts to identify opportunities for both research and education to support sexual health after bladder cancer.

*Invited discussion leaders:*

- Carol P. Milam, MD, Vanderbilt University
- Douglas Milam, MD, Vanderbilt University
- John P. Mulhall MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

## BCAN STORE



**Support BCAN. Get your gear today!**

**USE DISCOUNT CODE TT22 AND  
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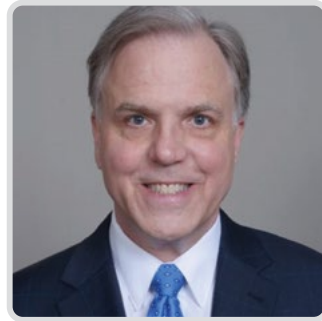
## WHO TO CONTACT AT BCAN



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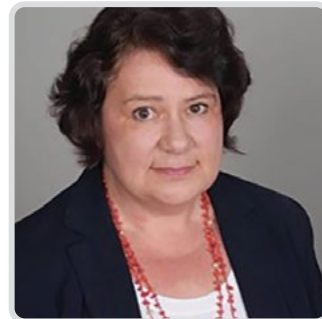
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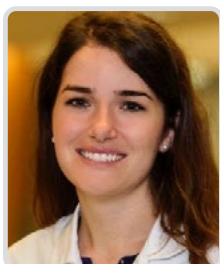


**Joslyn Brown, Development and Marketing Coordinator**  
[jbrown@bcan.org](mailto:jbrown@bcan.org)

## 2022 JOHN QUALE TRAVEL FELLOWS

The John Quale Travel Fellowship (JQTF) Program is a special opportunity for early-career investigators interested in bladder cancer research to attend the annual Bladder Cancer Think Tank Meeting. This is a unique opportunity to meet and learn from leaders in the field. The Travel Fellowship Program seeks to engage more early-career individuals with interests related to bladder cancer including basic scientists, urologists, oncologists, and pathologists.

**Pauline Filippou, MD**, University of Washington



"I am particularly excited about the breakout session entitled 'Breaking barriers and innovative solutions: community oncology's projects to bridge gaps in bladder cancer care.' I feel this session will not only spur my own ideas regarding implement-

ing interventions, but also allow me to network and collaborate with community oncologists in similar roles as myself within a similar system."

**Kathryn Gessner, MD, PhD**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



"Collaborations will be critical to the success of my future translational research program and the Think Tank creates a unique, focused environment with an unmatched opportunity to form meaningful, long-lasting relationships with my future colleagues,

with whom up until now, my interaction with has been limited to reading their research manuscripts."

**Patrick Hensley, MD**, MD Anderson Cancer Center



"Extramural mentorship will be instrumental as I navigate early-career funding applications, further develop a research niche, and to provide guidance on how to build a research and clinical trials program in an institution with limited infrastructure or

precedence. During the BCAN Think Tank I hope to obtain quality feedback on research initiatives and build lasting collaborative relationships to accomplish these goals."

**Andrew Lenis, MD, MS**, Columbia University Medical Center

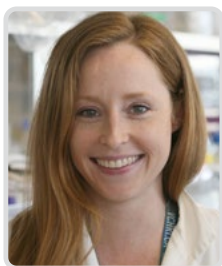


"I have wanted to join the BCAN Think Tank since I first learned of this meeting as a resident many years ago. In addition to the contributions I hope to make to the diversity of ideas at the Think Tank, I believe this is a critical time in my development as a

physician-investigator. I will use this opportunity to the best of my ability to share our work and find ways to improve, to learn from others, and to form collaborative relationships that will help sustain my focus on bladder cancer in the future."



**Morgan Roberts, PhD**, University of British Columbia



"By bringing together scientists, clinicians and patient advocate groups, the Bladder Cancer Think Tank meetings provide a valuable opportunity for researchers to gain exposure to the challenges facing patients, and to gain an understanding of

how their research can be better aligned to contribute to solutions that directly benefit patients. This is an excellent opportunity for me to not only expand my professional network, but to also gain an appreciation for the specific challenges facing patients with bladder cancer, as well as the clinicians treating this disease."

**Jana Sujata, PhD**, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center



"I plan to use this opportunity to meet with leaders in academia and industry to learn about opportunities and position myself well for life as a principal investigator. The global pandemic has changed the course of many lives in

the last two years. We took the challenge, thrived, and continued to follow our passion as researchers. One of my goals in attending the 2022 BCAN Think Tank meeting is to bring back a sense of scientific normalcy. Meeting people and interacting with them will give me a sense of comfort and realization that things are getting better, and we might return to a normal life soon."

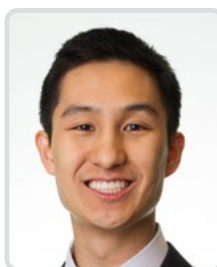
**Ruchika Talwar, MD**, Vanderbilt University Medical Center



"Bridging the gap between research and policy requires those who conduct research to understand what matters most to patients. Only then can we align incentives at the health system, provider, and mostly importantly, patient level to

ensure we improve the quality of care we provide in a meaningful way. Attending the BCAN Think Tank meeting as a prestigious John Quale Travel Fellow will allow me to work towards this goal, providing me with the opportunity to truly understand how these unique partnerships are fostered."

**Wesley Yip, MD**, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



"In terms of potential gains from attending the Think Tank meeting, I hope to have a better perspective on how bladder cancer treatment paradigms are affecting patients, and how to design better trials and therapies around their inter-

ests. By attending the Bladder Cancer Think Tank, I'll be able to work in a truly collaborative and balanced environment to refocus my research efforts on what matters the most: the patients."



## 2022 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD WINNERS

**Raie Bekele, PhD, (@RaieBekele)** Dan-Farber Cancer Institute

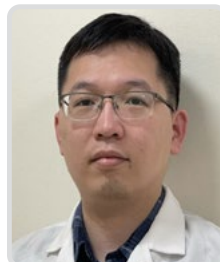
*Dissecting the Interplay Between MAPK and PPARG Signaling in Bladder Cancer*



"The BCAN Young Investigator Award is instrumental in enabling me to continue my research efforts in bladder cancer and to advance important and timely research into alterations in mitogen activated protein kinases (MAPK) and the use of novel MAPK-directed therapeutics for bladder cancer patients."

**Weisi Liu, PhD, (@weisi\_liu)** Weill Medical College of Cornell University

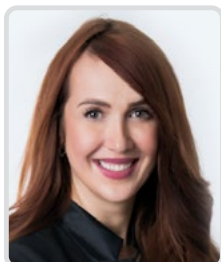
*Synthetic Lethal Strategies to Limit Tumor Evolution Driven by APOBEC3 Activity in Urothelial Cancer*



"I am honored to receive the BCAN Young Investigator Award! I am grateful for the support I received from my mentor, colleagues, and institution. Our study will develop a therapeutic strategy to specifically target APOBEC3-hypermutated bladder cancer cells. My goal is to translate these results into new therapies for bladder cancer patients."

**Laura Bukavina, MD, MPH, (@LauraBukavinaMD)** Research Institute of Fox Chase Cancer Center

*Antitumor Activity of Lactobacillus Rhamnosus GG in Murine Model of Bladder Cancer*

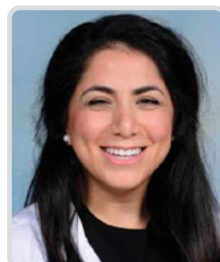


"This award will have significant impact on the trajectory of this project, not simply through financial support but also providing an opportunity to expand our ongoing research to multi-institutional, and multi-specialty collaboration, with the ultimate goal focused on our patients and their outcomes in bladder cancer."

**2022 Patient Centered Clinical Young Investigator Winner**

**Ava Saidian, MD, (@avasaidian)** Moores Cancer Center at the University of California San Diego

*Disparities in Patient Reported Outcomes Among Spanish Speaking Latinx Patients with Bladder Cancer*



"I am extremely grateful to receive this award. I believe our project has the potential to positively impact patients diagnosed with bladder cancer who have a myriad of decisions to make regarding their care. By adapting and creating decision tools targeting Spanish-speaking patients, we can help ensure they receive high quality medical care while being active participants in their bladder cancer management."

## 2022 BLADDER CANCER RESEARCH INNOVATION AWARDS

The BCAN Bladder Cancer Research Innovation Awards support exceptionally novel, high-risk, high-reward projects with great potential to produce breakthroughs in our understanding of bladder cancer. The proposed research may be basic, translational, clinical or epidemiological and must have direct applicability and relevance to bladder cancer and/or upper tract urothelial carcinoma. Funded projects address an important problem and/or critical barrier to progress as well as a significant knowledge gap in the field of bladder cancer research.

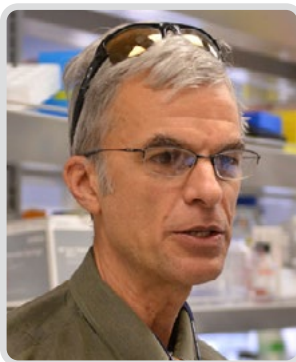


**John Sfakianos, MD,**

Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai

*High Resolution Molecular Imaging to Elucidate the Contextual Mechanisms of BCG Resistance in Non-muscle Invasive Recurrent Bladder Cancer*

"BCAN has cultivated a strong partnership with the leading members of the bladder cancer medical community to encourage collaboration among all the parties dedicated to the study of bladder cancer and its prevention, diagnosis and treatment."



**Tyler Curiel, MD, MPH,**

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Clinic

*Rationally Engineered IL2 for Enhanced Treatment of Local and Metastatic BC*

"Selective IL2 receptor targeting appears promising in bladder cancer therapy. I am deeply grateful to BCAN for supporting this critical point in our studies of these approaches. Our collaboration with BCAN co-PI Jamie Spangler at Johns Hopkins University will help test these concepts, define translational approaches and attract follow-on funding for clinical trials."



## COMING SOON! BCAN'S NEW CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

BCAN recognizes the critical need to support junior investigators who have yet to secure their first major research funding but aim to establish an independent bladder cancer research program and successful career path.

To meet this need, BCAN is pleased to offer the Career Development Award (CDA) for the first time in 2022.

### WHO will the CDA support?

Junior investigators (must have doctoral degree) who are within the initial seven years of their first full-time faculty appointment with the title of assistant professor, instructor, research assistant professor, or equivalent, and who have not yet received a major independent research award (NIH R01 or equivalent).

### WHAT is the scope of the award?

The CDA is a three-year grant totaling \$250,000 that will support translational, clinical or epidemiological research that has direct applicability and relevance to bladder cancer. Projects must demonstrate the likelihood of translating new concepts into clinical practice.

### WHEN will the CDA be available?

The funding announcement will open for applications on August 30th, 2022. Applications will be due mid-October, and awards announced in January 2023.

### WHERE can I find more information?



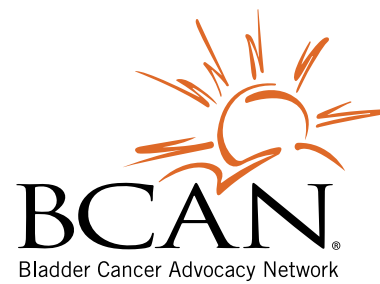


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