

Radiation Oncology

A Message From The Department Chair



The new year has brought about more new and exciting changes for the Department of Radiation Oncology. I am pleased to introduce two new faculty members that have become part of our team. Lisa Hazard, MD, joined the department in December of 2009. Victor Gonzalez, MD, joined us in July, 2010. Dr. Hazard's primary fields of interest are gastrointestinal, melanoma, neuro-oncology, and breast cancer, while Dr. Gonzalez will concentrate on breast cancer, lymphoma and metastatic disease. This summer we welcomed our newest resident, Dr. Michael Cheung. Dr. Cheung joins us from University of Toledo, College of Medicine at Toledo, Ohio.

We are also very thrilled about the grand opening of our new satellite clinic, Orange Grove. The radiation oncology facility can treat up to 40 patients a day and accommodate 500 new-patient consultations a year. Our goal is to continue to provide the most advanced and innovative treatment approaches for our patients. Recruitment continues for a sixth attending physician to accommodate the growth anticipated to follow the new satellite clinic and implementation of new technologies.

We strive to continue our commitment to our patients and to provide the best quality and compassionate care available while continuing to enhance both the technology offered and the teaching mission of the University.

Inside this issue:

New Faculty	2
Technology	2-3
Clinical Trials	3
Accomplishments	4
Residents	5



Baldassarre "Dino" Stea, MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology

New Radiation Oncology Satellite Clinic Now Open!

Located at 1891 W. Orange Grove Road, this radiation oncology expansion is an addition to the medical and surgical oncology services that are also available at this convenient northwest location.

The new 12,000-square-foot expansion at the Arizona Cancer Center at UMC Orange Grove is now open.

Patients can now receive cutting-edge radiation oncology treatment using the latest in state-of-the-art technology. The modern equipment includes an innovative linear accelerator that delivers radiation called the Trilogy Stereotactic System, and a PET-CT Simulator that does both PET and CT scans at the same time for best accuracy possible.

Patients receive treatment in open, light-filled spaces where they can visit with family members, friends, and other patients or watch television. In addition to excellent care, patients also have access to caring, certified social workers, novel clinical trials, and some of the most advanced precision technology available.



Meet our new Faculty



Lisa Hazard, MD Associate Professor, Residency Director

Dr. Hazard is an Associate Professor at the University of Arizona Department of Radiation Oncology, and a member of the Arizona Cancer Center. She attended medical school at The State University of New York at Buffalo, and completed her residency training specializing in Radiation Oncology at the University of Utah. Dr. Hazard has extensive experience in the use of intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), stereotactic radiosurgery, stereotactic body radiation therapy, and high dose rate brachytherapy. Dr. Hazard has completed clinical research studies evaluating novel chemotherapy drugs combined with radiation therapy, as well as research studies evaluating radiosurgery techniques. Dr. Hazard specializes in gastrointestinal cancer, melanoma, and neuro-oncology.



Victor Gonzalez, MD Assistant Professor

Dr. Gonzalez earned his medical degree from Florida State University where he was elected to the AOA Medical Honor Society. He received his undergraduate degree with highest honors from the University of Florida. After completing his internship in internal medicine at the University of California, San Diego, he trained in Radiation Oncology at the University of Utah's Huntsman Cancer Institute; a National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) center. Dr. Gonzalez is an Assistant Professor at the University of Arizona, Department of Radiation Oncology, and a member of the Arizona Cancer Center. He specializes in treating patients with breast cancer, lymphoma, and metastatic cancer.

The Latest in State of the Art Technology



Axxent eBx or Xoift

The Axxent electronic brachytherapy (eBx™) is a type of radiotherapy that utilizes a miniaturized high dose rate X-ray source to apply radiation directly to the cancerous site. The goal is to direct the radiation dose to the size and shape of the cancerous area, sparing healthy tissue and organs. The Axxent technology is painless and usually takes only a few minutes; is given in eight separate doses for most cancers.

This electronic brachytherapy therapy provides new options for:

- Patients with cosmetically sensitive lesions who are not interested in or unable to have surgery.
- Resection of larger lesions on the lips, eyelids or ears when it is difficult or impossible for necessary function.
- More desirable cosmetic outcomes.

The Latest in State of the Art Technology

TRILOGY™ SYSTEM



The TrilogY Stereotactic System is here...

- With the TrilogY system, clinicians can choose from a broad range of external beam therapies, including 3D CRT, IMRT, IGRT, or DART™, as well as all intracranial and extra cranial stereotactic techniques.
- The power of TrilogY yields treatment times that are shorter, making the experience more comfortable for the patient.
- The precision of TrilogY allows you to spare healthy tissues to an extent that was unimaginable only a few years ago. The precision beam conforms to individual tumor shapes. Instantaneous beam control enables respiratory synchronized treatment delivery.
- The versatility of TrilogY enables treatment of a wide variety of patients using a single machine.

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The Exciting World of Research

The following protocols are currently available for patient enrollment:

GLIOBLASTOMA MULTIFORME

A RANDOMIZED, DOUBLE-BLIND, CONTROLLED PHASE IIb STUDY OF THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF ICT-107 IN NEWLY DIAGNOSED PATIENTS WITH STAGE IV GLIOBLASTOMA MULTIFORME (GBM) FOLLOWING RESECTION AND CHEMORADIATION

Principal Investigator: Baldassarre Stea MD, PhD

GLIOBLASTOMA MULTIFORME

RANDOMIZED, PHASE II, DOUBLE-BLIND, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED TRIAL OF CONVENTIONAL CHEMORADIATION AND ADJUVANT TEMOZOLOMIDE PLUS CEDIRANIB VERSUS CONVENTIONAL CHEMORADIATION AND ADJUVANT TEMOZOLOMIDE PLUS PLACEBO IN PATIENTS WITH NEWLY DIAGNOSED GLIOBLASTOMA MULTIFORME

Principal Investigator: Baldassarre Stea, MD, PhD

PROSTATE

A PHASE III TRIAL OF SHORT TERM ANDROGEN DEPRIVATION WITH PELVIC LYMPH NODE OR PROSTATE BED ONLY RADIOTHERAPY IN PROSTATE CANCER PATIENTS WITH RISING PSA AFTER PROSTATECTOMY Principal Investigator: Shona Dougherty MB, ChB, PhD

BRAIN METASTASES

A PHASE II TRIAL OF HIPPOCAMPAL AVOIDANCE DURING WHOLE-BRAIN RADIOTHERAPY FOR BRAIN METASTASES Principal Investigator: Baldassarre Stea MD, PhD

For patient enrollment, please call 694-7236

Give A Gift

By giving to the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Arizona College of Medicine, you are helping our efforts to recruit and retain key faculty, support promising research doctors, and maintain laboratories and lectureships.

Your donation is fully tax-deductible. For more information, please contact us, or mail your tax-deductible contribution to:
 UA Department of Radiation Oncology
 PO Box 245081
 Tucson, AZ 85724
 (520) 626-6724

Physician and Health Professional - Honors and Accomplishments



2011 ASTRO Fellow (FASTRO) Inductee...

Baldassarre Stea, MD, PhD, FASTRO, has been elected a Fellow of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), the world's largest radiation oncology society. An honor conferred in recognition of leadership and significant service to ASTRO, in addition to continued contributions to the field of Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Stea will receive his Fellow designation, along with 21 other distinguished ASTRO members, at the Society's 53rd Annual Meeting, Oct. 2 to 6, at the Miami Beach Convention Center.



It's a Nguyen Win Situation...

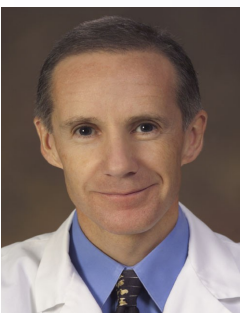
Dr. Nam P. Nguyen was named America's Top Oncologist In 2009 and 2010, by the Consumer Research Council of America. Dr. Nguyen is board certified in internal medicine and radiation oncology. Dr. Nguyen specializes in head and neck cancer, lung cancer, and melanoma. His research interests include development of medication for treating radiation complication, dysphasia and lung aspiration following head and neck irradiation. Additionally, he focuses on increasing the cancer cure rate while decreasing radiation side effects.

Welcome Department Administrator



Leslie Elam, MBA, recently joined the department as the Clinical Practice Administrator. Leslie comes to us from within the organization, where her previous role focused on RVU productivity, financial analysis of the Practice Plan, as well as physician and staff compensation. Leslie has been with the organization 4 years, and we are confident that her industry expertise will help our department reach new heights. Welcome Leslie!

Radiobiology Research Initiatives



The research efforts of the radiobiology group are mostly translational in nature and although broad-based, are largely concerned with the development of novel combination therapies designed to improve the efficacy of radiation therapy in the treatment of cancer. In this regard, much of our recent attention has focused on exploring the therapeutic potential of a class of small molecule drugs known as vascular disrupting agents (VDAs).

For the complete story please visit www.rad-onc.arizona.edu

Graeme J. Dougherty, PhD
Research Professor

The Future...

Department of Radiation Oncology 2011-2012 Residents



Row 1: Anand Desai, MD, Kristen O'Donnell, MD, Michael Cheung, MD
Row 2: David Vonk, MD, Benjamin Slane, MD, Thomas Sroka, MD., Ph.D.

The residency program in radiation oncology consists of four years; three years of which must be spent in the clinical core curriculum of Radiation Oncology. To ensure that our residents obtain firsthand experience, they are required to participate in several tumor boards consisting of multi-disciplinary, general oncology, neuro-oncology, and pediatric oncology. In addition, residents take part in extensive dosimetry training for dose calculations and treatment planning. Our residents also receive designated time to research opportunities that encompass clinical, biological, and physics/engineering investigation.

Where Are They Now...

Since the establishment of the Radiation Oncology Department in 1977, over 56 radiation oncologists have successfully graduated and gone on to both academic and private practice careers.

Most recently, Rick Davis, MD, a 2011 graduate, is Board eligible in Therapeutic Radiology by the American Board of Radiology. Dr. Davis is currently practicing in Northeastern Wisconsin, with Radiation Oncology Specialists, S.C. Dr. Davis is an active member of American Society of Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO), American Brachytherapy Society, and the Wisconsin Medical Society.

Kurt Wharton, MD, graduated in May 2010, and is currently practicing at Banner Thunderbird Medical Center and the Virginia Piper Cancer Center at Scottsdale Healthcare-Shea Medical Center in Arizona. Dr. Wharton is Board eligible in Therapeutic Radiology by the American Board of Radiology, and has received extensive training in prostate seed implants. Additionally, Dr. Wharton is an active researcher with several publications.

Michael Grant, MD, a 2009 graduate, is a Board certified Radiation Oncologist through the American Board of Radiology. Dr. Grant is presently practicing in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at MedXray. Dr. Grant is a member of the American Society of Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO), and the Radiological Society of North America.

Another 2009 graduate, Kazumi Chino, MD, is currently practicing in North Central Indiana, with Unity Healthcare at Faith, Hope and Love Cancer Center. Dr. Chino is a member of the American Medical Association, American Society of Therapeutic Radiation Oncology and is Board certified.

Did you know...

In July 2010, Thomas Sroka, MD, PhD, Chief Resident, was awarded a two year grant from the Department of Defense, to study the response of human prostate tissue to hypofractionated iodizing radiation.

Our residents devote over six months of research as their pledge to contribute to finding a cure for cancer.



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Quality Through Excellence

Visit us on the web at www.rad-onc.arizona.edu

Our Mission

To provide excellent clinical service representing state of the art approaches; to perform clinical and basic cancer biology research; and to teach students at a variety of levels, particularly medical students, residents, and cancer biology graduate students.

Save The Date!

The Department of
Radiation Oncology
will be hosting

ARIZONA NIGHT

at the

53rd ASTRO

Annual Meeting

Please join us

October 2, 2011

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Miami Capital Grill

Miami, FL.