The Lite Bites / High Tea Honoring IBC Patients, Advocates, Volunteers, and the IBC Ambassadors was held Wednesday, October 4, 2017. The event was put together by the Morgan Welch Inflammatory Breast Cancer Research Program team and volunteers. The Tea Ceremony was a huge success. We would like to extend a special thank you to all the volunteers that took the time out of their busy lives to support and help the IBC program. The food, music, décor, and entertainment provided a great atmosphere for our invited guest.

We wish to share the great news that Congressman Darrell Issa, from the great state of California read a statement into the National Congressional Record in Washington DC. This reading was to show the importance of how inflammatory breast cancer should be discussed in communities, in education, and in research, and to bring national attention to the disease. He declared October 4th National Inflammatory Breast Cancer day.
Thank you to the JNDD string Quartet for providing such beautiful music for all of us to enjoy.

JNDD String Quartet members: Jie Willey (Violin), David Wang (Violin), Newman Liu (Viola) and David Gong (Cello). Special guest ShuHong Lin (Violin).

A formal tea tasting and ink art demonstration was provided by Houston artist Mrs. Weighong.

Guests not only observed the Chinese traditional tea culture ceremony, but tasted a delicious variety of tea from China, and learned good health habits.

WeiHong’s art has mirrored the Asian cultural diaspora ranging from expected yin/yang concepts to more intuitive notions of chi, Taoism, and Zen Buddhism.

She is an internationally exhibited painter and an installation and performance artist.

Her solo exhibitions include cities in China, Italy, France, Mexico, the Netherlands, and the US.

Her art projects involve line, form, flow, yin and yang with elegantly conceived and perfectly enacted fusion of East/West visual vocabularies.

We extend our appreciation to Mrs. Terry Arnold of the IBC Network, and her friend Jane. Both ladies provided the flower decorations and décor. The Tea Ceremony would not have been made possible without her expertise and tireless efforts in helping prepare and set-up the conference room.
Recent Awards and Grants

We congratulate the following individuals who have been recognized for their significant accomplishments in IBC research:

**Bisrat G. Debeb, DVM, Ph.D.,** Assistant Professor, received the Susan G. Komen Jon Shevel Youngest Scientist Travel Scholarship Award in the amount of $1,500.

**Jihyun Park, Ph.D.,** Postdoctoral Fellow, was selected as an Oral Competition finalist to present at the Trainee Research Day 2017. Nearly 100 eligible abstracts were received in four categories, hers was the Basic Science category.

**Bora Lim, MD,** Assistant Professor, was selected to submit her Grant titled “Defining Cell Types and States in Inflammatory Breast Cancer” to the SWOG/ITSC pilot program.

**The 6th Annual Zeta Tau Alpha Houston Alumnae Association Fellowship Award in Inflammatory Breast Cancer Research**

Awarded To

**Xiaotong Li, Ph.D. Candidate, Computational Biology & Bioinformatics, Biological & Biomedical Sciences, Yale University**

**Abstract:** Landscape of somatic mutations in inflammatory breast cancer whole-genome sequences

**Authors:** Xiaotong Li, Savitri Krishnamurthy, Sushant Kumar, Arif Harmonic, Shantao Li, Robert Kitchen, Vikram B. Wali, Yang Zhang, Sangeetha Reddy, Wendy Woodward, James Reuben, Jeffery Chuang, Christos Hatzis, Naoto T. Ueno, Mark Gerstein, Lajos Pusztai

**Nicholas Trenton, Ph.D. Candidate, Diehl Laboratory, Department of Bioengineering, Rice University**

**Abstract:** DNA-based nanoparticle multiplexed imaging to study the inflammatory breast cancer cell microenvironment

**Authors:** Nicholas J Trenton, Khoi Chu, Adam R Wolfe, Walter N Hittelmann, Wendy A Woodward, Michael R Diehl

Recent Publications


EGFR signaling promotes inflammation and cancer stem-like activity in inflammatory breast cancer


Discovery of a potent inhibitor of MELK that inhibits expression of the anti-apoptotic protein Mcl-1 and TNBC cell growth


Inflammatory Breast Cancer: a model for investigating cluster-based dissemination

Jolly MK, Boareto M, Debeb BG, Aceto N, Farach-Carson MC, Woodward WA, Levine H

Lack of Breast feeding History in Parous Women with Inflammatory Breast Cancer Predicts Poor Disease-Free Survival


Revisiting the definition of estrogen receptor positivity in HER2-negative primary breast cancer

Pitner MK, Taliaferro JM, Dalby KN, Bartholomeusz C

MELK: a potential novel therapeutic target for TNBC and other aggressive malignancies


Reverse phase protein array identification of triple-negative breast cancer subtypes and comparison with mRNA molecular subtypes


Prospective Feasibility Trial of Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy in the Setting of Inflammatory Breast Cancer

Thrombocytosis as a prognostic factor in inflammatory breast cancer


Androgen receptor expression on circulating tumor cells in metastatic breast cancer

News/Events

SAVE THE DATE(S):

Help end Breast Cancer please click on the link below. Our team name is “IBC Wranglers.” MD Anderson Boot Walk to End Cancer (https://www.mdanderson.org/boottalk).

Fund Raising Tools Now Available – donate using credit card; customize your personal page or just use the standard template that MD Anderson provides; add contacts to the address book; send mass emails out in one submit; send follow-ups; thank you letters.

Morgan Welch Inflammatory Breast Cancer and Breast Medical Oncology will be collaborating together to help bring awareness to Breast Cancer. Stop by and be a part of the team by signing up for the MD Anderson Boot Walk.

- Tuesday, October 17th at 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Pickens Tower Bridge Foyer
- Wednesday, October 25th at 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Mays Hub

Quarterly Oral Presentations

Immune and molecular determinants of response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy in inflammatory breast cancer
Sangeetha Reddy, MD, MSci
Hematology-Oncology Fellow
Division of Cancer Medicine

Wrap up of ongoing IBC targeted clinical trials, and new initiatives in genomic study of IBC
Bora Lim, MD
Assistant Professor
Breast Medical Oncology
Influence of nursing on inflammatory breast cancer symptoms

Wendy Woodward, MD, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Radiation Oncology

A pre-clinical PDX-derived ex-vivo tumor model – Furthering our understanding of IBC tumorigenesis and identifying new and effective therapies

Geoffrey Bartholomeusz, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Experimental Therapeutics

Neoadjuvant and adjuvant systemic therapy of HER-2 amplified breast cancer: 2017 Update

Vicente Valero, M.D.
Professor, Deputy Chairman
Breast Medical Oncology Department

Current Clinical IBC Trials Open for New Patient Enrollment

Neoadjuvant (newly diagnosed):

2016-0177 – A randomized phase II study of neoadjuvant Carboplatin/Paclitaxel (CT) versus Panitumumab/Carboplatin/Paclitaxel (PaCT) Followed by Anthracycline-containing regimen for newly diagnosed primary triple-negative inflammatory breast cancer

Adjuvant (after surgery and radiation):

2016-0096 – A phase II study of anti-PD1 (Pembrolizumab) in combination with hormonal therapy in patients with hormone-receptor (HR)-positive localized inflammatory breast cancer (IBC) who did not achieve a pathological complete response (pCR) to neoadjuvant chemotherapy

Metastatic IBC:

2013-0007 – A phase II study of Denosumab to define the role of bone related biomarkers in breast cancer metastasis

2014-0464 – A phase II study of BIBF 1120 (Nintedanib) for Patients with HER2 normal metastatic inflammatory breast cancer

2014-0034 – A phase II study using T-VEC as a single agent for inflammatory breast cancer (IBC) or non-IBC patients with inoperable local recurrence

2014-0533 – A phase II study of anti-PD1 (MK-3475) therapy in patients with metastatic inflammatory breast cancer (IBC) or non-IBC triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) who have achieved clinical response or stable disease to prior chemotherapy.

2016-1096 – A Phase I Study of OTS167PO, a MELK inhibitor, to Evaluate Safety, Tolerability and Pharmacokinetics in Patients with Advanced Breast Cancer and Dose-Expansion Study in Patients with Triple Negative Breast Cancer.

2016-0890 – A phase II study of triple combination of Atezolizumab, Cobimetinib and Eribulin (ACE) in patients with chemotherapy resistant metastatic inflammatory breast cancer
Current Clinical IBC Lab Studies

2006-1072 – IBC Registry

PA12-0097 – Prognostic utility of CTCs assessed by Adnagen Technology and Clinical Outcome of Patients with Stage III Breast Cancer

PA14-0778 – Gene profiles in androgen-receptor-positive CTC in patients with metastatic breast cancer

PA15-0499 – Tissue biomarker study of T-DM1 and/or Pertuzumab resistant or refractory breast cancer

PA15-1026 – Department of Breast Medical Oncology University Blood Bio-Repositories

PA16-0507 – Monitoring of CTCs in newly diagnosed metastatic breast cancer

PA17-0437 – Genomic profiling of therapy resistance in mTNBC using liquid biopsies

PA17-0503 – Breast tissue comparison - cancer vs normal

If you are interested in learning more about our clinical trials, or lab studies, please email the Morgan Welch Inflammatory Breast Cancer Research Program and Clinic directly at ibcp@mdanderson.org.
We are happy to provide general information and eligibility guidelines for our clinical trials and lab studies.