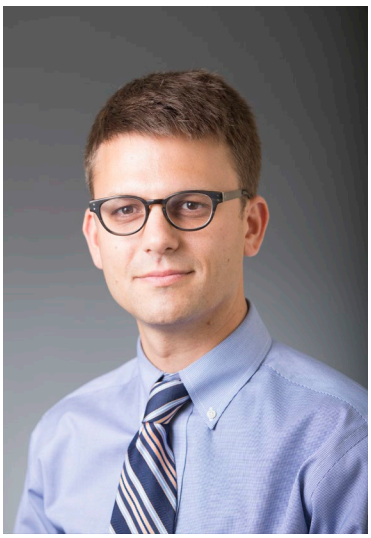
2019 NCI Cancer Clinical Investigator Team Leadership Award Recipients

Recipient	Cance Center	Specialty	Disease Focus	CCITLA Activities
Gabriel A. Brooks, MD, MPH	**Dartmouth-Hitchcock Norris Cotton Cancer Center Dartmouth University**	medical oncology	gastrointestinal cancers	education, trial access, enrollment & efficiency, clinical trials
Lara E. Davis, MD	**OHSU Knight Cancer Institute Oregon Health and Science University**	medical oncology	pediatric sarcomas (adolescent & young adult)	trial enrollment & efficiency, education, cancer center (CC) committees, clinical trials
Kristin A. Higgins, MD	**Winship Cancer Institute Emory University**	radiation oncology	lung cancers	CC & NCTN committees, clinical trials
Katherine M. Moxley, MD	**Stephenson Cancer Center University of Oklahoma**	medical oncology	gynecologic cancers	develop precision med program, career development, clinical trials
Paul Oberstein, MD, MS	**Laura & Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center New York University School of Medicine**	medical oncology	gastrointestinal cancers	education, clinical trials
Paul K. Paik, MD	**Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center**	medical oncology	lung cancers	trial enrollment, career development, clinical trials
Daniel E. Spratt, MD	**Rogel Cancer Center University of Michigan**	radiation oncology	prostate cancer	CC committees & leadership, streamline trial processes & enrollment, clinical trials
Victor M. Villalobos, MD, PhD	**University of Colorado Cancer Center**	medical oncology	sarcomas	direct CC Clinical Trials Office, trial access, phase I trials
Ira Winer, MD, PhD	**Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute Wayne State University**	medical oncology	gynecologic cancers	trial access, awareness & enrollment, clinical trials
Dan P. Zandberg, MD	**UPMC Hillman Cancer Center**	medical oncology	head & neck cancers	trial access & enrollment, CC & NCTN committees, clinical trials

For a list of past CCITLA awardees, please visit: http://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/ccct/funding/ccitla



Gabriel A. Brooks, MD, MPH

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Norris Cotton Cancer Center
Dartmouth University

Dr. Brooks is a medical oncologist and health services researcher at the Norris Cotton Cancer Center at Dartmouth (NCCC). His research seeks to evaluate and enhance the quality of cancer care, with a specific focus on improving ambulatory cancer care delivery and preventing complications that lead to avoidable hospitalizations during cancer treatment. He is a member of the NCCC's Gastrointestinal Clinical Oncology Group, where he treats patients with cancers of the colon, rectum, pancreas, stomach, and hepatobiliary system. He is an Associate Director of NCCC's Lead Academic Participating Site (LAPS) grant and is extensively involved in the conduct of clinical trials at NCCC. Dr. Brooks' career goals include becoming an institutional and national leader in cancer clinical research, with emphases in the areas of cancer care delivery research and gastrointestinal oncology clinical trials.

As a recipient of the Cancer Clinical Investigator Team Leadership Award, Dr. Brooks will lead three new initiatives at the Norris Cotton Center. First, he will lead the development of NCCC clinical trials that focus on new methods for and approaches to improving cancer care delivery. Second, Dr. Brooks will lead a project to improve clinical trial access and enrollment at NCCC's four satellite sites (in Nashua NH, Manchester NH, Keene NH, and St. Johnsbury VT). Third, Dr. Brooks will organize and lead the inaugural clinical research retreat for NCCC's Gastrointestinal Clinical Oncology Group, creating a forum for development of new clinical research concepts and protocols.

Lara E. Davis, MD

Knight Cancer Institute
Oregon Health & Science University

Dr. Davis is originally from rural upstate New York and graduated cum laude from Wellesley College in 2000. She went on to graduate magna cum laude from Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) School of Medicine. Dr. Davis received comprehensive residency training in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at Harvard. She then completed a combined Medical Oncology and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology fellowship at OHSU in order to focus on Adolescent & Young Adult (AYA) Oncology. During this time, she developed a strong interest in sarcoma and received a St. Baldrick's Subspecialty Fellowship Award as well as a Damon Runyon-Sohn Cancer Research Award for her fellowship research on osteosarcoma.

Upon completion of her subspecialty training, Dr. Davis was appointed Instructor within the Division of Hematology/Oncology and the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at OHSU. Soon thereafter she became an Affiliate Member of the Knight Cancer Institute's Translational Oncology Research Program and board-certified in four specialties (Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Medical Oncology, and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology). In 2015, Dr. Davis was promoted to Assistant Professor. Her primary appointment is within the Knight Cancer Institute's Division of Medical Oncology. She is an active member of the rare disease consortium SARC as well as NCTN groups COG and SWOG. Dr. Davis' clinical and research focus is sarcomas, a heterogeneous group of rare tumors, and she is determined to make a positive impact on sarcoma patient outcomes. The CCITLA will support her pursuit of clinical research efforts directed towards this goal.

During the Award period, Dr. Davis will continue to promote a culture in which collaborative clinical trials thrive. As her diverse training suggests, she is skilled at building bridges across disciplines. Dr. Davis will bring together the Pediatric and Medical Oncology clinical trials groups to promote seamless cross-enrollment of adolescents and young adults (AYAs) to COG/SWOG/SARC clinical trials. Through collaboration, cross-disciplinary discussion and problem solving, she will develop framework institutional processes that resolve activation and accrual issues often encountered with AYA trial efforts.

Further, Dr. Davis is heavily involved with the Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration (SARC), an NCI SPORE-supported nonprofit network of academic sarcoma researchers. During the Award period, she will serve as co-PI for two planned multi-institutional trials sponsored by the SARC network.

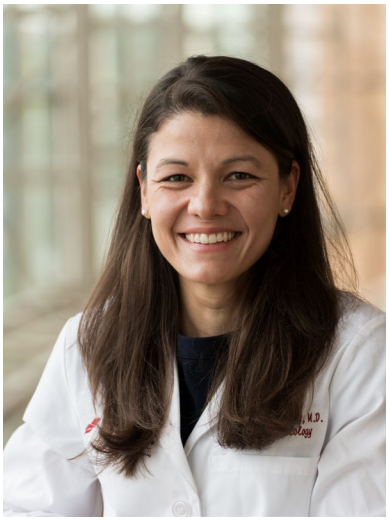
Finally, Dr. Davis currently has four investigator-initiated trials (IITs). Her most recent IIT is a pilot study co-led by an NCI-funded exercise physiology researcher investigating resistance training to improve physical function in sarcoma survivors. This study will begin accruing during the Award period and will generate preliminary data to support a Phase 2 trial within the SWOG NCORP Survivorship Committee.

Kristin A. Higgins, MD

Winship Cancer Institute
Emory University

Dr. Kristin Higgins is an Associate Professor and Medical Director of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University. Dr. Higgins specializes in the treatment of lung cancer and has been a faculty member at Emory since completing radiation oncology residency training at Duke University Medical Center in 2011. Dr. Higgins holds leadership positions within NRG oncology and is the principal investigator of NRG Oncology/Alliance LU005, a phase II/III randomized trial of chemoradiation +/- atezolizumab for patients with limited stage small cell lung cancer.

Through the CCITLA award, Dr. Higgins plans to accomplish several initiatives. Multiple investigator-initiated trials led by Dr. Higgins within Winship will be activated, including a trial utilizing proton therapy for small cell lung cancer with the goal of reducing cardiac toxicity, and using functional dual energy CT imaging to identify cardiac changes prospectively during radiation for stage III non-small cell lung cancer. Dr. Higgins will also further her work within the NRG oncology lung cancer committee, including a developing trial assessing different radiation fractionation regimens for patients with stage III non-small cell lung cancer. Lastly, Dr. Higgins will commit time towards increasing communication around NRG Oncology LU005, including enhanced collaborations with patient advocacy groups to optimize patient accrual.



Katherine M. Moxley, MD

Stephenson Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Oklahoma

Dr. Moxley is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the Division of Gynecologic Oncology where she specializes in the clinical and translational research of gynecologic cancers. She has experience with the conduct and oversight of late phase clinical trials at the University of Oklahoma's Stephenson Cancer Center (SCC), where she serves as the corresponding site PI for the NRG National Clinical Trials Network group. She currently serves as the director of the Clinical Research Steering Group for the Gynecologic Cancers Program, an official program within the SCC's Cancer Center Support Grant (P30). In this role, she works closely with basic science leaders across the University of Oklahoma campus and within the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, where her collaborative efforts have resulted in the submission and award of multiple NIH and Department of Defense-funded grants across multiple disciplines including molecular biology, medicinal chemistry, cancer biology, genetics, nanotechnology and engineering. Additionally, as a result of her close work with basic and translational scientists she has been awarded a training grant through the institutional COBRE grant in drug resistance (NIH-NIGMS COBRE, P20GM103639).

Dr. Moxley serves on the Cervical Cancer and Translational Science Committees for the NRG where she has developed and presented phase I-III trials. This led to an invitation to participate in the NCI Moving Forward in Cervical Cancer-Enhancing Susceptibility to DNA Repair Inhibition and to DNA Damage Meeting, through which additional clinical trial concepts have been constructed and approved for future development within the National Clinical Trials Network group structure.

With the CCITLA, Dr. Moxley will develop a comprehensive precision medicine program at the SCC to facilitate the integration of known clinically relevant therapeutic deficiencies with the ongoing work of basic/translational scientists both across the University of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation. She will continue to organize clinician-scientist teams to facilitate translation of molecular targets tested in the lab into science-based IITs, and she will further her commitment to establishing partnerships nationally to provide novel platforms for early drug testing, with an emphasis on the biologic basis for tumor response and mechanisms of drug escape. In addition, she will continue to serve as a clinical resource for basic and translational researchers across the campus and as a mentor to clinical and post-doctoral fellows, graduate students and junior faculty.

Paul Oberstein, MD, MS

Laura & Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center
New York University School of Medicine

Dr. Oberstein is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at NYU Langone Health and director of GI Medical Oncology within the Perlmutter Comprehensive Cancer Center (PCC) at NYU. He completed his fellowship training in hematology and medical oncology at Columbia University where he conducted translational laboratory research. His research was supported by an ASCO Young Investigator Award and a KL2 mentored career development award. He was the recipient of a Patient Oriented Research (POR) Scholar award from the Irving Institute at Columbia and focused on translational clinical trial applications while completing an MS in biostatistics at the Mailman School of Public Health.

His clinical practice is focused on the care of patients with gastrointestinal cancers. His research has concentrated on designing translational clinical trials in pancreatic, gastric and other GI cancers with an emphasis on novel clinical trial strategies including molecularly targeted trials and proof of concept Phase 0 studies. He is also focused on supportive and palliative care interventions and has developed research collaborations evaluating the role of exercise, nutrition, mood, and sleep interventions in pancreatic cancer. In addition to his leadership role in the PCC, Dr. Oberstein is the Assistant Director of the Pancreas Cancer Center at NYU and serves on the Pancreas subcommittee in SWOG. He also serves as a co-PI for NYU in the Precision Promise clinical trial initiative of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, where he also serves as a member of the Supportive Care Committee and is leading a study evaluating activity in subjects with advanced pancreatic cancer.

As a recipient of a 2019 Cancer Clinical Investigator Team Leadership Award, Dr. Oberstein will continue to build interdisciplinary clinical trial collaborations. This award will support continued efforts to develop a national cooperative group trial in gastric cancer, as well as innovative trials evaluating supportive care and symptom burden in pancreatic cancer. Dr. Oberstein plans to use this award to increase efforts to incorporate fellow trainees and diverse clinical research team members in clinical research. The award will specifically support a new curriculum teaching clinical research skills to trainees at NYU and collaborating institutions. This series will introduce key regulatory, drug development, and biostatistical concepts to trainees earlier in their careers and will have a longitudinal component to help trainees gain practical experience in designing and implementing collaborative clinical trials.

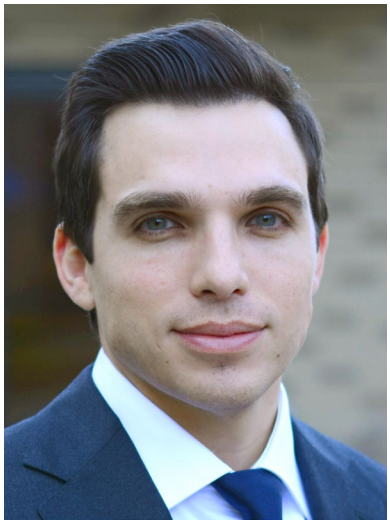
Paul K. Paik, MD

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Dr. Paik is an Associate Attending Physician and Clinical Director of the Thoracic Oncology Service at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He graduated from Yale University with a degree in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry and Music and received his medical degree from the Weill Medical College of Cornell University. Dr. Paik completed his Internal Medicine residency at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center where he also served as Assistant Chief Resident. He completed his fellowship in Medical Oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center under the mentorship of Dr. Mark G. Kris.

Dr. Paik joined the faculty of the Thoracic Oncology Service at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2011. His research has focused on clinical translational studies across lung cancer malignancies, including work in small cell lung cancer apoptotic mechanisms, *BRAF* mutant lung cancers, and *EGFR* mutant lung cancers. He is the recipient of the 2011 LUNGevity Melissa A. Zagon Early Investigator Award, a 2011 ASCO Conquer Cancer Foundation Young Investigator Award, and 2011 ASCO Conquer Cancer Foundation Career Development Award. Dr. Paik was one of the first researchers to identify MET exon 14 splice site alterations, which lead to aberrant splicing MET RNA splicing that deletes exon 14, as an actionable alteration. This work kick-started several global phase 2 trials of MET inhibitors in this subset of non-small cell lung cancer patients for which he has served as either senior author or coordinating physician.

Dr. Paik has had a particular interest in squamous cell lung cancer biology, having published on the genomics that define this disease and on early efforts at matched targeted therapy trials for patients with this disease. He is currently working on a new pair of targets that are altered in some 30% of squamous cell lung cancers. Activating mutations in *NFE2L2* and inactivating events in its negative regulator *KEAP1* hyperactivate mTOR signaling. Preliminary work from his NCI CTEP phase 2 trial of TAK228 in this subgroup of squamous cell lung cancer patients has shown promising activity. The CCITLA will support an expansion of this concept into other NCI-supported trial work, which include an NCI CTEP phase 1 trial of TAK228 + CB-839 in NSCLC patients harboring these alterations and LungMAP S1400D, a randomized phase 2 trial of TAK228 +/- SOC chemotherapy in stage IV squamous cell lung patients with *NFE2L2*/*KEAP1* alterations for which he will serve as study chair. The CCITLA will also support his leadership development efforts institutionally and through ASCO.



Daniel E. Spratt, MD

Rogel Cancer Center
University of Michigan

Dr. Spratt is a translational clinical trialist and a radiation oncologist by training. His goals include advancing the field of prostate oncology forward through high impact translational and clinical trial research. He is the Chief of the Genitourinary Radiotherapy Program, Associate Chair for Clinical Research in the Department of Radiation Oncology, and the co-Chair of Clinical Trial Research for Genitourinary Oncology at the University of Michigan. He helps the National Clinical Trials Network group trial efforts at the University of Michigan through his leadership role on the U10 NIH LAPS grant, and through translational research for the Cancer Center's NCI Prostate SPORE. Through all these administrative roles his core focus is on increasing enrollment and expanding the NCI clinical trials portfolio across the cancer center.

Dr. Spratt's research focuses on developing prognostic and predictive biomarkers related to radiotherapy and hormone therapy, and to bring his findings into novel clinical trials. He is the PI of over 10 active clinical trials, most of which are NCI-funded. He is heavily involved with NRG, and is the current national PI of NRG GU006, a phase 2 biomarker stratified randomized trial run through the NRG at over 300 centers.

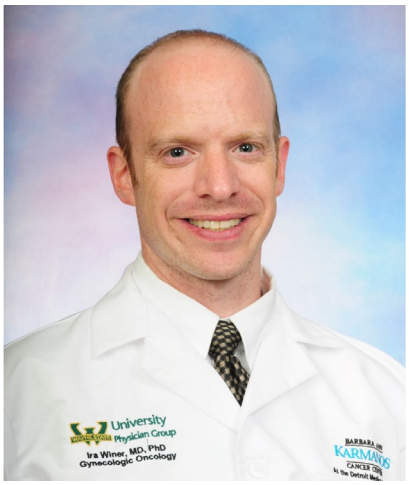
Through the CCITLA support he plans to expand his roles within the University of Michigan's Rogel Cancer Center clinical trials and LAPS programs. He aims to develop mechanisms to expand the genitourinary clinical trials portfolio and increase enrollment to NCI-funded trials. He will continue to work nationally within NRG and promote enrollment on NRG GU006 and other NCTN trials. Finally, he will mentor and train junior faculty, fellows, and residents to provide them with the tools necessary to be successful in pursuing a career in clinical research.

Victor M. Villalobos, MD, PhD
University of Colorado Cancer Center

Dr. Victor Villalobos is an academic medical oncologist who serves several roles at the University of Colorado Cancer Center. He currently serves as the Director of Sarcoma Oncology (both clinical and clinical research components) and the Director of Molecular Oncology Therapeutics (a clinical trials team with representation from all oncology specialties that focus on later phase basket-cohort and target-based studies). He serves as the Medical Director of the Cancer Clinical Trials Office for the Cancer Center.

Dr. Villalobos attended medical school at Washington University in St. Louis as a member of the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP), receiving his Ph.D. in Chemical Biology. He then completed his residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship training in Medical Oncology at Stanford University as a member of the Physician Scientist Training Program (PSTP). In 2014, he joined the UC Denver Cancer Center as the new Director of Sarcoma Oncology. Since his arrival, he has been instrumental in the development of the UC Denver sarcoma program into a nationally/internationally recognized center of sarcoma expertise through the rapid growth of the sarcoma clinical volumes and opening of over 20 sarcoma-specific clinical trials.

In his role as Medical Director, he oversees direct operations of all active cancer clinical trials and supervises over a hundred and fifty research staff. The University of Colorado Health system is expanding at a breakneck pace with acquisition of several new hospitals in Fort Collins, Colorado Springs, and more remote community locations. The UC Health system is also on the cusp of opening another regional medical center south of the main campus in the Denver Metro named Highlands Ranch. This hospital is meant to serve the southern portion of the Denver region. Plans are underway for developing a stand-alone cancer clinic at that hospital with access to clinical trials that are currently only available at the main campus. Part of Dr. Villalobos' role would be to develop the clinical trials infrastructure and oversight in this new clinical environment but still within the current auspices of the CCTO.



Ira Winer, MD, PhD

Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute
Wayne State University

Dr. Winer completed his undergraduate training at Boston University (1999) and his MD and PhD in the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at the University of Michigan in 2007; his PhD was under the direction of Eric Fearon, MD, PhD. Subsequently, he completed his Residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Michigan (2011) and Fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at Wayne State University/Detroit Medical Center (2015). He joined the faculty at Wayne State University School of Medicine and Karmanos in July of 2015. He is actively involved in clinical pursuits as a member of the Gynecologic Oncology multi-disciplinary team and in clinical/translational research as the Co-Investigator or Principal Investigator on multiple cooperative group and industry trials within the Division of Gynecologic Oncology and in the Phase I clinical trials program (Eisenberg Center for Translational Therapeutics, PI Gynecologic Studies) at Karmanos. He is also a member of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology Young Investigator Group initiative and now transitioning to the Medical Director for Gynecologic Oncology translational/clinical trials in the Karmanos Network.

The goal of this project is to increase local and regional availability, awareness and enrollment in gynecologic cancer clinical trials. Through the mechanism of this project, his role as a clinical trialist and a leader within the Karmanos Cancer Institute (KCI) Network will expand considerably as they strengthen and enhance the current Gynecologic Oncology trial infrastructure at KCI. Protected time will be provided to institute these changes which is directly supported by his Division, the Department of Oncology and the Cancer Center and its Network. The plan consists of two broad aims with multiple components to accomplish the overall vision as noted. Given that the KCI network is comprised of 13 sites across the State of Michigan, there is a unique opportunity to harness extensive resources to this venture.

Dan P. Zandberg, MD

UPMC Hillman Cancer Center

Dr. Zandberg is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center. He received his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College, completed residency in internal medicine at the George Washington University Medical Center, and hematology/oncology fellowship at the University of Maryland Greenbaum Comprehensive Cancer Center (UMGCCC). Dr. Zandberg started his academic career at UMGCCC and was awarded a Paul Calabresi Scholarship (K12) through which he obtained a certificate in clinical research from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Currently at UPMC Hillman cancer center, he is Director of the Head and Neck Cancer and Thyroid Cancer disease sections for the division of hematology/oncology, and Co-Director of the Hillman Head and Neck Cancer Research Center. He leads the head and neck clinical research team and plays a critical role in driving the research mission at UPMC Hillman as part of the research executive advisory committee. He serves on the ECOG-ACRIN Head and Neck Committee, Alliance Experimental Therapeutics and Rare Tumors committee, and the Previously Untreated Locally Advanced Task Force of the NCI Head and Neck Steering Committee. His academic career goal is to improve outcomes for patients with recurrent/metastatic (R/M) squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (HNSCC) through clinical trial development and leadership in the NCTN. Dr. Zandberg's main clinical research focus has been in the field of immunotherapy, and he has significant experience in the development and conduct of clinical trials, which incorporate translational immunologic endpoints.

As a recipient of the Cancer Clinical Investigator Team Leadership Award, Dr. Zandberg will continue in his leadership role in clinical investigation overseeing the clinical trials program, collaborating with basic scientists, and developing new investigator-initiated clinical trials at UPMC Hillman. He will continue to play an important role in the NCTN by participating in committees through ECOG and Alliance, as well as in education by mentoring residents and fellows towards careers in clinical investigation. He will use the award to enhance clinical research by: 1) creating a dedicated multidisciplinary clinic for recurrent/metastatic head and neck cancer patients 2) creating a head and neck clinical trials consortium composed of other NCI designated cancer centers 3) increasing availability and enrollment in head and neck clinical trials at UPMC Hillman network community sites, to benefit patients in the UPMC Hillman catchment area 4) developing a clinical and translational research program focused on cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma in organ transplant patients, a malignancy that commonly involves the head and neck and is associated with poor outcomes.