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# LIVER DIGEST

A weekly update of PLRC happenings

July 16, 2020



[www.livercenter.pitt.edu](http://www.livercenter.pitt.edu)

*Please acknowledge support from the PLRC (NIH/NIDDK  
**P30DK120531**) in your publications and presentations.*

## In this issue

- [Seminar Announcement](#)
- [AASLD Liver Meeting Abstracts Due This Friday](#)
- [Upcoming GI Virtual SOTA Lectures](#)
- [ASIP Virtual Meet the Experts 7/23](#)
- [Virtual Liver Cancer Conference Schedule](#)
- [Faculty Highlights](#)
- [Funding Opportunities](#)

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### **NEXT VIRTUAL SEMINAR: TUESDAY, JULY 21 AT 12:00 PM**

Our next virtual seminar is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 21 at 12:00 PM**. A Zoom link to access the seminar has been sent out to all members via email. **Dr. Ramon Bataller**, current PLRC member, will be giving a presentation on his research and the title of the talk will be: “Integrated multi-OMICs to identify molecular drivers and biomarkers in alcoholic hepatitis.”

If you have any questions, please email Amanda Bytzura at [bytzuraam@upmc.edu](mailto:bytzuraam@upmc.edu).

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## AASLD LIVER MEETING ABSTRACTS DUE FRIDAY 7/17

Please note that abstracts for the 2020 [American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases \(AASLD\)](#) virtual Liver Meeting are due this Friday, July 17. For more information on the virtual conference, [please click here](#).

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## UPCOMING SOTA LECTURE SERIES SCHEDULE

The Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition will be hosting their annual State-of-the-Art Lecture series in a virtual format. Lectures are held on Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:00-8:00 am. Here is the schedule of upcoming lectures:

- Please also note that Dr. Adam Slivka's presentation, scheduled for Friday July 17 **has been CANCELLED**. It will be rescheduled for Tuesday September 29.
- Dr. Kapil Chopra will present at 7:00 am on Tuesday, July 21 and the title of the presentation will be, "Complications of Cirrhosis: Evaluation and Management (Part 1)"

- Dr. Shahid Malik will present at 7:00 am on Friday, July 24 and the title of the presentation will be, "Complications of Cirrhosis: Evaluation and Management (Part 2)"

**Please click here for the Microsoft Teams link to join the meeting.**

You can also join by dialing **412-447-5295** and entering the **Conference ID: 992 093 294#**

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## **ASIP VIRTUAL MEET THE EXPERTS: JULY 23 AT 4:00 PM**

**The American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP)** will be hosting a virtual Meet the Experts event on Thursday, July 23 at 4:00 pm. The event is being presented by the society's Liver Pathobiology Scientific Interest Group. **Dr. Paul Monga**, Director of the PLRC, will be discussing Hepatocellular Carcinoma. **Dr. Rohit Loomba**, Director of the the NAFLD Research Center at the University of California at San Diego, will be discussing Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease. This will be an interactive session with a lot of opportunity for open discussion.

**Please click here to register for the event.**

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## **VIRTUAL LIVER CANCER CONFERENCE AGENDA**

**For more information and to register for the Virtual Liver Cancer Conference,  
please click here.**

COMMUNITY LIVER ALLIANCE  
**VIRTUAL LIVER CANCER  
CONFERENCE**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2020 | 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM  
REGISTRATION IS FREE

**Concurrent Educational Sessions:**

Health Care Providers (CME) and Patients/Caregivers Roundtable (Non-CME)

**8:00 a.m. Welcome and Overview**

Dulabh K Monga, MD and Satdarshan (Paul) Monga, MD  
*Course Directors*

**8:10 a.m. Keynote 1: The State of Art in  
Pathogenesis and Diagnosis**

Augusto Villanueva, MD, PhD  
*Liver Cancer Program - Tisch Cancer Institute  
Divisions of Liver Diseases/Hematology and Medical  
Oncology - Department of Medicine  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai*

**9:00 a.m. Risk Factors for HCC and HCC Surveillance**

Jaideep Behari, MD, PhD  
*Transplant Hepatology  
UPMC Center for Liver Diseases*

**9:30 a.m. Role of Surgical Resection and  
Transplantation in HCC Management**

David Geller, MD  
*Director, UPMC Liver Cancer Center*

**10:00 a.m. Concurrent Session  
Role of Locoregional Therapies in HCC Management**

Andrew Klobuka, MD  
*Department of Radiology, Allegheny Health Network*

**Patient Roundtable Discussion**

Brittany Morocco, MPAS, PA-C  
*Senior Physician Assistant  
UPMC Liver Cancer Center*

**10:30 a.m. Medical Management of HCC**

Dulabh K Monga, MD  
*Program Director  
Hematology Oncology Fellowship  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Allegheny Health Network*

**11:30 a.m. Radiation Therapy for HCC**

Alexander Kirichenko, MD  
*System Director, SRS/ SRT Programs  
Allegheny Health Network*

**1:00 p.m. Advances in Understanding of HCC:  
From Bench to Bedside**

Satdarshan (Paul) Monga, MD  
*Director, Pittsburgh Liver Research Center,  
University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine and  
UPMC*

**1:30 p.m. Keynote 2: State of the Art in Intrahepa  
Cholangiocarcinoma: Diagnosis and Treatment**

Mitesh Borad, MD  
*Associate Professor of Medicine Consultant, Div  
of Hematology/Oncology, Department of Intern  
Medicine  
Consultant, Department of Molecular Medicine  
Mayo Clinic*

**2:00 p.m. Case Presentations  
Resectable/Transplantable in HCC**

Akshata Moghe, MD, PhD  
*Advanced Fellow/Transplant Hepatology  
UPMC Starzl Transplant Services*

**Non-Resectable Non-Transplantable HCC and  
Medical and Locoregional Options**

Srividyaa Srinivasmaharai, MD  
*Hepatology Oncology Fellow  
Allegheny Health Network*

**Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma**

Srividyaa Srinivasmaharai, MD  
*Hepatology Oncology Fellow  
Allegheny Health Network*

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER,  
VISIT [COMMUNITYLIVERALLIANCE.ORG/LIVER-CANCER-CONFERENCE](https://communityliveralliance.org/liver-cancer-conference)



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## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Drs. Jai Behari, Alex Soto-Gutierrez, and Lans Taylor** have received a multi PI grant to study, "A vascularized patient-derived iPSC liver acinus microphysiology system as an innovative precision medicine platform for optimizing clinical trial design for nonalcoholic fatty liver disease." This funding will allow the group to create mini-human livers from patients currently in clinical trials for NASH at UPMC. They will evaluate NASH drugs based on the Genotype. The overall goal is to be able to design better clinical trials in the future for NASH patients.
- **Dr. Dipa Pradhan-Sundd** has received a K01 award to study, "Molecular Mechanism of Sickle Cell Hepatic Crisis." Dr. Pradhan-Sundd is also a past recipient of a PLRC P&F award in 2018 for this project
- **Dr. Juliane Beier** became an editorial board member of **Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology**.

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### COVID-19 RFP Program - COMMIT

Gilead Sciences, Inc. / Gilead Sciences Pty Ltd

## **Clinical Pilot and Feasibility Awards**

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF)

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics, Inc. (CFFT)

## **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA)**

### **Individual Predoctoral Fellowship to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Parent F31-Diversity)**

(PA-20-251)

National Institutes of Health

National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health

National Cancer Institute

National Eye Institute

National Human Genome Research Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering

*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

National Institute on Drug Abuse

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

National Institute of General Medical Sciences



National Institute of Mental Health

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Institute of Nursing Research

National Library of Medicine

Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives,

Office of Research Infrastructure Programs

Application Receipt Date(s): Standard dates apply, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**SBIR/STTR Commercialization Readiness Pilot (CRP) Program**

**Technical Assistance (SB1, Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

(PAR-20-128)

National Institutes of Health

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health

National Cancer Institute

National Eye Institute

National Human Genome Research Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

National Institute of General Medical Sciences

National Institute of Mental Health

National Library of Medicine

Application Receipt Date(s): All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on the listed date(s). Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**SBIR/STTR Commercialization Readiness Pilot (CRP) Program**  
**Technical Assistance and Late Stage Development (SB1, Clinical**  
**Trial Not Allowed)**

(PAR-20-129)

National Institutes of Health

National Eye Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human

Development

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

National Institute of General Medical Sciences

National Institute of Mental Health

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

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**SBIR/STTR Commercialization Readiness Pilot (CRP) Program**  
**Technical Assistance and Late Stage Development (SB1 Clinical**  
**Trial Required)**

(PAR-20-130)

National Institutes of Health

National Eye Institute

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institute on Aging

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human  
Development

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

National Institute of Mental Health

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

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**Mechanistic Studies of the Interaction between SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 and Diseases and Organ Systems of Interest to NIDDK (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)**

(RFA-DK-20-021)

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Application Receipt Date(s): December 16, 2020

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