# Table of Contents

Director’s Prologue ........................................... 3  
Summary Data ...................................................... 4  
Top Authors ......................................................... 5  
Top Scoring Papers via Altmetric ......................... 6  
Highly-Cited Papers .............................................. 7  
Top Journals .......................................................... 8  
Preprints .............................................................. 9  
Open Access ......................................................... 10  
Research Collaborations ....................................... 11  

Resources for COVID-19 Literature ..................... 14  
Bibliography of Works ............................................ 15  
Journal Articles .................................................... 16  
Reviews .............................................................. 53  
Research Letters .................................................. 60  
Editorials ............................................................. 65  
Guidelines ........................................................... 78  
Correspondence ..................................................... 84  
Preprints .............................................................. 90  
Meeting Abstracts ............................................... 99
In April 2020, the Memorial Sloan Kettering Library began tracking COVID-19 related works to highlight the contributions of MSK researchers to the growing body of publications focused on the pandemic. A special COVID tab was created within Synapse (our database of MSK Publications), where a user could view these works and see the breakout by publication format (e.g., research papers, editorials, guidelines, preprints, etc.)

During the early days of COVID-19, we witnessed an unprecedented number of researchers sharing their research findings via preprint servers, publishers supporting a faster publication process in order to disseminate research output quicker, and the impact of how responses to COVID-19 highlighted the importance of collaboration for scientific advancement.

The COVID-19 Publication Report analyzes this body of bibliographic citations to provide the reader with additional insights such as the top scoring papers via Altmetric, the top highly cited papers, which journals were identified as having published the largest number of submitted MSK manuscripts, the rise of preprint servers, the impact of open access, and a networking map visualization to show the research collaborations between Memorial Sloan Kettering and the fifty organizations that our authors most frequently worked with. Since 90% of the COVID-19 research publications were NIH-funded and available via PMC (PubMed Central), we also decided to annotate these works and provide lay summary abstracts (where applicable) written specifically for the public, to expand the reach and perhaps the interest in viewing this report. Many thanks go out to Jeanine McSweeney, Associate Librarian, Scholarly Communications, and her team (Chris Boire, Tiffany Chan & Christina Glaviano) for their hard work in preparing the content for this online report.

While we continue to monitor MSK-authored COVID-19 scholarly works, this report provides a snapshot of these publications from April 2020 to December 2022, with a total of 607 publications for this time period. Over sixty-five departments and services are represented to include such groups as Anesthesiology, Biostatistics & Epidemiology, and Medicine, as well as authors from our nursing, pharmacy, and postdoc communities.
Summary Data

From 2020 to 2022, MSK-affiliated authors contributed to at least 607 COVID-19-related publications. Our authors represent contributions across over 65 MSK departments and services. The top 15 departments are shown here, with the number of times an author from that department was represented on a COVID-19 publication.

90% of the 335 COVID-19 research publications were NIH-funded and available in PubMed Central.
Top Authors

Here we highlight the 10 most prolific authors, based on a count of their works in our COVID-19 list, including research articles, editorials, reviews, guidelines, preprints and meeting abstracts. These works also represent their collaborations with other researchers and investigators both within and outside the Institution.

37 Mini Kamboj, MD
Infectious Disease Specialist, Chief Medical Epidemiologist, Infection Control

35 Esther Babady, PhD, D(ABMM), FIDSA
Clinical Microbiologist, Chief, Clinical Microbiology Service

19 William Rosa, PhD, MBE, MS
Assistant Attending Behavioral Scientist

19 Elizabeth Robilotti, MD, MPH
Infectious Disease Specialist, Associate Director

18 Santosha Vardhana, MD
Medical Oncologist, Assistant Attending Physician

17 Justin Jee, MD, PhD
Research Scientist

16 Miguel Angel Perales, MD
Medical Oncologist, Chief, Adult Bone Marrow Transplant Service

14 Rocio Perez Johnston, MD
Assistant Attending Radiologist

13 Genovefa Papanicolaou, MD
Infectious Diseases Specialist, Attending Physician

10 William S. Breitbart, MD
Psychiatrist, Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Jimmie C. Holland Chair in Psychiatric Oncology
The Altmetric Attention Score is derived from an automated algorithm and represents a weighted count of the amount of attention a research output receives on the Internet. It gives a guide to the overall attention at that moment in time. The colors of the donut also have significance. Each color represents the source in which mentions of the paper were found (e.g. red for news outlets, blue for Twitter, yellow for blogs, etc.)

**LEGEND**
- News
- Blogs
- Twitter
- Facebook
- Sina Weibo
- Syllabi
- Policy Documents
- YouTube
- Post-Publication Peer-Reviews
- Wikipedia
- LinkedIn
- Reddit
- Google+
- Pinterest
- Patents
- Q&A (Stack Overflow)
- Research Highlight Platform

**Top Scoring Papers via Altmetric**

- **SARS-CoV-2 entry factors are highly expressed in nasal epithelial cells together with innate immune genes**
  
  *Nature Medicine | Dana Pe’er*

- **Complement associated microvascular injury and thrombosis in the pathogenesis of severe COVID-19 infection: A report of five cases**
  
  *Translational Research | Joseph Justin Mulvey*

- **Anxiety levels among physician mothers during the COVID-19 pandemic**
  
  *American Journal of Psychiatry | Lisa Diamond*

- **Shedding of viable SARS-COV-2 after immunosuppressive therapy for cancer**
  
  *New England Journal of Medicine | Ngoilela Esther Babady, Kent Sepkowitz, Tobias Hohl, Genovefa Papanicolaou, Mini Kamboj, Miguel-Angel Perales, Gunjan Shah*

- **Multidisciplinary recommendations regarding post-vaccine adenopathy and radiologic imaging: Radiology scientific expert panel**
  
  *Radiology | Kimberly Feigin, Hedvig Hricak, Hebert Vargas Alvarez, Rocic Perez Johnston, Katherine Gallagher, Randy Yeh, Marius Mayerhoefer, Anton Becker, Maria El Homsi, Ahmet Illica*

- **Lung epithelial and endothelial damage, loss of tissue repair, inhibition of fibrinolysis, and cellular senescence in fatal COVID-19**
  
  *Science Translational Medicine | William D. Travis*

- **SARS-CoV-2 simulations go exascale to predict dramatic spike opening and cryptic pockets across the proteome**
  
  *Nature Chemistry | John Chodera, Rafal Wiewiora*

- **Inborn errors of OAS-RNase L in SARS-CoV-2-related multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children**
  
  *Science | Frederic Geissmann, Tomi Lazarov*

- **Common human genetic variants of APOE impact murine COVID-19 mortality**
  
  *Nature | Sebastian Carrasco*

- **A molecular single-cell lung atlas of lethal COVID-19**
  
  *Nature | Samuel Bakhoum*

*Altmetric Attention Scores occur in real time and can fluctuate based on new mentions or new sources added to the calculation. The scores shown are current as of 3/17/2023.*
Highly Cited Papers

The following represent the most highly-cited COVID-19 papers with an MSK affiliation according to data retrieved from Dimensions on 03/16/2023. (note: Only the MSK authors on the papers are shown).

- **SARS-CoV-2 entry factors are highly expressed in nasal epithelial cells together with innate immune genes**
  - *Nature Medicine* | Dana Pe’er

- **Complement associated microvascular injury and thrombosis in the pathogenesis of severe COVID-19 infection: A report of five cases**
  - *Translational Research* | Joseph Justin Mulvey

- **Circulating SARS-CoV-2 spike N439K variants maintain fitness while evading antibody-mediated immunity**
  - *Cell* | John D. Chodera, William Glass, Ivy Zhang

- **Efficacy of the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia**
  - *Blood* | Erel Joffe

- **A human pluripotent stem cell-based platform to study SARS-CoV-2 tropism and model virus infection in human cells and organoids**
  - *Cell Stem Cell* | Lorenz Studer, Sudha Ragavalli Guttikonda, Gabriele Ciceri, Taewan Kim, Oliver Harschnitz

- **Safety recommendations for evaluation and surgery of the head and neck during the COVID-19 pandemic**
  - *JAMA Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery* | Luc Morris

- **The many faces of the anti-COVID immune response**
  - *Journal of Experimental Medicine* | Jedd D. Wolchok, Santosha Adipudi Vardhana

- **TMPRSS2 and COVID-19: Serendipity or opportunity for intervention?**
  - *Cancer Discovery* | Philip W. Kantoff, Konrad H. Stopsack

  - *mBio* | Ngolela E. Babady

- **Shedding of viable SARS-COV-2 after immunosuppressive therapy for cancer**
# Top Journals

The following chart shows the top 10 journal titles that MSK authors published their COVID-19 publications in (includes journal articles, reviews, research letters, correspondence, editorials, and guidelines, but not preprints or meeting abstracts).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal Title</th>
<th># of works</th>
<th>Impact Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JCO Oncology Practice</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAMA Oncology</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>33.012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances in Radiation Oncology</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6.921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of Geriatric Oncology</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palliative and Supportive Care</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transplantation and Cellular Therapy</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Journal of Radiation Oncology Biology Physics</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8.013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Blood and Cancer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of Nuclear Medicine</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11.082</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Impact factors were retrieved on 3/16/2023 from Journal Citation Reports, a product of Clarivate Analytics.*
The number of preprints escalated during the pandemic and represented one way in which scientists could disseminate their research findings quickly. By definition, a preprint is a draft manuscript that is shared publicly (often via a preprint server) before it has been peer reviewed. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Preprint Pilot, a project of the National Library of Medicine, made NIH-funded preprints available in PubMed Central and included references to NIH-funded preprints in PubMed to further expose these research findings and increase their discoverability. 37% of the COVID-19 preprints we tracked from our MSK authors were available in PubMed Central.

From 2020 to 2022, we identified 54 preprints related to COVID-19 with an MSK author. As of 3/17/2023, 44 of them, 81%, have since been published to a peer-reviewed journal.
Open Access

Types of Open Access Journals

**Gold:** Fully open access journals with a Creative Commons (CC) license.

**Hybrid gold:** Journals which provide authors the choice of publishing open access and including the Creative Commons license.

**Bronze:** The publisher has chosen to provide temporary or permanent free access to the publication, but without a license.

**Green:** Published or manuscript version accepted for publication and available on an institutional or other open repository.

% of COVID-19 papers that were fully Open Access (Gold) was not significantly higher than OA publication trends in previous years, however the % of papers that included ALL open access types increased by an average of 13 percentage points.

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Open Access Trends for COVID-19 Publications as Compared to Trends in all MSK Publications 2017-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% of All OA Types</th>
<th>% Gold OA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research Collaborations

**VOSviewer** is a software tool for constructing and visualizing bibliometric networks. Those networks can include relationships between authors, journals, institutions, or keywords/subjects, and are based on citation information from research publications. Here, we used the citations of all MSK-authored COVID-19 publications from 2020 to 2022 and analyzed the author affiliations of all co-authors using the VOSviewer tool. The map on the following page shows the 50 organizations our MSK authors most frequently collaborated with on publications. The larger the circles (nodes), the greater the frequency of occurrence of shared authorships with MSK. The different colors further indicate the clusters of organizations that appeared most frequently together on papers. Looking at the purple group in our map, you will see that publications co-authored with Weill Cornell will also frequently have authors from Columbia, NYU, and Mount Sinai. Publications clustered in the red group frequently include authors from Stanford, University of Michigan, Cleveland Clinic, etc.

[Learn more about the VOSviewer tool](#)
Research Collaborations

63% of papers were collaborations within the United States, while 37% were International. Overall, 19% of papers had no outside collaborators (MSK authors only).

Top 15 Collaborating Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Collaboration Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weill Cornell Medicine (New York, NY)</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Icahn School of Medicine, Mt Sinai (New York, NY)</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (Houston, TX)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (Boston, MA)</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard Medical School (Cambridge, MA)</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California California, San Francisco (San Francisco, CA)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachutes General Hospital (Boston, MA)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN)</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigham and Women’s Hospital (Boston, MA)</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University (Bronx, NY)</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia University (New York, NY)</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Washington (Seattle, WA)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Clinic Foundation (Cleveland, OH)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYU Langone Health (New York, NY)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Ann Arbor, MI)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resources for COVID-19 Literature

Research Informationists at the library developed a COVID-19 LibGuide in 2020 to help navigate the growing body of COVID-19 literature and resources. Navigating to the three tabs shown here provides extensive resources on finding COVID-specific literature, databases, data repositories, and research initiatives.
The bibliography is divided into 8 sections:

### Articles
Presentation of original research investigations that are likely, but not always, peer-reviewed, including the following:
- Clinical trials, meta-analyses, laboratory investigations
- Case reports and brief reports
- White papers
- Chapters from a monographic series

### Reviews
Comprehensive literature, topic, or subject summaries, including systematic reviews.

### Research Letters
Original research presented in journals as correspondence.

### Editorials
Editorials, viewpoints, commentaries, and other opinion type pieces published in journals.

### Guidelines
A set of guidelines/recommendations written on behalf of a professional group or society.

### Correspondence
Letters to the editor, replies, and other items included in the correspondence sections of journals.

### Preprints
Preliminary versions of scientific manuscripts that researchers share by posting to online platforms known as preprint servers before peer-review and publication in an academic journal.

### Meeting Abstracts
Published abstracts of presentations held at a conference, symposium, or other professional gathering including, (but not limited to):
- Poster presentations
- Oral presentations
- Panel discussions
Journal Articles
(267)

This study describes the decrease in cancer-related searches during the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning in March 2020. This decline mirrors the decline in cancer diagnoses during the same time frame.


A survey of 163 endoscopists in 48 countries found significant COVID-related declines in endoscopic procedures and a need to improve training on the use of personal protective equipment.

Almassi N, Mulhall JP, Funt SA, Sheinfeld J. ‘Case of the Month’ from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA: Managing newly diagnosed metastatic testicular germ cell tumour in a COVID-19-positive patient. BJU International. 2020;126(3):333-335. PMCID:PMC7362031

A case report of a patient whose surgery was postponed due to a positive COVID screening test and the disease management considerations that followed.


Background and recommendations for supporting and preparing caregivers delivering home-based care to hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) patients, informed by the COVID-19 pandemic.


A description of how the pandemic impacted MSK’s digital pathology workflow from March-June 2020.


From a study conducted at MSKCC, this paper gives guidance on conducting pre-procedural COVID-19 testing. The article also highlights how critical personal protective equipment are in procedural settings.

A retrospective study of 105 cancer patients with COVID-19 infections found that patients with hematological cancers took longer to clear the infection and were likely infectious for longer than patients with solid tumors.


Between April and May 2020, the researchers compared COVID screening methods in MSK employees who were either showing symptoms or who had known disease exposure. They found SARS-CoV-2 detection from posterior oropharyngeal saliva, but not from oral rinses or mouthwashes, equivalent to detection from nasopharyngeal swabs.


A cohort study of 12,046 patients with cancer and COVID-19, with authors noting that findings suggest patients with baseline immunosuppression as well may experience worse outcomes when treated with immunotherapy or non-immunotherapy systemic anticancer therapy.


This study reports on a prospective observational cohort study of patients with cancer hospitalized with COVID-19 that found that CD8 T cells might influence recovery from COVID-19 when humoral immunity is deficient, suggesting that CD8 T cell responses to vaccination might provide protection in patients with hematologic cancer in this situation.


This article describes how MSK’s urgent care used a portable CT scanner to get chest images of patients for evaluation of COVID-19.


A guidance document in the form of frequently asked questions that is based on current knowledge about COVID-19 vaccination in hematopoietic cell transplantation and chimeric antigen receptor T-cell recipients.


In this study the authors anonymously surveyed 165 genetic counselors to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their services. The article highlights the rapid shift to telegenetics and future recommendations, such as implementing a hybrid model.

Bethea TN, Zhai W, Zhou X, Ahles TA, Ahn J, Cohen HJ, Dilawari AA, Graham DMA, Jim HSL,

In this paper, the authors analyzed if older women with breast cancers and women without cancer had a similar response to lack of sleep because of the COVID-19 pandemic.


This retrospective cohort single-center study looked at 70 critically ill cancer patients with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis over an approximate 4-month period early in the pandemic to evaluate their delirium frequency and outcomes. Results showed this study population had a high incidence of delirium and patients with delirium had higher hospital and ICU stays and ventilation days, however, no statistically significant difference in hospital mortality.


Self-questionnaires of a mixed sample of cancer patients and survivors suggest that moderate exercise may lessen the risk of COVID-19 diagnosis compared to a more sedentary lifestyle, but does not impact disease severity.


This study used the sequencing data of CH (Clonal hematopoiesis)-associated genes and COVID-19 infection data of two patient cohorts: one composed of patients with solid tumors treated at MSK, and the other of previously healthy individuals without cancer who were hospitalized for COVID-19 at four tertiary hospitals in South Korea (KoCH cohort). The results suggested that there is a relationship between CH and risk of different types of severe infections, including risk of severe COVID-19.


This study looks at the attitudes and barriers toward the care of older adults with cancer during COVID-19.

This paper reports on the results of serological testing of 19,107 staff members (from 30 April to 30 June 2020) employed at New York City Health and Hospitals (NYC H+H) who also responded to a survey to assess demographic and occupational factors associated with serostatus.


This paper reports on a randomized study of forty-four anesthesiology trainees and faculty who completed a simulated anesthetic case in order to determine if a preoperative educational visual aid led to improved decontamination practices during their use of an aerosol box (which was developed to minimize viral exposure during aerosolizing procedures during the COVID-19 pandemic).


This publication describes the work carried out by the Mount Sinai Department of Anesthesiology’s Human Emulation, Education and Evaluation Lab for Patient Safety and Professional Study (HELPS) in NYC. The authors make a strong case for the value of using the safe environment of simulation for testing devices and protocols before use on patients, especially during unprecedented emergency situations.


This paper reports on a survey of 18 sarcoma surgeons from 14 countries led to the development of a COVID-informed decision-making framework for patient care.


Nearly 85 percent of a cohort of 250 patients aged 65 and above of the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore (NCIS) were satisfied with a hybrid telemedicine care model.


This article proposes models and methods to assist public health decision-making and the clinical management of COVID-19 patients.

ized cancer patients. Clinical Infectious Diseases. 2022;74(9):1579-1585. PMID: PMCB3835815

This study aimed at assessing the risk of hospital SARS-CoV-2 infection included hospitalized cancer patients not sick with COVID-19 at admission but diagnosed with coronavirus during their hospitalization. The study found that there was low risk of getting infected in the inpatient setting.


The authors of this paper underwent a cost-effectiveness study on using statins to treat patients hospitalized with COVID-19. They conclude that additional randomized controlled trials should be done on statins as they appear to be cost-effective candidates.


A survey of 678 dermatologists in 52 countries found a decrease in the number of working days and skin cancer diagnoses and an increase in telemedicine visits during the pandemic.


An international cohort study of 7,874 adult patients undergoing elective surgery to evaluate the association between preoperative SARS-CoV-2 testing and postoperative pulmonary complications.


This large international study used artificial intelligence to create a COVIDSurg Morality Score, a predictive score for mortality in surgical patients infected with SARS-CoV-2. The study concluded that it would be safe to restart the wide range of elective surgeries for patients for whom the score predicts low risk.


Eleven academic medical institutions formed the New York State SARS-CoV-2 Testing Consortium in April 2020 to establish and improve communication at the height of the pandemic.


This article reports on the molecular, immunological, and pathological findings of a study of lung autopsy samples from 18 patients with fatal COVID-19 that may support the “… development of relevant disease markers and urgently needed therapeutics.”
This paper describes a study that included 33 patients and investigated the utility of perfusion (Q)-single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT)/CT for diagnosing pulmonary embolus (PE) in COVID-19 patients with a moderate to high pre-test probability of PE. European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging. 2021;48(3):794-799. PMCID: PMC7505736

This paper describes a study that included 33 patients and investigated the utility of using Q-SPECT/CT as an "imaging modality for diagnosing PE in COVID-19 patients with a moderate to high probability of PE." European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging. 2021;48(3):794-799. PMCID: PMC7505736

In this study, data from 20 institutions worldwide was used to train artificial intelligence models using a method called federated learning to predict the future oxygen requirements of symptomatic patients with COVID-19. PMCID: PMC9157510

This article describes a unique approach to making each patient's personal values visible during trying and challenging times. Journal of Medical Internet Research. 2021;23(2):e21615. PMCID: PMC7929751

This article explores the increased potential for moral distress in healthcare professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic. It introduces the new term 'collective moral resilience' to help conceptualize the impact of group settings on addressing potential moral distress experienced by healthcare professionals during trying and challenging times.

This article defines an algorithm to fairly and consistently triage head and neck cancer patients that require surgery. Journal of Medical Ethics. 2021;47(6):374-382. PMCID: PMC7992383

This article describes patient perspectives on remote monitoring at home of oncology patients for COVID-19 infections. JCO Oncology Practice. 2021;17(9):e1278-e1285. PMCID: PMC8457795

This study describes patient perspectives on remote monitoring of home for COVID-19 . JCO Oncology Practice. 2021;17(9):e1278-e1285. PMCID: PMC8457795

This study defines an algorithm to fairly and consistently triage head and neck cancer patients that require surgery. Journal of Medical Ethics. 2021;47(6):374-382. PMCID: PMC7992383

This analysis of 24 autopsy lung samples of patients who died of COVID supports two disease phases: one with high viral RNA, and one with low or undetectable viral RNA. The authors believe these to be distinct disease phases rather than different forms of the disease.


To better understand how COVID-19 can induce acute respiratory syndrome in some patients, the authors conducted a genomic study using a model.


This study investigated the types and factors associated with medical care disruptions experienced by participants in a longitudinal cohort of non-metastatic breast cancer survivors (aged 60–98) across five US regions. The study showed that there was a high rate of disruptions for this cohort during the first 6 months of the pandemic.


This observational study aimed at quantifying the association of a novel geriatric risk index, comprising patient age and other parameters, with COVID-19 severity and outcomes. The index was found to be able to help clinicians in identifying older adults most at risk for severe COVID-19.

The authors studied gastrointestinal symptoms among 1992 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 and found that most symptoms were mild and not an indicator of the severity of the disease.


This case report describes how to deliver continuous and intermittent nebulizer treatment in a COVID-19 patient using sequential vibratory mesh nebulizers.


This article reports on the successes and challenges of an Online Liver Imaging Course (OLIC).


This article reports on a study of 30 cancer patients who participated in a virtual mind-body program during the COVID-19 pandemic to determine the program’s impact on the patients’ psychosocial well-being. It demonstrated the program’s potential for addressing behavioral, psychological, and social challenges faced by cancer patients.


Results of a study of 104,590 hospitalized adult COVID-19 patients to characterize changes in mortality, intubation, and intensive care unit admission rates during the first 20 months of the pandemic.


This exploratory observational study followed 157 adult COVID-19 convalescent patients to try to better understand the immune mechanisms underlying the variability in COVID-19 clinical courses by identifying immunogenetic background characteristics and evaluating whether they are associated with reduced or increased severity of the disease.
This article reports on the results of a survey of adult child caregivers caring for a parent diagnosed with a blood cancer during the COVID-19 pandemic. This study revealed the patterns of uncertainty caregivers experienced and established the need for the supportive services to help caregivers provide care and deal with the psychological burden experienced during the global health crisis.


Cancer patients on mTOR/PI3K inhibitors and antimetabolites showed reduced SARS-CoV-2 positivity rates than those treated with other therapies.


The CovidSurg-Cancer Consortium studied the impact of COVID-19 on delaying surgeries for gynecologic cancer. The prospective cohort study was conducted internationally in 227 centers.


The authors report their results in this study on validating a PCR-based saliva assay, the Darnell Rockefeller University Laboratory (DRUL) saliva assay, in a preschool program setting.


This paper reports on “...a case series of eight consecutive patients with cardiac side effects after inoculation of either the first or the second dose of a mRNA vaccine against SARS-CoV-2.” Study participants were young and healthy with no pre-vaccination cardiac history, however, study results suggested that “...cardiac adverse events such as myocarditis or pericarditis shortly after SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccination are rare but possible and occur particularly in male patients.”


Clinical ethics consultations in a hospital setting are important at addressing ethical issues that occur in the course of patient care and which concerns clinicians, patients and/or patients’ families. This article reviewed Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center clinical ethics consultations that took place in the early and most difficult months of the COVID-19 pandemic, when totally new challenges faced society and cancer care.


This article studied the impact of COVID-19 on anxiety, depression, and self-care behaviors. The results were analyzed from online surveys answered by 1508 participants.
In this study, authors surveyed head and neck fellows and accredited program directors to assess the impact of COVID-19 on head and neck surgical training. They conclude that “...current trainees appear well-positioned to achieve expertise before entering practice.”


The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) forced hospitals to stop performing nonessential surgeries during the first wave of COVID-19 in the United States. This study of nearly 3.5 million patients across 719 hospitals found that racial minority groups undergoing major surgery to compare changes following surgical pathways.

According to this study, 57% of COVID-19-positive patients yielded positive findings on CT scans of the abdomen and pelvis. The hope is that this study will better be able to reveal why some COVID-19 patients experience abdominal symptoms and some do not.

A case report that describes the measurements of soluble urokinase plasminogen activator receptor in an African green monkey infected with SARS-CoV-2, with authors noting findings suggest elevated levels of this receptor may be associated with renal dysfunction and pathology in the context of COVID-19.


This study reports on the results of an online survey administered to the Physician Moms Group (PMG) and PMG COVID-19 Subgroup on Facebook, to understand their work-related and home life concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey results demonstrated that the concerns of physicians varied somewhat depending on their work settings (e.g. frontline vs non-frontline physicians) and family situation (e.g., children of certain ages).


A description of a screening strategy to link human genetics with viral infectivity using human-induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSC) with SARS-CoV-2 infection were discussed.


This randomized, prospective study is the first validation of a digital pathology system from a remote non-CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments) certified facility. Researchers found a major concordance rate of 100% comparing remote review and reporting of whole slide images to conventional microscopy.


Results of an international multi-institute retrospective cohort study of 549 hospitalized COVID-19 patients to compare outcomes in those who underwent tracheostomy within 14 days of intubation versus more than 14 days after intubation.


This single-institution study compared patient characteristics, outcomes data, and survey data from a 4-month period (March-June) in 2019 and in 2020 to examine how the COVID-19 pandemic affected care for patients undergoing thoracic surgery for cancer, particularly with respect to the adoption of telemedicine.


A description of how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted cancer clinical trials at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, the Sarah Cannon Research Institute, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Oncology Center of Excellence, and for a patient diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer.


About 40% of patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (66/167) showed an immune response to the Pfizer mRNA vaccine. Those who had a response tended to be younger, at an earlier disease stage, treatment naïve, or a year or more post-treatment.


This article examines the virtual experience of program directors and candidates via surveys during the 2020 Complex General Surgical Oncology interview season.


Delayed skin reactions, appearing days after the first or second dose of the Moderna vaccine, are rare, benign, and treatable with topical glucocorticosteroids or oral antihistamines.


In this article, the authors identified SARS-CoV-2 host proteins and their results were organized in a library to help develop possible COVID-19 drug treatments.


This article reports how 34 centers participating in tobacco cessation treatments adapted to the changes needed because of COVID-19. As a result, they had to shift to telehealth services rapidly.


A retrospective cohort study of 357 patients who underwent breast magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) following COVID-19 vaccination between January 22, 2021 and March 21, 2021.

Horvat N, Alves Pinto PV, Araujo-Filho JAB, Santos JMMM, Dias AB, Miranda JA, de Oliveira CV, Barbosa CS, Morais TC, AN Assuncao Jr, Nomura CH, Cavalcante Viana PC. Abdominal gastrointestinal imaging findings on computed tomography in patients with COVID-19 and...
In this retrospective study, the authors analyzed the influence of receiving anti-cancer treatments and other cancer-related features on the severity of COVID-19.


The authors present a technique to generate chemotherapy episodes to make data more discoverable so researchers can compare treatments for patients with cancer.


This conference paper describes an image modeling method developed with 3,643 computed tomography scans arising from head and neck, lung, and kidney cancers as well as COVID-19.


In this paper, the authors analyzed COVID-19 infections among pediatric survivors of
Journal Articles (267)

childhood cancer followed at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and concluded from their preliminary data that “…childhood cancer survivors appear to be at relatively low risk for COVID-19 complications.”


This article describes the challenges faced by such a hands-on area of medical education as interventional pulmonology. The analysis of the challenges and solutions found could be useful for addressing similar situations in the future.


This study underscored the importance of frailty screening in the care management of older COVID-19 patients with cancer.


In this study, the authors surveyed 410 participants to assess if political affiliation impacted risk perception regarding COVID-19. They found that people affiliated with the Republican party were most likely to have a lower perceived risk for themselves and others and less likely to engage in preventive behavior toward COVID-19.


This article presents research on the crystal structure of SARS-CoV-2 that may help in the development of more potent antiviral therapeutics against coronaviruses.


In this study looking at the workplace environment of essential workers, data on a cohort of 563 women who underwent breast cancer treatment between 2010-2018 was analyzed based on whether they were essential or non-essential workers and other characteristics.


This article describes Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center’s successful transitioning from in-person smoking cessation counseling, to telehealth treatment for tobacco dependent cancer patients during COVID-19 pandemic.


This case report describes a cancer patient in an outpatient setting whose COVID-19 infection diagnosis was made during a cancer imaging procedure. The accidental finding of COVID-19-related pneumonia in a cancer patient without COVID-19 symptoms stresses the necessity to test outpatient cancer patients, even those not displaying COVID symptoms.


This article examines the experiences and challenges of healthcare providers to care for older adults with cancer during COVID-19.

In this study, 123 gastroenterology practices located in North America answered a survey designed by the authors to identify reactivation barriers and strategies during the COVID-19 pandemic.


This experience report details the teledermatology consultations at MSKCC and how this can impact future improvements to the service.


Results of a survey of 144 patients aged 18-39 who were recently diagnosed with and being treated for cancer; responses were evaluated to understand factors associated with COVID-19 vaccine uptake and intention.


The authors used a mathematical model to quantify the mortality risk in patients hospitalized for COVID-19.


This article offers an update on COVID-19 outcomes among patients with gynecologic cancers in 8 New York City hospital systems during the initial surge of COVID-19.


A retrospective, observational cohort study of 193 patients with gynecologic cancer and COVID-19 infection at eight New York City-area hospital systems, where Black patients had disproportionate rates of hospitalization and death than non-Black patients.


During the omicron surge of COVID-19 in December 2021-January 2022, healthcare professionals at MSK were more likely to have asymptomatic disease at the time of diagnosis compared to those who had COVID from May to October 2021.


This retrospective study looked at gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms among 2804 hospitalized patients with COVID-19. The authors observed that patients with GI symptoms had less severe COVID-19 disease.


A study of 558 patients with multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) from the international COVID Human Genetic Effort (CHGE) cohort, as this is a rare and severe condition that can follow benign COVID-19 infection.


Results of a study of 410 adults in the United States to examine associations between worldview orientations and six facets of risk for COVID-19.


Results of a survey of 343 participants who were enrolled in skin cancer prevention intervention studies to examine associations between social COVID-19 exposure and psychological functioning.


This study evaluated an existing drug, enzalutamide, for possible repurposing as an anti-COVID-19 agent. This thoroughly designed study concludes that this drug cannot be used for COVID-19 treatment, contrary to some previous studies that suggested such possibility.


An autopsy study of COVID-19 patients to determine the clinical course related to and patterns of damaged lung tissue.


This retrospective study looked at 222 patients being screened for suspicious lymphadenopathy to analyze the accuracy of fine-needle aspiration biopsy alone versus fine-needle aspiration biopsy combined with other tools such as flow cytometry.


The authors found that a small sample of lung cancer patients who had previously received PD-1 blockade immune therapy did not experience statistically significant increased COVID symptom severity, but smoking history did make an impact.


While the current pandemic demonstrated an increased severity of COVID-19 infection course in lung cancer patients, the study reported in this article established that this severity is a result of patient characteristics and behaviors that were the risk factors for lung cancer (e.g., smoking status and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) rather than cancer itself.


Eighteen physicians were surveyed to share their experience as oncologists providing care during the 2020 COVID-19 surge. The authors hope to give guidance for future pandemics.


This important study analyzed cellular and humoral immune responses in 103 cancer patients with prior COVID-19 infection (based on SARS-CoV-2 positive PCR test, between March 1, 2020 and January 20, 2021) to establish whether B and CD4+ T cell immunity are key factors associated with delayed viral infection clearance and incidence of prolonged COVID-19 disease.


In this 13-institution, multicenter, retrospective study, 578 pediatric oncology patients were tested for COVID-19, with 98 found to be positive, 73 of which were symptomatic. Their clinical and laboratory information was collected and analyzed, from which it was concluded that although COVID-related morbidity and mortality were
low in pediatric oncology patients overall, they were higher than in the general pediatric population, with some subgroups more at risk for severe COVID disease.


The authors compare two skin manifestations of COVID, one that arises in mild disease and one in severe illness, and the distinct immune responses behind them.


This study, conducted on 23 patients and their role in the pathogenesis of severe COVID disease, investigated the possible complement activation of cutaneous and subcutaneous microvessels and SARS-CoV-2 docked protein within the endothelium.


This article contributes to the knowledge of mechanisms causing a severe course of COVID-19 infection and lays the foundation for creating new therapies targeting those mechanisms.


A study of 11 endoscopy units in the New York area found an overall pandemic-related decline in procedural volume and a general agreement of which situations indicated urgent endoscopic procedures during the pandemic. The 11 units reported notably different pre-procedural COVID testing policies.


This article reports on the successes and challenges of an MSKCC program that remotely monitors cancer patients who test positive to COVID-19. The program involves five digital platforms.


This observational study looked at hospitalized cancer patients with COVID-19 and bacterial co-infections. The results of this study can inform antibiotics use in this patient population.


The article reports on the results of an online survey on telemedicine adoption distributed to the American College of Mohs Surgeons. The survey responses demonstrated that the COVID-19 pandemic triggered the use of telemedicine in managing patients undergoing Mohs surgery and identified the most common uses, barriers, and future plans for telemedicine in these settings.


This study of nearly 200 chronic lymphocytic leukemia patients with symptomatic
COVID infections found that patients requiring hospitalization had high mortality rates.


The authors used a model of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma progression to estimate the increased mortality burden of the pandemic on cancer patients.


The authors analyzed 106 responses to a survey sent to radiation oncology institutions in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Cancer treatments, often on modified schedules, continued with the implementation of additional safety measures.


This work reports on the results of a study (that used a pool of 8 samples) evaluating sample pooling for SARS-CoV-2 testing. It was found to be a viable option worth investigating further.

McMillen T, Jani K, Robilotti EV, Kamboj M, Babady NE. The spike gene target failure (SGTF) genomic signature is highly accurate for the identification of Alpha and Omicron SARS-CoV-2 variants. Scientific Reports. 2022;12:18968. PMCID: PMC9641688

Results of a study to investigate the detection accuracy of the spike gene target failure genomic signature for Alpha and Omicron variants by analyzing positive SARS-CoV-2 samples tested on a widely used, commercial test between December 2020 and July 2022.


This study measured and compared the level of protease inhibitors in hemodialysis patients infected with COVID-19 and non-infected patients. The authors observed different inhibitors’ levels. Therefore, additional studies are needed to understand the mechanisms.


This research article describes a potential pharmacological target for treating COVID-19-related inflammation.

Journal Articles (267)

From donor selection to monitoring recipient outcomes. Human Immunology. 2021;82(4):255-263. PMCID: PMC7885628

A description of the process and outcomes of the convalescent plasma program at University Hospital Brooklyn from April to June 2020.


This article describes the creation of a COVID-19 Research Committee at MSK that reviewed research protocols with the aim of minimizing bottlenecks, reducing redundancies, and boosting transparency through an internal portal.


This research examined the association between the risk of COVID-19 hospitalization in diabetic patients with higher baseline HbA1c. Diabetic patients with poor glucose control are at significantly increased risk for hospitalization from COVID-19.


The COVID-19 pandemic affected both clinical practice and education. This article describes how clinical education for students in social work adjusted to the COVID-19 pandemic, and specifically, how an educational program for oncology social work interns from the graduate school was redesigned for remote/virtual learning.


A study of human embryos preimplantation to explore the factors required for SARS-CoV-2 entry into cells, with findings confirming that these embryos at the blastocyst stage are susceptible to SARS-CoV-2 infection.


The study looked at hospitalized cancer patients with neutropenia who also had COVID-19 infection. The retrospective study found that neutropenia did not affect the course of COVID-19 infection in such patients, but CSF administration did. The authors recommended exercising caution and weighing risks vs benefits of SCF treatment of neutropenic patients with COVID-19 infection.

Morrison A, McCorkindale W. The COVID 19 Research Committee. Contemporary Clinical Trials. 2022;117:106760. PMCID: PMC93535143

A cohort study of 3,028 patients within the American Society of Clinical Oncology COVID-19 Oncology Data Registry, with authors noting that findings suggest some health disparities may have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic as an effect of cancer treatment delay.


This paper reports on the work of researchers participating in the COVID Moonshot initiative and their use of machine learning to make predictions about chemical targets in their attempt to “...develop patent-free antivirals with open science and open data.”


A comparison of the impact of COVID-19 on low-income Mexican-born parents in New York City and El Paso, TX, including financial, mental health, and healthcare access repercussions.


A cohort study of 3,028 patients within the American Society of Clinical Oncology COVID-19 Oncology Data Registry, with authors noting that findings suggest some health disparities may have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic as an effect of cancer treatment delay.

Researchers found that a synthetic rocataglate molecule had antiviral effects against SARS-CoV-2 in human bronchial cells.


This article reports on the placental pathology of five full-term babies that were delivered from COVID-19 infected patients without significant morbidity or mortality to the mothers or their newborns.


This retrospective analysis followed 255 adult patients with a history of cancer who presented to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center urgent care center with concurrent COVID-19 infection (from March 1, 2020 to May 31, 2020) to try to identify “…vital signs, labs, and imaging at presentation” that can help predict outcomes and “…have implications in triage and disposition planning in the urgent care and emergency settings.”


The authors developed and used a machine learning algorithm based on 267 clinical variables to identify cancer patients at high risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes.


The study at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center evaluated the impact of delays in scheduling hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) or chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and found that for patients with high-risk disease treatment, delay could be devastating and should be avoided as much as possible.


This report shares the advantages and limits of conducting the 2020 ROECSG symposium virtually because of the pandemic. The authors’ discussion will help with planning future scientific meetings.


In this retrospective study, the authors show that 8% of critically ill COVID-19 patients could develop a duodenal infection as an adverse event of COVID-19 infection.


Results of a study to identify compounds that act synergistically with remdesivir, which the authors note is the only FDA-approved therapeutic for COVID-19, in preventing SARS-CoV-2 replication.

Nolan MB, Piasecki TM, Smith SS, Baker TB,

This article reports on a study that uses the electronic health record data of over 100,000 adult hospitalized patients with COVID-19, obtained from 21 United States health systems from February 2020 through September 2021. The findings demonstrate that cancer patients with COVID-19 were at risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes (mitigated to a degree by prior COVID-19 vaccination), while history of cancer was not associated with such risk.


This case study reports on the immune response and efficacy of vaccination in a cancer patient with a history of chemotherapy treatment. The patient contracted COVID-19 shortly after beginning chemotherapy and received several rounds of vaccination with SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine six months following treatment.


This study looks at intravenous ketamine for cancer-related neuropathy. The study was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic.


This study re-analyzed data, originally collected for a genome-wide association study (GWAS) of Italian and Spanish participants by an international consortium group. They used gene ontology analysis and protein-protein interaction analysis to determine which biological processes were most implicated in respiratory failure in COVID-19 patients.


A method for predicting hospitalizations from COVID-19 two to four weeks from the time of prediction, evaluated on San Francisco Bay Area hospitalizations.


A June 2020 survey of 50,000 adults in the United States found that Black and Latinx participants were more likely than whites to perceive COVID-19 as a higher risk and to take precautionary measures, like social distancing and masking, to prevent its spread.


A retrospective, observational case-control study of 900 adult patients critically ill with COVID-19 admitted to the intensive care units of the Cleveland Clinic Health System between March 15, 2020 and August 31, 2020.


Results of a study of prevalent variants of the apolipoprotein E (APOE) gene in COVID-19-infected mice, to determine the impact these genetic markers have on viral susceptibility and host survival rates.

This article reports the results of an online survey addressed to medical professionals in Germany to measure the COVID-19 pandemic impact. The results outline differences between subgroups, such as ambulatory centers versus university hospitals.


This study looked at whether chest radiography can be used as an exclusionary test for adverse outcomes in patients with suspected COVID-19.


This article highlights the important role and scope of palliative nursing and how essential to care the palliative nurse is in the COVID-19 era.


This retrospective study looked at pre-hospitalization use of antiplatelet medications in a sample of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 infection in March-April 2020. The study found that although patients on antiplatelet drugs were older and had more comorbidities, severity of COVID-19 disease course was not significantly different between users and non-users of antiplatelet drugs.


This study explored the pandemic-related changes in the practice patterns of medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, and surgeons with regards to their use of neoadjuvant endocrine therapy (NET) for early-stage breast cancer. Physicians were surveyed during the initial phase of the pandemic, in May-June 2020, when NET was being recommended as an option that made possible the safe deferral of surgery.


Researchers evaluated certain plasma markers in cancer patients and found that COVID-19 increased complement activation, the stimulation of plasma proteins that can lead to inflammatory reactions.


In this retrospective study of 627 COVID-19-positive cancer patients, the researchers looked at the results of chest radiographs to analyze if there is an association with COVID-19 adverse outcomes in cancer patients.


Researchers used a human antibody that binds to SARS-CoV-2 in a proof-of-concept study, concluding that molecularly targeting the virus is a potential therapeutic approach.


The authors of this report used their experience with radiolabeled antibodies for oncology applications to develop a SARS-CoV-2 detection system based on “...the combination of a specific radiolabeled antibody and a separation membrane.”

Pisegna JL, BrintzenhofeSzoc K, Shahrojni...

Results of a survey of 271 multidisciplinary healthcare providers to examine the differences in cancer care for older adults between urban and suburban/rural settings during COVID-19.


In this article, the authors compare the accuracy of 3 tests for detecting non-COVID-19 respiratory pathogens such as rhinovirus/enterovirus or influenza.


A description of the experience of deploying Omnitool, a novel remote ventilator management control technology, for use with intensive care unit patients in the latter half of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic.


This case report describes a febrile patient without respiratory symptoms who presented to the emergency department due to isolated behavioral disturbances and was diagnosed with COVID-19 encephalitis after evaluation.


This article reports guidelines for COVID-19 patients receiving anti-cancer treatment (chemotherapy, targeted therapy, or immunotherapy). An MSK task force wrote those guidelines and hopes it will be useful to oncologists in other institutions.


This research article details how cancer patients with COVID who exhibit neurological symptoms weeks after acute infection have increased inflammatory cytokines in the cerebrospinal fluid, which lead to long term neurological dysfunction. Their findings suggest that anti-inflammatory treatments should be used to manage neurological symptoms in COVID patients.


This original article describes the impact of COVID-19 loneliness and mental health on older breast cancer survivors but found that both cancer survivors and women without cancer experienced similar changes to their mental health. They concluded that screening for loneliness is important for all older women at risk during the pandemic.


The authors created a system that allows for the study of SARS-CoV-2, including the development of new therapeutics, without the need for high-level biocontainment.

NE, Kamboj M. Clinical and genomic characterization of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS CoV-2) infections in mRNA vaccinated health care personnel in New York City. Clinical Infectious Diseases. 2022;75(1):e774-e782. PMCID: PMC9612794

This study explored SARS CoV-2 infection in vaccinated and unvaccinated healthcare professionals during an 8-month follow-up period after the initial COVID-19 vaccine rollout. Researchers investigated the effectiveness and durability of the vaccine in the context of new variants of the virus.


In this retrospective study, the authors compared the effectiveness of receiving two doses of mRNA vaccines versus three doses in 21,557 healthcare workers employed at MSKCC. The study looked at the data from December 15, 2020 to January 15, 2022.


This paper reports on the findings of a panel of 12 breast surgeons and a Web-based poll created to investigate the changes in surgical practice due to the COVID-19 pandemic among breast surgeons from several countries worldwide.


This article describes a particular indicator of a SARS-CoV-2 variant (Omicron BA.2.12.1) with both high diagnostic sensitivity and specificity, that may provide a method for rapid detection of the variant.


In this cohort study of 75,422 Icelandic patients, the authors studied the impact of monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) on being infected with COVID-19 and the severity of the disease.


This article describes how nursing communication and communication skills training are vital during times of crisis such as during the COVID-19 pandemic, and how the pandemic impacted the design of a communication skills training program.


A description of how nurse leaders modified traditional orientation methods in response to the COVID pandemic and staff turnover, with examples of quotes from preceptees and preceptors.


The authors use the framework of the National Consensus Project Clinical Practice Guidelines for Quality Palliative Care to explore ways to improve nurse education about palliative care.

Rosa WE, Karanja V, Kpoeh JDN, McMahon C, Booth J. A virtual coaching workshop for a

The authors describe their experiences with a 90-minute Partners in Health teleconference with Liberian nurses on challenges and fears related to working during the pandemic.


In this study, the authors interviewed 11 palliative specialists from diverse roles, such as “...social workers, pharmacists, chaplaincy services, physicians, and advanced practice providers,” providing telehealth care. The participants shared their experience with telepalliative care, reporting on challenges and facilitators.


This study explored the experiences of a multidisciplinary palliative care team delivering telepalliative care for oncology inpatients during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic in New York City. The interviews conducted during the study identified clinician distress as a primary experience stemming from the challenges of the situation. Participants provided detailed recommendations to improve telepalliative care delivery for hospitalized oncology patients in the future.


Using the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program, the authors show that during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic there was an 11% decline in breast cancer surgeries.


This article describes the efforts made by the American College of Surgeons and its multiple divisions to support medical professionals in addressing the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. These efforts also included support to cancer programs by creating guidelines on managing cancer patients during the pandemic.


This article reports on the research into 2 drugs, sofosbuvir and daclatasvir, that belong to the anti-HCV class of drugs. The laboratory research confirmed that the drugs in question have potential for treating COVID-19 infection, but that further research is needed.


A case series of how COVID-19 presented in three lung cancer patients receiving radiation therapy.


This article reports the results of a survey sent to experts involved in the management of genitourinary cancers in Europe and North Americ
This article describes post-mortem pathology findings from patients who died of COVID-19 pneumonia, including the wide spectrum of progression from rapid to prolonged disease course.


This study identified factors associated with the risk of coinfection in cancer patients with COVID-19 with other infections (bacterial, viral, and fungal). Clinical and laboratory indicators can guide antimicrobial therapy, which may improve clinical outcomes.


In this paper, the researchers analyzed four major proteins from the genome of SARS-CoV-2 to understand if they were all involved in triggering the life-threatening cytokine storm.


The authors present imaging using lung (99m)Tc-Vitamin C SPECT/CT from two patients. Those images may help identify lung damage and its potential progression.


This multicenter study looked at the impact of COVID-19 on thoracic surgical patients, exploring the postoperative and recovery time outcomes of 107 patients who underwent lung resection from December 2019 to March 2020, twelve of which developed COVID-19. Patients who developed symptoms were at a possible higher risk of death, and factors such as BMI, smoking history, DLCO/VA%, number of resected segments and duration of surgery possibly put thoracic surgical patients at greater risk.


Online health information relating to COVID-19 and cancer was found to be of good quality but received readability scores significantly above the recommended grade level 6.


This study investigated whether being on androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) is associated with decreased rate of 30-day mortality from COVID-19 among patients with prostate cancer. Findings based on a cohort of 1106 male patients did “...not support the hypothesis that ADT may be useful in reducing
the mortality or severity of SARS-CoV-2 infection” as no statistically significant difference was observed. Further ongoing prospective trials will explore the potential role for ADT in affecting the course or outcomes of COVID-19 infection.


The authors describe a quantitative urgency scoring system that was generated to guide the triage and prioritizing of spine surgery cases in resource-limited settings, both during the COVID pandemic and post-COVID period.


In this study, the authors report favorable clinical outcomes for COVID-19-positive patients who received cellular therapies (Allo, Auto, or CAR T therapy). Their research will help other transplant centers with decision-making.


A retrospective study of 15 patients with past COVID-19 infections finds that subsequent hematopoietic cell transplantations can be performed safely.


This retrospective cohort multicenter study (7 US medical centers) looked at prostate cancer patients with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis over a 3-month period early in the pandemic. Clinical data was collected on 465 patients and analyzed but no statistically significant relationship was found to exist between androgen deprivation therapy use and more severe COVID-19 illness outcomes.


This study analyzes data collected across multiple institutions by the Center for Interna-

This study, conducted at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, compared patient satisfaction with office visits in Radiation Oncology practice before the pandemic with telemedicine consultations during the pandemic (specifically, the first half of 2020). Patient preferences for office and telemedicine consultations and identified predictors of patient preferences for either of these types of visits were assessed.


Using COVID-19 as an example, the authors present PAN-cODE, an artificial intelligence method to forecast daily increases in pandemic infections and mortality. Such forecasting facilitates informed policy decisions on the introduction of non-pharmaceutical interventions to reduce infection spread.


This article reports on a study which explored how COVID-19 affects heart health, specifically cardiomyocytes (cardiac muscle cells), of people without a history of heart disease.


This study looked at academic neurology-themed podcasts, and whether the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the utilization of these podcasts. The study found that there was no significant increase in downloads during the early months of the pandemic, but that more general and other subspecialty podcasts would be analyzed.


This research paper surveyed 9507 adults to look at the association between COVID-19 symptoms and the antibody response.


In this longitudinal observational study conducted before COVID-19 vaccines’ availability, the authors studied chronic COVID-19 symptoms among 390 adults from 5 U.S. states.


This paper reports on a cross-sectional self-reported QOL assessment administered between July and September 2020 to 979 individuals (from 53 countries), including surgeons, physicians, dentists, and nurses who see patients with head and neck diseases. Factors that adversely influenced the QOL of head and neck healthcare workers during
This article assessed a variety of inflammatory markers to see if any were predictive of COVID-19 in gynecological cancer patients. They found that ferritin, procalcitonin, and CRP may have prognostic value, as well as elevated white blood cell count, lactate, and creatinine at admission, whereas D-dimers were not found to be predictive of severe COVID-19 infection.


The study was conducted by a group of researchers from Brazil to evaluate the safety of performing elective surgery for colorectal cancer and Inflammatory Bowel Disease at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. This retrospective study evaluated the outcomes of elective laparoscopic, open, and robotic colorectal surgeries performed at a single tertiary oncological hospital between March 10 and September 9, 2020. The study established those elective colorectal surgeries could be safely performed during the pandemic but preoperative screening for SARS-CoV-2 should be done to decrease the risk of in-hospital cross infection.


This research article found that patients with hematological cancers were at significantly higher risk for poorer outcomes when diagnosed with COVID-19. They found that a diagnosis of AML, active treatment in the previous 3 months, neutropenia within 7 days prior to and within 28 days after COVID-19 diagnosis, or more than 3 comorbidities, all increased odds of death.


This article describes how antibodies are used to neutralize the SARS-CoV-2 virus by targeting their receptor-binding domain. The data reported shows how these antibodies work, and how this research can be used for therapeutics against both SARS-CoV-2 infection as well as potential future pandemics.

Stavrou E, Qiu J, Zafar A, Tramontano AC, Isakoff S, Winer E, Schrag D, Manz C. Breast medical oncologists’ perspectives of telemedi-
Journal Articles (267)

cine for breast cancer care: A survey study. JCO Oncology Practice. 2022;18(9):e1447-e1453. PMCID: PMC9590057

Results of an electronically administered survey of 51 medical oncology clinicians to evaluate their perspectives on the use of telemedicine for outpatient breast cancer care, given its rise during the COVID-19 pandemic.


The authors studied the presentation, management, and outcomes in patients with primary central nervous system lymphoma and SARS-CoV-2 infection.


A retrospective study of 363 patients with COVID-19 between March 1, 2020, and April 8, 2020, with authors noting barotrauma is a frequent complication of mechanically ventilated COVID-19 patients and those with barotrauma have a higher rate of pneumothorax and an increased risk of death.


This retrospective study looked at nearly 15,000 COVID-19 patients in NYC in the early surge of the pandemic. The authors identified four biologically distinct subphenotypes which were highly predictive of clinical outcomes. For one subphenotype (IV) it was found that mortality was highly correlated to social determinants of health, specifically age, comorbidities, and clinical manifestation of disease. The findings provide a more complete understanding of how COVID-19 impacts different populations.


An investigation of how the virus that causes COVID-19 binds to a person’s cells, and how genetic expression in cells throughout the body impacts this process and disease transmission.


The researchers compared the pathology of COVID-19 to the more familiar acute respiratory distress syndrome.


SARS-CoV2 is known to cause severe pulmonary disease but may also involve other organs, making the proper assessment of virus-related pathomorphological changes in specimens valuable for better understanding COVID-19. This study investigated the usefulness of commercially available monoclonal antibodies for detecting viral antigens in standard archival pathological specimens.


This paper describes a model developed by MSK Kids during the COVID-19 pandemic for planning continued preparedness that will anticipate “...the need to develop plans for the
screening, testing, and treating of patients, as well as specific mitigation plans.”


The authors recommend a change to epidemiological models to better represent transmission dynamics.


The immune response to mRNA COVID vaccines in 217 cancer patients receiving cellular therapies was high. The timing of vaccination after treatment impacted the response.


This retrospective cross-sectional study conducted at a tertiary oncologic center looked at the contrast-enhanced CT of the abdomen and pelvis of 63 patients with COVID-19. The most common new imaging abnormality found in this study’s cohort was “...features of gastric or bowel thickening, followed by small volume ascites, gallbladder distention, and isolated cases of pancreatitis and portal vein thrombosis.”


With the COVID-19 pandemic accelerating the adoption of telemedicine, this survey of over one thousand oncologists from 26 institutions investigated the providers’ assessment of telemedicine used with cancer patients. The results suggested that respondents viewed telemedicine “...as safe and effective for cancer care within certain clinical scenarios” and demonstrated “...an ongoing role for telemedicine in oncology.”


This study used a survey to look at the financial situation of young adult cancer survivors in the COVID-19 pandemic. The study found that the pandemic significantly worsened cancer-related financial toxicity and overall financial hardship in this category of patients and led to test or treatment skipping and other such behaviors that jeopardized survivorship care and health outcomes.


This original research describes the potential benefit of convalescent plasma for patients with hematological cancer and COVID-19 infection.


This research article demonstrates how the COVID-19 mutation N439K has resistance to...
several of the monoclonal antibody treatments being used and reduces the activity of some
the immune responses from persons who have recovered from COVID-19 infection. This
research shows why ongoing molecular surveil-
ance is necessary as vaccines and treatments are being developed.

Tiutan T, Wallins JS, Brown S, Gonen M, Korenstein D. Prognostic value of procalci-
tonin in cancer patients with coronavirus disease 2019. Clinical Chemistry and Labora-
tory Medicine. 2022;61(2):339-348. PMCID: PMC9747503

A retrospective study of 209 cancer patients hospitalized with COVID-19 who had procalcitonin recorded on admission in order to evaluate the utility of procalcitonin in predicting disease severity and death from COVID-19 in this population.

Tkacik PT, Dahlberg JL, Johnson JE, Hoth JJ, Szer RA, Hellman SE. Sizing of airborne

A study of the size and quantity of aerosolized particles resulting from surgery. The authors developed a method for measuring the airborne particles in an operating room setting.

Urakawa S, Hirashita T, Momose K, Nishimura M, Nakajima K, Milsom JW. Intraluminal
gas escape from biopsy valves and endoscopic devices during endoscopy: Caution advised

The authors make recommendations for endoscopic procedures based on their
research into the amount of gas leakage that occurs from a range of devices and use cases.

van den Puttelaar R, Lansdorp-Vogelaar I, Hahn AI, Rutter CM, Levin TR, Zauber AG, Meester
Jan;32(1):22-29. PMCID: PMC9827109

Results of a study to predict the impact of COVID-19 pandemic-related delays in screening and diagnosis on colorectal cancer-related outcomes.


This study surveyed teaching faculty in gastroenterology training programs on how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted their training programs and various aspects of endoscopy training.


The researchers examined community-based organizations (CBO) and employee perceptions of COVID-19’s impact on CBO health-related services. The CBOs participating in this study were in Upper Manhattan, New York City (serving East Harlem, Central Harlem, Morningside Heights and Hamilton Heights, and Washington Heights and Inwood).


This article describes a model of how viral infections, and specifically SARS-Cov-2 infection, can lead to autoimmune disease.
The authors identified a database of over 700 candidate autoantigens that can be further investigated regarding the large number of auto-immune-related adverse events due to COVID-19.


The research reported in this article was aimed at exploring autoimmune symptoms caused by SARS-CoV-2 infection. The researchers created a comprehensive resource and atlas for the investigation of autoimmune sequelae of COVID-19 (“long COVID”). This is a second study resulting from this research with new contribution to the knowledge of the relationships between COVID infection and autoimmunity.


This article describes a COVID autoantigen atlas developed from the proteins from human fetal lung fibroblast HFL1 cells. This autoantigenome information contributes to a detailed molecular map that can be used to investigate neurological and autoimmune manifestations of COVID-19.


This study provides further evidence to the use of combination drugs that work against SARS-Cov-2 polymerase and exonuclease to provide better therapeutic responses for effective COVID-19 treatment.


An international study of 1,491 patients from 18 countries found that COVID outcomes for patients with thoracic cancers depended on seven main factors, including age, cancer stage, and whether the patient developed pneumonia.


Results of an electronic health record analysis of 408 cancer patients receiving immune checkpoint inhibition therapy who were vaccinated for COVID-19 between January 16 and March 27, 2021 to see whether this vaccination increases susceptibility to immune-related adverse events.


This case report describes a novel treatment for facial atrophy and depigmentation in a COVID-19 patient who was in prone position. The authors used a Co2 laser delivery system of the drug bimatoprost and microneedling to achieve repigmentation of the facial skin.

Wood WA, Neuberg DS, Thompson JC, Tallman MS, Sekeres MA, Sehn LH, Anderson KC, Goldberg AD, Pennell NA, Niemeyer CM, Tucker E, Hewitt K, Plovnick RM, Hicks LK. Outcomes of patients with hematologic malignancies...

This article refers to a global public tool, ASH Research Collaborative (ASH RC) COVID-19 Registry, created to compile the data on COVID-19 in patients with leukemia and other blood cancers. The article describes the outcomes and the patterns of coronavirus disease progression as discerned from this data.


This study reports on an international, multi-center effort that originated at MIT. Retrospective data was used to develop COVID-19 mortality prediction models using the “...best machine learning practices for clinical model development.” These models were then tested but found to perform differently across different institutions, clinical settings, and populations.


The article presents a platform of cell and organoid derivatives from human pluripotent stem cells (hPSCs) to study tissue tropism. The authors underline that these models are needed to understand how human cells respond to SARS-CoV-2 infection.


A retrospective cross-sectional observational study of all Reporting to Improve Safety and Quality (RISQ) corneal injury reports at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center between January 1, 2015 and April 30, 2021, with authors noting an increased incidence in perioperative corneal injuries during the COVID-19 pandemic.


MSK restructured its pharmacy services at the height of the pandemic in New York City, deploying six pharmacists to COVID-19 inpatient services for three months and using teledmedicine technologies to allow those in outpatient settings to minimize on-site contact.

Yurdasik I, Demiroz AS, Oz AB, Akker M, Agirman A, Aksoy SH, Nurilli F. Postmortem biopsies of the lung, heart, liver, and spleen of COVID-19...
This technical report describes the creation of a cough and particle simulator to test personal protective equipment from droplets and aerosols.


This paper reports on the efforts of over a million citizen scientists that participated in the Folding@home initiative to learn more about the SARS-CoV-2 protein structures and their conformational changes. They developed a "...distributed computing project to create the first exascale computer and simulate 0.1 seconds of the viral proteome."


This article describes how in culturally bound communities, outbreaks can occur outside of geographic areas, especially during holiday seasons. This study found an increase in outbreaks related to social events during Purim in Orthodox Jewish communities in five different states.
Reviews
(50)

This article provides a summary of the impact of COVID-19 on patients with different types of cancer and their treatments, as well as the potential repurposing of various drugs/agents to minimize or treat COVID-19 disease.


The authors review what is known about the gastrointestinal impact of COVID-19.


This article is a Melanoma Research Foundation (MRF) report on the current progress and future directions for melanoma research, as well as prevention, diagnosis and management of melanoma.


This review paper describes the important role that molecular testing methods have played in the COVID-19 pandemic and discusses the challenges encountered and how these can be avoided in the future.
recommendations regarding post-vaccine adenopathy and radiologic imaging: Radiology scientific expert panel. Radiology. 2021;300(2):E323-E327. **PMCID:** PMC7909071

People may experience swollen lymph nodes as a side effect of receiving a COVID vaccine. The authors recommend scheduling routine cancer imaging screenings either before vaccination or six weeks after. Patients should not delay getting either the vaccine or clinically urgent imaging.


This systematic review of the literature aims to describe the current machine learning techniques that are being used to predict mortality in COVID patients, summarizing the different models being used and the data and clinical features that they are considering making their prediction assessments.


The MSKCC Breast radiation department advises omitting radiation therapy in favorable subgroups of breast cancer patients and accelerating or abbreviating regimens for others. Hypofractionated approaches are shown to be safe and effective.


This article describes how the shift to virtual telehealth services prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in three healthcare institutions: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, MD Anderson Cancer Center and the University of Chicago, and explores future avenues of investigation to advance telehealth for tobacco cessation treatment in cancer care.


The article discusses the inflammatory conditions that arise both as a side effect of certain therapies used in oncology (such as cellular therapies and stem cell transplantation), and as a result of COVID-19 infection. The authors suggest that therapeutic approaches used in managing such complications may be applicable in management of COVID-19 patients.


A review of current knowledge via research studies that looked to the COVID-19 vaccine immune response of immunosuppressed patients with hematologic and solid tumor malignancies.


This is a comprehensive review of what we have learned about the novel coronavirus and the infection it causes (up to July 2020, the time of this article’s publication). It covers the whole spectrum of COVID-19 including timeline, origins, how the virus is transmitted, epidemiology, clinical symptoms, disease course and complications, treatments that emerged, etc.


This systematic review of randomized controlled clinical trials (RCTs) on the use of corticosteroid drugs in COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 related acute respiratory distress
syndrome (ARDS) found that the use of corticosteroids probably reduces mortality in patients with ARDS.


This review describes how the COVID-19 pandemic was a catalyst to expose the long-standing racial crises against Blacks and Asians, and how anti-Black and anti-Asian racism impacts healthcare. The authors describe how adolescent and young adult (AYA) oncology researchers must protect young BIPOC cancer patients’ exploitation, and how to provide ethical and effective methods of patient engagement and research that is antiracist.


This article describes challenges to personnel training experienced by Shared Resource Laboratories (SRLs), which are technologically advanced research laboratory facilities at academic and research institutions, during the COVID-19 epidemic, and provides an overview of remote training platforms used.


Immunity. 2022;55(10):1779-1798. PMCID: PMC9468314

A review of SARS-CoV-2 immunologic vulnerability and how understanding the natural history of viral infections in these high-risk populations can improve prevention and treatment strategies.


This article describes how natural killer (NK) cells play a critical role in the early anti-viral response of nearly all emerging viruses, including COVID-19.


This article describes challenges in blood donation and banking during the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States, the ways the blood community addressed those challenges, and lessons learned for the future.


From a review of the published literature, the authors provide a list of recommendations for the management of patients with cardiovascular disease in the time of COVID-19.


This review, written by international experts, uses clinically relevant case studies to discuss three major scenarios often seen in the treatment of chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in the chronic phase, and also “…addresses global challenges commonly faced by hematologists treating patients with CML during the COVID-19 pandemic.”


This article analyzed the use of asynchronous provider-to-provider communications at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center during the COVID-19 pandemic from January to December 2020. Asynchronous communi-
cations are conducted via portal messages or interprofessional e-consults.


The COVID-19 pandemic changed the ways medical schools offered clerkships, or clinical experience, to medical students as part of their curricula. This article discusses different methods of virtual instruction, hybrid models of clerkship training, and implementation challenges in Neurology clerkship settings.


This paper reports on the recommendations for the diagnosis and management of classic hairy cell leukemia (cHCL) that were updated to meet the concerns of and offer preventative measures for the COVID-19 pandemic. Since these patients are generally treated with first-line therapies that puts them in a state of prolonged immunosuppression, this increases their susceptibility to infections and the risk for a severe course of COVID-19.


Hematopoietic cell growth factors are agents known to support proliferation and differentiation of blood cells. They are used in cancer care in the treatment of chemotherapy-induced neutropenia, myelodysplastic syndromes, and bone marrow failure syndromes. As with other cancer-related therapeutics the use of these agents in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic needed adjustments. This article reports on the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) recommendations for adjustments in the use of these agents in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure optimal care in the face of multiple new factors the pandemic brought in.


This blog post describes the availability of critical care resources in the US in order to care for the surge in COVID-19 patients.


In this review, the authors describe how human pluripotent stem cell technology can help understand viral infections of the human central nervous system.


This book chapter describes how COVID-19 can lead to severe respiratory disease, the clinical course of the disease, clinical symptoms and signs, clinical assessments, and therapies to treat respiratory disease from COVID-19 infection.


The authors recommend best practices for caring for multiple myeloma patients during the COVID pandemic.


This review details the development and structure of the pathology informatics rotation during COVID-19.

The article describes the incidence, clinical characteristics, risk factors, and outcomes of persistent COVID-19 infection in patients with blood cancers.


This review article synthesizes evidence from individual studies on changes to palliative care delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the implications of these changes in Oncology Nursing practice going forward.


This review of available literature found that wearing face masks that cover the nose and mouth are effective at interrupting airborne infections in the community. This review highlights the protectiveness of certain types of face masks in defined risk groups as well as their risks.


The article is a review of the challenges and direct and collateral effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the care of children with cancer. Reviewed are such aspects as the severity of COVID-19 in pediatric cancer patients, adaptation of health care delivery to the pandemic challenges, patient access to cancer diagnosis and care during the pandemic, impact on clinical trials in pediatric oncology, etc.


In this roundtable discussion, leading cancer experts from across the United States share their views on current changes, challenges, and opportunities for delivering cancer care during the COVID-19 pandemic. (https://kidney-cancer-journal.com/KCJ19n2_r1.php)


This article describes the need that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic for oncology nurses to acquire palliative care skills to be better equipped for meeting the needs of patients with cancer. The article supports and advocates for incorporating primary palliative care education into the oncology nursing practice.

In this article, the authors report Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center’s experience on hosting the United States World Hospice and Palliative Care Day (WHPCD) Celebration. Two hundred seventy participants from at least 16 countries joined the virtual event on October 10, 2020.


Gastroenterologists from New York City-area hospitals discuss how COVID-19 impacted their practice.


A prospective review of 27 studies of patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia, with each study including serology results for 20 or more patients, to evaluate COVID-19 vaccination response in this population.


A surgeon shares his clinical observations/philosophy of managing patients with thyroid cancer during the COVID-19 pandemic and describes some issues to be considered in the decision-making process when determining if patients require thyroid surgery urgently or not.


COVID-19 pandemic statistics have shown gender inequality in susceptibility to the coronavirus infection. It appears that men are more susceptible than women. This article discusses the role of a specific gene, involved both in viral infection and cancer processes, which could be a potential culprit in the increased male susceptibility to coronavirus and influenza infections and a potential target for treatments to fight this susceptibility.


This review presents ways for Otolaryngologists to decrease their risks when caring for COVID-19 patients, such as preventative measures and fewer invasive procedures.


Lymph node abnormalities resulting from COVID-19 vaccinations often have different characteristics from those caused by cancer. Still, any suspicious lymph nodes on the same side as breast cancer call for biopsy.


The American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) Task Force’s report mapping out the issues and considerations that should be made when apheresis procedures are requested in the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure “...efficient and optimum use of apheresis resources.”


This review article looks at how COVID-19 impacts cancer patients and how to proceed with cancer surgeries in light of these considerations.

This letter compares gender and other data points for all articles published by the journal Advances in Radiation Oncology between its inception in December 2015 and the end of February 2020, and between March 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic in North America began, with authors noting non-senior female researchers participated less in article publishing during the latter time period.


This study questions whether the 33% higher price of remdesivir charged to U.S. hospitals is justified. The price is based on the company’s clinical trial finding that remdesivir reduces LOS by 4 days, however, in the cohort study reported in this research letter, “the median LOS was markedly shorter than the equivalent endpoint in the ACTT-1 trial (7 vs. 15 days)”. This finding led the researchers to conclude that “36% could have their LOS potentially prolonged to complete therapy.”


Cell cultures from 20 immunocompromised patients with COVID-19 found that stem cell transplant or CAR-T cell therapy recipients can shed SARS-CoV-2 virus for at least two months.


In this study, 178 children with cancer showed similar rates of COVID-19 infection and mortality as children in the general population.


This study determined if and how a streamlined system of only testing absolute neutrophil counts (ANC), instead of full blood counts, helped to decrease patient wait times, staffing, and resources in patients undergoing chemotherapy.


With this case report, the authors would like to make health care workers aware of rare thromboembolic events as another possible complication of COVID-19.


In this letter, the authors report their findings on the risk of infections following tocilizumab use for chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T)-mediated cytokine release syndrome (CRS).


In this letter to the editor, the authors present how they developed an ELISA assay and identified from the assay three FDA-approved drugs that may help with treating COVID-19.


This letter to the editor describes the study on the SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccines antibody
response in patients with certain hematologic malignancies, specifically in patients with Philadelphia-chromosome positive and negative Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPNs).


In this study, an imaging optical technique called Reflectance Confocal Microscopy (RCM) was used to track skin changes following COVID-19 vaccination with mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna). The study was conducted in a small sample of subjects and the findings should be viewed as secondary to local immune response to the vaccine. The methodology used may pave a way to identify potential vaccine non-responders.


In the retrospective study, the authors examined antidiabetic drugs’ effect on COVID-19 infections and adverse outcomes. 30,747 patients were included in the study.


In this retrospective study, investigators from 45 centers studied the case fatality rate in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) diagnosed with COVID-19. The study found that the overall trend in case fatality rate for CLL patients is similar to the improved overall survival observed for patients with COVID-19 in the general population.


This article adds to the characterization of COVID-19 in patients with cancer as it reports the most extensive single-institution experience in patients with cancer from the epicenter of the US outbreak, describing outcomes on COVID-19-associated respiratory compromise and including a full 30-day follow-up for reporting primary study outcomes and death rates.


The study reported in this letter to the editor demonstrated the diminished immune response to SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccines in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL). Vaccination in patients with CLL may not have the same efficacy as in the general population, especially in patients receiving CLL-directed therapy.


In this letter to the editor, the authors report the results of their study on cancer patients worrying about their skin cancer versus worrying about surgery delays caused by COVID-19.

Shaverdian N, Shepherd AF, Rimner A, Wu AJ, Simone CB 2nd, Gelblum DY, Gomez DR. Need for caution in the diagnosis of radiation pneumonitis during the COVID-19
This research letter reports on four patients presenting radiation pneumonitis symptoms during the time of COVID-19. The authors recommend COVID-19 testing before starting high-dose corticosteroids.


A letter to the editor presenting COVID-19 safety measures taken during surgery at Weill Cornell Dermatology.
Editorials
(114)
Editorials (114)


This paper provides the perspectives and lessons learned of administrators of biomedical shared resource laboratories/research core facilities on a range of issues that have affected their facilities and operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. They provide guidance on business continuity planning and explain the importance of strong core contingency plans.


Challenges to research scientists are great during the pandemic, and even greater for those trying to get their foot in the door as junior researchers. This commentary urges funders to extend grant times and institutions to accommodate and evaluate researchers with pandemic-related challenges at the forefront of the review.


An opinion piece on COVID-19 that looks at designing networks to systematically assess variants, connecting laboratory and clinical data, global data sharing, and becoming more proactive in responding to pathogens.


With this guide (Comskil TeleOnc), the authors offer strategies to provide the best cancer patient care possible during tele-oncology visits.


This editorial article presents the Society of Surgical Oncology’s cumulation of expert recommendations on the optimal surgical practice changes in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. The recommendations are given for surgical management of different types of cancer.


This commentary describes recommendations for weighing pros and cons of early or delayed interventions for localized skin cancers. For most patients at higher risk of serious COVID-related illness or death, the risk of COVID generally outweighs the benefits of early skin cancer treatment.


This editorial highlights three articles published in volume 17, issue 5, of the journal “Clinical Trials,” dedicated to the important aspects of experimental research in a pandemic such as COVID-19. The articles highlighted by the editors provide an overview of the health care response to the COVID-19 pandemic in a historical perspective, discuss what COVID-19 clinical trials should focus on, and discuss the suitability of traditional clinical research design during special situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic.


This editorial article presents suggestions from the North American Neuroendocrine Tumor Society (NANETS) on adjustments to the care of patients with neuroendocrine cancers in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic aimed at decreasing risk of infection transmission to patients and health care professionals.

Betts BC, Young JW. Less can be more when targeting interleukin-6-mediated cytokine...

This commentary details evidence that selecting targeted IL-6 blockades are more effective than broad nonselective blockades at combating cytokine release syndrome. Cytokine release syndrome is a major trigger of COVID-19 mortality.


This editorial by William Breitbart reflects on the power of reading obituaries and thus touching the life stories of those for whom the obituaries were written. He highlights the story behind one of the COVID-19 era obituaries, that of a Holocaust survivor whose childhood was marred by the tragedy of the genocide of Jews during the Second World War.


In this editorial, Dr. William Breitbart, Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at MSKCC, reflects on life and death in this unprecedented time of COVID-19.


In this editorial, the author reflects on what we can learn from death during the COVID-19 pandemic, hoping that it taught us that “passing love along is what we were born to do.”


In this letter, the author shares his opinion on trust in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. He states how crucial it is for the healthcare workforce to “recognize that trust needs to be restored.”


These working group guidelines recommend in-hospital practices to reduce COVID-19 infection among patients with leukemia, along with best practices for screening, treatment, and clinical trial participation.


Guidance on when to provide cardiac surveillance imaging to cancer patients and cancer survivors taking anthracyclines and trastuzumab.


A survey of nine MSK endocrinologists and endocrine surgeons shows that while physicians were overall satisfied with providing care via telemedicine, work can be done to improve technical, communication, and insurance barriers.


This perspective article describes training on point-of-care ultrasounds, as they provide a key role in managing critically ill patients in isolation due to Covid-19.

Chen YL, Hsu FM, Tsai CJ, Cheng JCH. Efforts to reduce the impact of coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak on radiation oncology in Taiwan. Advances in Radiation Oncology. 2020;5(4):534-537. PMCID: PMC7195280

This opinion piece details the steps that Taiwan has taken to provide uninterrupted radiation oncology services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.


The authors discuss the benefits and risks of continuing to treat with BTK inhibitors.
patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and B-cell lymphomas who get infected with COVID-19. The pros and cons of BTKi discontinuation for patients are considered.


This commentary emphasizes the importance of prioritizing the training of the next generation of oncologists even during the COVID-19 pandemic.


This commentary provides a summary of an international webinar help by the leadership of the Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA) on lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic. A link to the full webinar is available in the commentary.


This article reports on the ongoing efforts of structural biology scientists in improving and deepening accumulated knowledge about the structures of SARS-CoV-2 proteins.


In this editorial, 11 teams from hospitals in Europe, Australia, Africa, and the United States share their experience as well as their strategies to contain the coronavirus from spreading.


This paper reports on a consensus conference on neoadjuvant chemotherapy in breast cancer management which was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.


With this paper, the authors seek to give guidance on COVID-19 vaccination for patients enrolled or about to get enrolled in oncologic clinical trials. They conclude that COVID-19 vaccination should be standard of care for those patients with some rare exceptions where it would appear not to serve the patient’s best interest.


This editorial highlights the health care disparities experienced disproportionately by populations who are limited English proficient (LEP), exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. It outlines steps for more clear communication that can be taken to provide equitable care to LEP populations and help contain the spread of COVID-19.


An editorial of the experiences of various diagnostic laboratories and manufacturers during the COVID-19 pandemic.


Details the challenges of women in
radiology due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent changes to work/life needs.

Feinberg J, Sonoda Y. The doctor will Face-Time you now: Commentary on telehealth in cancer care. The Oncologist. 2022;27(6):428-429. PMCID: PMC9177097

This is a commentary on telehealth specific to the oncologic field. It discusses its impact on patient outcomes, quality of patient care, cost, access, and future role.


This article describes how COVID-19 impacted training for cardio-oncology and how programs and trainees can adapt to the challenges.


General guidelines/recommendations meant to assist multidisciplinary teams around the world make diagnosis and treatment decisions for HNSCC patients, while they take into consideration the constraints and epidemiological characteristics of their local situation.


Six early-career researchers share how their experience of the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their lab work and research.


An editorial that describes the moral distress and challenges faced by psychosocial oncology clinical research staff within the COVID-19 pandemic.


A commentary on an article identifying factors behind a circulatory immune process that can be brought on by COVID-19.


Researchers found that virtual interviews and visits slightly changed the importance of several factors for colon and rectal surgery (CRS) fellowship applicants. Compared to those with in-person meetings, those with the virtual process were less swayed by location and more concerned with a fellowship site's online presence and post-fellowship careers of alumni.


In this viewpoint, the authors present a solution to adjust pembrolizumab dosing regimen to decrease patients' financial burden. This new dosage would also reduce their risk of exposure to COVID-19.


This commentary describes how one of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic has been the reallocation of attention and resources from other diseases and outbreaks that are often significantly more fatal, such as the Crimean-Congo fever outbreak in Africa.


This perspective piece details the advantages and disadvantages of preprints in the context of the speed of COVID-19 literature being produced and provides recommendations for improving the preprint server system.

In this commentary, the authors report that cancer surgery for esophageal cancer, esophagectomy, should not be postponed during a pandemic.


Journal of the Advanced Practitioner in Oncology Live Virtual 2021 panelists’ perspectives of the COVID-19 pandemic and how to respond to future crises that may impact cancer patients and practices.


In this editorial, the authors describe how COVID-19 has impacted oncologists and offer recommendations to prevent or reduce the associated burdens.


This editorial discusses a recent systematic review of COVID-19 patients with acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and how COVID-19 ARDS differs from classical ARDS. The review discussed in this editorial found that barotrauma, or the development of pneumothorax or pneumomediastinum, was a defining feature of COVID-19 ARDS. The authors of this editorial raise the question of whether barotrauma is unique to COVID-19 ARDS, or simply a marker for severe disease.

Hussain K, Marghoob AA, Patel NP. Dermoscopy in the COVID-19 era: Magnifying the gap for clinicians. Dermatology Practical & Conceptual. 2021;11(2):e2021069. PMCID: PMC7943207

This article describes the evolution of teledermoscopy and how clinicians need to use the technique to its full potential to provide both static and dynamic clues.


The authors recommend that everyone who works at or enters a healthcare organization wear a mask, regardless of patient contact.


This comment discusses the article “Immunogenicity of the BNT162b2 COVID-19 mRNA vaccine and early clinical outcomes in patients with haematological malignancies in Lithuania: A national prospective cohort study,” where the authors study the response to COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for patients with haematological malignancies.


This opinion piece discusses diversity in the context of how the COVID-19 pandemic may shape how and who enters into radiation oncology residency in the coming years.


MSK’s treatment for head and neck cancer during the COVID pandemic followed the best available evidence while expanding telemedicine utilization.

This document presents the American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy and the American Society of Hematology (ASTCT/ASH) answers to the frequently asked questions on COVID-19 vaccine use in patients undergoing hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) and chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy. The overall recommendation (as of the time of publication in April 2021) for these patients is to get vaccinated due to the proven efficacy and safety of the COVID-19 vaccines currently approved under Emergency Use Authorization in the US (Moderna, Pfizer & BioNTech and J&J). “All current guidance and responses are based on opinions of the ASTCT/ASH COVID-19 Vaccine expert panel. This document will be updated periodically when new data becomes available.”


A brief column discussing challenges with sourcing sufficient single-use personal protective equipment and the environmental concerns with its disposal, along with innovative patient care strategies that resulted when more carefully considering its use.


Dr. Ross Levine delineates the challenges COVID-19 has brought to cancer care and research in this editorial.


In this commentary, the authors discuss how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted research, and they lay out initiatives to help early career researchers through a variety of innovations.


In the challenging time of COVID-19, the article gives physicians direction to assess the need for a mental health provider referral for bereaved family members. The authors also offer guidance to communicate condolences.


In this article, the authors address how healthcare organizations and health systems can approach some of the uncertainties that have arisen due to the COVID-19 pandemic and adjust their planning and strategy development accordingly.


The authors recommend continuing with immune checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapy during the pandemic and adhering to strict COVID screening practices for these patients.


This commentary describes the various respiratory management strategies for COVID-19 patients with acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).


In this spotlight, the authors comment on the article published by Fahrner et al. titled “The Polarity and Specificity of Antiviral T Lymphocyte Responses Determine Susceptibility to SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Patients with Cancer and Healthy Individuals.”


This communication piece discusses how the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent need to quickly disseminate scientific literature
across the globe impacted scholarly communication and publishing.


The International Society of Geriatric Oncology (SIOG) offers COVID-19 vaccination rollout guidelines to prioritize higher risk older patients with cancer.


The development of a pediatric hematology oncology fellows education initiative during the pandemic, especially a multi-institutional collaborative education series, promises to reshape curriculum and educational opportunities moving forward.


In the time of COVID-19 pandemic many scientific activities were disrupted. This affected the activities of scholarly and professional societies, American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS) being one of them. Thus, the Association’s 100th Annual Meeting could not be held in a physical setting. However, recognizing the importance of professional exchange between surgeons from 70 countries which would contribute significantly to the advancements in the field, this important forum was modified to be held virtually. The article also briefly outlines the early history of AATS which corresponded to the time of great world catastrophes.


The favorable procedural profile of CT colonography (CTC) for colorectal cancer screening is described in this paper as it may be a reasonable alternative to optical colonscopy during the COVID-19 pandemic.


This article presents a COVID-19 testing framework based on thought experiments used for four frequently encountered community scenarios.

Moskowitz CS, Panageas KS. Implications for design and analyses of oncology clinical trials during the COVID-19 pandemic. JAMA Oncology. 2020;6(9):1326-1327.

In this viewpoint, the authors discuss best practices for clinical trials reporting and design. They also advise adapting designs when developing a new clinical trial.


This article is a guide for pathologists and pathologists-in-training. It provides a curated list of online resources for virtual learning, specifically in pathology, with a focus on anatomic pathology.


This article highlights the need to adapt state licensure requirements for physicians to the new practice patterns that emerged during the pandemic. For example, the rise of telemedicine during the pandemic allowed physicians to care for patients located in different states. This change in practice calls for adjustments to the physician licensure state laws.

This article reflects on the tensions that COVID-19 brought about between physicians and administrators and ways in which solutions can be found to remedy them. The three key points are transparency in leadership, leadership to make sustainable investments in the community, and financial alignment between administrators and the front-line workers.


Cancer centers had to adapt their care delivery models because of COVID-19. The authors describe three changes that they hope will stay: Eliminate low-value care, offer patient-centered substitutes, and justify start-up costs for technology adoption.


This is a viewpoint that uses data from the American Society of Clinical Oncology’s COVID-19 in Oncology Registry to study the association of various factors with cancer treatment delays among a cohort of patients who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.


This viewpoint article details how COVID-19 has caused a significant change to how clinical trials are conducted, including telemedicine and virtual support for trial participants, laboratory tests and procedures done in clinics not affiliated with the trial, the speed of recruitment into trials, and the focus on patient-reported outcomes. These are all changes that can shape how clinical trials are conducted in a post-COVID world to improve access to and impact of clinical trials.


In the era of pandemics, including COVID-19, laboratories are crucial as laboratory results make a foundation for subsequent care. Yet laboratories are facing many challenges in such times including regulatory, logistical, and supply-chain challenges. This article outlines the ways clinical laboratories addressed these challenges and offers recommendations for conducting laboratory work during the current pandemic.


A discussion of the use of bronchoscopy, tracheostomy, and other aerosol-generating procedures for asymptomatic, symptomatic, and critically ill COVID-19 patients.


In this commentary, the authors highlight three critical steps to implement during and beyond the pandemic to decrease linguistic minority communities’ health disparities.

Paganelli G, Bodei L, Modlin I. A metastatic tumor is no different to a viral pandemic: Lessons learnt from COVID-19 may teach us to change the PRRT paradigm. European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging. 2020;47(10):2223-2226. PMCID: PMC7305056

This editorial article is an emotional appeal to the Oncologist, Radiologist and Endocrinologist communities to compare the process of Peptide Receptor RadioTherapy (PRRT) acceptance and implementation with the deficiencies of COVID-19 pandemic response and to make PRRT implementation process efficient based on lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic.


This paper explores trends in prostate cancer screening and surgery volume in Australia from January 2020 through December 2021 and compares those rates to the preceding 10 years.


This editorial describes how even during the COVID-19 pandemic patients were still receiving transplants, however COVID-19 presented significant challenges for patients post-transplant.

An editorial that explores how the COVID-19 pandemic has shown the need for palliative care education and training, especially amongst nurses.


This commentary describes the history and barriers of telehealth and how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted telehealth and its use in clinical research.


In the expert opinion, the authors report on quality issues from papers published during the COVID-19 pandemic. They specifically looked at research papers on the topic of male sexual and reproductive medicine, but their findings could apply to other fields.


A report describing the use and value of the two types of COVID-19 tests, viral RNA tests and serology tests, and how to leverage these tests to address the pandemic.


In this commentary, the authors describe the creation and implementation of a multidisciplinary treatment prioritization committee and its ethical and transparent decision-making processes that could be applicable to other oncologic settings.

Prockop SE. Expanding the toolbox to combat a pandemic. Blood. 2020;136(25):2847-2848. PMCID: PMC7751362


This commentary explores what remote opioid management by pain management providers looks like in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic and the considerations that should be made “...in an attempt to further mitigate risks of both COVID-19 exposure and opioid misuse.”


The author comments on clinical studies that are trying to determine whether BCG vaccination could protect humans against COVID-19 infection. Discussed are data from a non-peer-reviewed publication and the trials in progress, while important questions are considered about how this will impact bladder cancer patients who have been or will be treated with BCG.


This commentary by MSK thoracic surgeon Dr. Gaetano Rocco discusses how early reports of the pandemic from China and Italy should inform surgical care in New York, the new epicenter of COVID at the time of publication.

paradigm change at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Advances in Radiation Oncology. 2020;5(4):687-689. PMCID: PMC7175910

MSK practitioners detail how COVID-19 changed the standard of care for rectal cancer patients at the hospital.

**Rosa WE.** Overview and summary: The COVID-19 pandemic and nurses: Caring for others and ourselves. 2021;26(2). This overview describes the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on nurses and the nursing profession.

Rosa WE, Ferrell BR, Applebaum AJ. The alleviation of suffering during the COVID-19 pandemic. Palliative and Supportive Care. 2020;18(4):376–378. PMCID: PMC7322158 This editorial article delineates the types of mental suffering brought on by COVID-19 and discusses how palliative care practices can inform responses to these challenges.

**Rosa WE, Finlayson CS,** Ferrell BR. The cancer nurse as primary palliative care agent during COVID-19. Cancer Nursing. 2020;43(6):431-432. This editorial highlights the amplified role of cancer nurses as primary palliative care agents in the unprecedented time of COVID-19. The authors note their inestimable value as “…educational resources to support the delivery of primary palliative care.”


This paper makes a case for why Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are currently under-utilized across the globe and argues that their capacities/skills should be better leveraged at all levels and that – especially in the face of a global pandemic - nurse practitioner scopes of practice should be expanded across nations.


This article provides recommendations for palliative care nurses and other healthcare providers to ensure that their optimal value is realized and leveraged during COVID-19 and future public health crises.


This article presents a step-by-step coaching process for nurses intended to mitigate psychological distress in health practitioners caused by mass bereavement during COVID-19 pandemic.


This article discusses how Meaning-Centered Psychotherapy, an intervention developed initially to help cancer patients, could be adapted to assist with healthcare providers’ burnout and distress.


Cancer patients with COVID-19 are especially vulnerable to infection and their treatment during the pandemic has to be reviewed and revised in that new light. This article provides expert opinion, based on literature review, on treatment adjustments needed for patients with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia at the time of the pandemic.


With the inequities exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic as a backdrop, this is a viewpoint of three areas that are needed to confront the harms of anti-Asian sentiment on Asian American health: disaggregation and genetic ancestry in medical research, cultural humility in clinical practice, and workforce diversity.

Sarpatwari A, Kaltenboeck A, Kesselheim

This editorial expresses concerns about the emergency-use authorization of remdesivir for COVID: A lack of robust monitoring of drug safety and effectiveness and pricing issues.


This article discusses how nurses can help with attaining the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG-11), making “...cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.”


In these trying times of COVID-19, renowned Head and Neck Surgeon, Dr. Jatin Shah, considers the question “...how do we conduct our day-to-day activities, and plan to retain our robust education and training programs, to educate and train the next generation of head and neck surgeons?” and discusses “...embracing technology and alternative means” to deal with these challenges.


In this opinion piece, an MSK oncologist and cancer survivor who was diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma during her fellowship training, reflects on being diagnosed with COVID-19.


Laura Sheridan, PT, DPT, CLT, the president of the Academy of Oncologic Physical Therapy, shares her perspective on how community and support of one another has been an important constant throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to be so in the rapidly changing healthcare landscape.

Tan KS. A concern about survival time as an endpoint in coronavirus disease 2019 clinical trials. Clinical Trials. 2020;17(5):505-506. PMCID: PMC7530002

In this article, the author highlights the importance of adapting statistical methods to analyze survival in COVID-19 clinical trials.


This editorial describes cancer surgery practice at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. It outlines the challenges faced and the solutions found. The insights from this leading cancer dedicated institution could be helpful for any institution which conducts surgeries in cancer patients.


This commentary describes a protocol for preoperative assessment of patients for COVID-19 to minimize risk of conducting surgery on COVID-positive patients.


These recommendations for dermatologists recommend following National Comprehensive Cancer Network and European Society for Medical Oncology guidelines to reduce COVID transmission risk while treating skin cancer patients.


This commentary details how a global collaboration for data collection within the Thoracic Cancers International COVID-19 Collaboration (TERAVOLT) was instrumental in providing decision-making in thoracic cancer. The limits of the registry are also discussed.

This article describes the rapid deployment of remotely delivered mind-body therapies and services to patients with cancer. The study found high utilization and satisfaction with the virtual services.


In this viewpoint, the authors describe how a better understanding of T-cell response and detection would help with a future public health plan of action toward COVID-19.


This editorial emphasizes the importance of Digital Pathology, and its advantages over classic laboratory techniques, highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic.


The authors state that abbreviated courses of palliative radiation during the COVID-19 pandemic can best maximize benefits to metastatic cancer patients and reduce risks of viral transmission.

This article presents recommendations from a group of international experts from major cancer institutions and academic medical centers in the U.S.A., Europe, and Australia on different aspects of managing patients with hematological cancers adjusted for specific circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.


This study looks at the views of radiation oncologists on telemedicine at MSKCC. The study found that for the most part physicians found telemedicine to be a positive experience and the focus should be on increasing access to care for patients limited by location and financial constraints.
Guidelines (28)
Guidelines (28)


The Worldwide Network for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (WBMT) and the Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research Health Services and International Studies Committee collaborated to write these worldwide guidelines on Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation in the times of COVID-19.

Avutu V, Monga V, Mittal N, Saha A, Andolina JR, Bell DE, Fair DB, Flerlage JE, Frediani JN, Heath JL, Kahn JM, Reichek JL, Super L, Terao MA, Freyer DR, Roth ME. Use of communication technology to improve clinical trial participation in adolescents and young adults with cancer: Consensus statement From the Children’s Oncology Group Adolescent and Young Adult Responsible Investigator Network. JCO Oncology Practice. 2022;18(3):224-231. PMCID: PMC8932547

This consensus statement by the Children’s Oncology Group (COG) AYA Responsible Investigator (RI) Network “…reviews opportunities to use technology to optimize AYA trial enrollment and study conduct, as well as considerations for widespread implementation of these practices…,” something which became more relevant due to the COVID-19 pandemic when communication technology was more rapidly adopted.


A consensus statement on cardiovascular care for cardio-oncology patients during the pandemic.


The Society for Integrative Oncology Practice recommendations include recommendations for online practice of manual, acupuncture, movement, mind-body, herbal, and expressive art therapies.


These working group guidelines recommend in-hospital practices to reduce COVID-19 infection among patients with leukemia, along with best practices for screening, treatment, and clinical trial participation.


An update to the 2020 guidelines for the diagnosis and management of COVID-19 in adult and pediatric hematopoietic cell transplantation and cellular therapy recipients, produced using available data and the expert opinion of the American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy (ASTCT) Infectious Diseases Special Interest Group members.
Hematopoietic cell growth factors are agents known to support proliferation and differentiation of blood cells. They are used in cancer care in the treatment of chemotherapy-induced neutropenia, myelodysplastic syndromes, and bone marrow failure syndromes. As with other cancer-related therapeutics, the use of these agents in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic needed adjustments. This article reports on the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) recommendations for adjustments in the use of these agents in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure optimal care in the face of multiple new factors the pandemic brought in.


A consensus statement of 32 experts in lung cancer recommend adhering to guidelines for recommended practice. For patients positive for COVID-19, it’s recommended to postpone or interrupt radiation therapy. In a severe pandemic scenario, patients should be triaged based on a variety of factors.


A guidance document in the form of frequently asked questions that is based on current knowledge about COVID-19 vaccination in hematopoietic cell transplantation and chimeric antigen receptor T-cell recipients.

A group of expert oncologists in the field of GI oncology summarize recommendations for adapting/changing practices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and carefully consider the costs versus benefits to patients when modifying treatment and practice.


Recommendations from the Cancer and Aging Research Group on how to safely treat older patients with cancer.


This article reports on the new recommendations from the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the world’s leading professional organization for physicians who care for people with cancer. The new recommendations are based on evaluation of the COVID-19 pandemic experience and are aimed at improving patient access to high quality cancer research and cancer care delivery going forward.


Updated recommendations from the International Society of Geriatric Oncology (SIOG) building on their initial set from 2021 regarding COVID-19 vaccinations among older adults with cancer.


The International Workshop on Waldenström Macroglobulinemia (IWWM) Treatment Recommendations Panel provides answers to help guide patient therapy during the pandemic.

Thomson DJ, Palma D, Guckenberger M, Balermpas P, Beitler JJ, Blanchard P, Brizel D, Budach
Joint recommendations from the American Society of Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) and the European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology (ESTRO) offer guidance on how to proceed with radiation procedures during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of COVID-19 in adult and pediatric hematopoietic cell transplantation and cellular therapy recipients, produced using available data and the expert opinion of the American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy Infectious Diseases Special Interest Group members.

This document is intended as a guide for diagnosis and management of COVID-19 in adult and pediatric hematopoietic cell transplant (HCT) and cellular therapy patients. It does not cover specific infection prevention policies and procedures.

The North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition offers guidance on how to safely offer endoscopy services to children during the pandemic.

This article reports on the recommendations, developed by The Center of International Blood and Marrow Transplantation Research (CIBMTR), for COVID-19 related adjustments for centers that perform hematopoietic cell transplantations.


MSK’s provisional guidelines for providing radiation treatment to patients with lung and other thoracic cancers during the COVID-19 pandemic.
The International Lymphoma Radiation Oncology Group (ILROG) is a recognized international organization of radiation oncologists which produces guidelines for radiation therapy in blood cancers. In this article, ILROG presents guidelines for radiation therapy practice adjusted to the complexities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.


Recommendations from the National Comprehensive Cancer Network risk group for prostate cancer advise a reduction of resources for all stages of prostate cancer. Telemedicine, consultations, and return visits can be delayed one to six months until there are more resources and staff, and treatment can be delayed for low risk until safe, and for unfavorable or high-risk neoadjuvant hormone therapy for four to six months.
Correspondence (26)
Correspondence (26)

Abramson Cancer Center at the University of Pennsylvania, American Association for Cancer Research, American Brain Tumor Association, American Cancer Society, Cancer Action Network Inc., American Liver Foundation, American Radium Society, American Society for Radiation Oncology, American Society of Hematology, ArmorUp for Life, Association for Clinical Oncology, Association of American Cancer Institutes, Ben & Catherine Ivy Foundation, Blue Hat Foundation, Boston University - Boston Medical Center Cancer Center, Breast Cancer Research Foundation, CancerCare, Cancer Center at Brown University, Cancer Center at Illinois, Cancer Forum of the American Public Health Association, Cancer Support Community, Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, Stritch School of Medicine Loyola University Chicago, Case Comprehensive Cancer Center at Case Western Reserve University, Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at The University of California Irvine, Children's Cancer Cause, Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation, Chris Draft Family Foundation, City of Hope, Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Cancer Center, Colorectal Cancer Alliance, Columbia University Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, Community Oncology Alliance, Cure Breast Cancer Foundation, Dan L. Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Deadliest Cancers Coalition, Debbie's Dream Foundation, Duke Cancer Institute, ECHAN Esophageal Cancer Action Network, ESMO, EVAN Foundation, FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Friends of Cancer Research, Global Liver Institute, Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Georgia Cancer Center, GI Cancers Alliance, GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer, Head and Neck Cancer Alliance, Hope for Stomach Cancer, Huntsman Cancer Institute at The University of Utah, Imerman Angels, Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center, International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer, International Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia Foundation, Jackson Laboratory, Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone Health, Lazarex Cancer Foundation, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Livestrong, Living Beyond Breast Cancer, Loma Linda University Cancer Center, Lung Cancer Action Network, Lung Cancer Research Foundation, LUNGevity, Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota, Mays Cancer Center at UT Health San Antonio MD Anderson Cancer Center, Melanoma Research Foundation, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Men's Health Network, Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation, Moffitt Cancer Center, Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, MUSC Hollings Cancer Center, National Brain Tumor Society, National Cancer Registars Association, National Comprehensive Cancer Network, National Pancreas Foundation, Norris Cotton Cancer Center at Dartmouth, Oncology Nursing Society, Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance, Penn State Cancer Institute, Raymond Foundation, Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute, Sarcoma Foundation of America, Shepherd Foundation, Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Thomas Jefferson University, Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC), Society of Surgical Oncology, St. Baldrick's Foundation, Stand Up To Cancer, Stanford Cancer Institute, Stephenson Cancer Center at The University of Oklahoma, Students Supporting Brain Tumor Research, Stupid Cancer Inc., Susan G. Komen, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, The Advocates for Collaborative Education, The Alliance of Dedicated Cancer Centers, The Mark Foundation for Cancer Research, The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove, Research Institute, The Salk Institute, The University of Kansas Cancer Center, Tigerlily Foundation, Triage Cancer, UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center, UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center, UCLA Health Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, Unite for HER, University of Arizona Cancer Center, University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Cincinnati Cancer Center, University of Iowa Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center, University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Puerto Rico Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Rochester Wilmot Cancer Institute, University of Vermont Cancer Center, UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, UT Southwestern Simmons Cancer Center, V Foundation for Cancer Research, VCU Medical Center, Winship Cancer Institute
Correspondence (26)


This letter was sent to President Biden “...to underscore the urgency of prioritizing access to a COVID-19 vaccine for patients with active cancer and survivors of cancer” in February 2021.


This letter states that CT scans should not be used to diagnose asymptomatic COVID-19 patients, but they can be considered in hospitalized or symptomatic cases of potential COVID-19 pneumonia. COVID-19 diagnostic tests should always be used to confirm a positive COVID-19 diagnosis.


This letter to the editor describes using chest CT imaging for long-term prognosis and follow-up of COVID-19.


The authors discuss the risk factors for COVID-19 severity regarding peptide receptor radionuclide therapy (PRRT), and provide suggestions for monitoring the association of PRRT and COVID-19, as well as clinical recommendations.

Chen GH, Hellman S, Irie T, Downey RJ, Fischer GW. Regulating inspiratory pressure to individualise tidal volumes in a simulated two-patient, one-ventilator system. British Journal of Anaesthesia. 2020;125(4):e366-e368. PMCID: PMC7324329

This letter reports on finding a technical solution to ventilator shortages.


This letter to the editor describes the creation of Moonshot COVID, an international consortium of scientists being funded through charity grants and crowdfunding to quickly and easily develop antiviral drugs to treat COVID-19 disease.


The authors of this letter suggest applying the lessons and experience of conducting COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials to clinical cancer trials. They emphasize increasing public trust in clinical research, increasing the understanding of the value of clinical trials (thus making the recruitment of volunteers speedier), simplifying clinical cancer trials design, increasing the transparency of clinical cancer trial protocols, and the efficient delivery of clinical trial results.


In this letter to the editor, the authors comment on a recently published letter “The role of religious and spiritual aid in quarantine hospitalization due to SARS-CoV-2” and highlight that meaning-centered psychotherapy may help non-religious as well as religious patients.


This letter to the editor describes the experience of two pediatric oncology departments in NYC (MSK and NYP) with COVID-19, including demographics and clinical characteristics of patients tested, and the clinical characteristics and impacts of the patients who tested positive.

Hellman S, Chen GH, Irie T. Rapid clearing of aerosol in an intubation box by vacuum
Correspondence (26)

filtration. British Journal of Anaesthesia. 2020; 125(3):e296–e299. PMCID: PMC7313634

This letter to the editor describes a tool developed by the authors to filter droplets and aerosols during aerosol-generating procedures.


This letter to the editor describes a retrospective study from January 2019 through March 2021 from Chile that showed a 31% decrease in melanoma diagnoses each month during the pandemic, compared to the control year. The authors describe how skin cancer screening is still a vital cancer prevention tool and that delays in diagnosis due to the pandemic led to increased stage at diagnosis and increased mortality rates.


This correspondence reports on the results of a survey of a cohort of chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) experts who were asked “...questions about experts’ base-line information and their recommendations on isolation, testing and CLL management in patients with CLL and COVID-19”.


In this reply, authors addressed concerns raised in a commentary regarding their recent Research Letter. One concern was related to the different types of pediatric cancer being pathophysiologically different, and another was related to observed sex differences.


This letter to the editor describes research conducted at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center aimed at establishing the possible impact of radiation therapy (RT) to cardiopulmonary structures on the outcomes of COVID-19 infection in cancer patients who underwent RT prior to contracting COVID-19. While some impact was found to be related to the risk of hospitalization due to COVID-19, the study did not find the increased risk of severe infection or death. The researchers conclude that, while cancer patients with a history of thoracic RT should be closely monitored, RT should continue to be used when treating cancer patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.


After surveying the “Physician Moms Group” on Facebook, the authors note in this letter to the editor that anxiety among physician mothers is significantly higher during the pandemic than during normal times.


Endoscopists from hospitals across the New York metropolitan area report on the results of a survey of 69 endoscopists, administered with the support of the New York Society of Gastroenterological Endoscopy, that collected “…information regarding demographics, case volume, personal protective equipment (PPE) use, and endoscopist exposure to COVID-19.”


In this letter to the editor, the authors express concerns related to administering a
Correspondence (26)

Granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (GCSF) which is routinely given to cancer patients for prevention of neutropenia, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The concerns arose from 3 cases of administering GCSF for neutropenia to cancer patients who also had COVID-19. In all probability, this was the first report describing the course of COVID-19 infection in selected cancer patients who received GCSF for neutropenia fever in the United States.


This article is an author’s response to their Brief Communication “Oncology-Inspired Treatment Options for COVID-19” published in the Journal of Nuclear Medicine. 2021;62(7):1020-1021. PMCID: PMC8024354

This letter to the editor discusses how COVID-19 gives an opportunity to push all healthcare workers to support palliative care and deliver palliative care in a unified framework.

Schmidt AH, Buk D, Bernas SN, Mengling T, NeuJahr E, van den Brink MRM. A DKMS (German Bone Marrow Donor Center) view on cryopreservation of unrelated donor stem cell products during the COVID-19 pandemic. American Journal of Hematology. 2021;96(3):E91-E92. PMCID: PMC7898391

In this letter to the editor, the authors discuss cryopreservation of stem cell products from unrelated donors which has been used to overcome the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, but which also presents some challenges of its own, as often these products end up at risk of not being used for various reasons explained by the authors.


This letter to the editor describes decreased antibody and immune response in immunocompromised patients with CLL, with implications in vaccine success rates in these patients.


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This letter to the editor describes decreased antibody and immune response in immunocompromised patients with CLL, with implications in vaccine success rates in these patients.

This retrospective multi-center study, conducted from March to June 2020, assessed the utility of tele-dermatology in inpatient consultations.


In this correspondence, the authors report on experts’ advanced prostate cancer management recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic after attending the Advanced Prostate Cancer Consensus Conference 2021.
(These preprints have not yet been peer reviewed.)


The retrospective study looked at the impact of the drug Remdesivir (that received emergency use authorization for treatment of severe COVID-19) on the length of stay of inpatients with severe COVID-19 infection and found that, contrary to the expectations, the use of Remdesivir did not reduce the length of stay in the studied population.


In this paper, the authors report the results of a survey sent to Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) and the Korean Clonal Hematopoiesis (KoCH) consortia found that patients with clonal hematopoiesis were more likely to have severe COVID infections, along with an increased risk of other infections.


Researchers determined the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies among 727 New York City Health + Hospitals healthcare workers between April 30 and June 30, 2020. Black workers, workers with household COVID exposure, those living in Queens, Brooklyn, and the Bronx, and those in non-clinical patient-facing roles were more likely to have positive antibodies.


A survey of 29 institutions identified only four pediatric patients with bone marrow failure (BMF) who tested positive for COVID, or 0.3% of the total surveyed BMF patient population. All four patients had mild disease.


This preprint article describes a model in which the pandemic may be controlled through a combination of robust testing, treatment, self-isolation, along with social distancing measures and wearing face masks.


A team of international scientists is working to develop antiviral drugs for COVID-19. They report on their methodologies for determining the structures of compounds in this preprint.

This preprint contributes to the knowledge of the pathology of pulmonary disease associated with COVID-19 infection.


In this preprint, the authors present their work on non-structural protein (nsp) 14 to help with developing anti-viral therapeutics against COVID-19.


This preprint reports on the results of a survey, administered to older breast cancer survivors in 5 U.S. regions, on medical care disruptions (such as interruptions in the ability to see doctors, receive treatment or supportive therapies, or fill prescriptions) during the COVID-19 pandemic and analyzes the patterns discerned from the responses to the survey.


This preprint compiles evidence on the presence and severity of gastrointestinal problems in patients with COVID-19.


This preprint reports on a study of 30 cancer patients who participated in a virtual mind-body program during the COVID-19 pandemic to determine the program’s impact on the patients’ psychosocial well-being. It demonstrated the program’s potential for addressing behavioral, psychological, and social challenges faced by cancer patients.


In this observatory study, the authors studied if specific HLA alleles in 157 adult COVID-19 patients could be associated with the severity of the disease.
Preprints (54)


This retrospective study looked at eight patients who came to the hospital with cardiac symptoms following the first or second COVID vaccination.


This paper reports on the effects of COVID-19 disease on pediatric hematology, oncology and hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HCT) patients. The study included 19 out of 174 patients that tested positive for COVID-19, the majority of which were found to have mild disease that did not require inpatient care.


This preprint looks at the genetics of the virus that causes COVID-19, specifically at the rate and drivers of its mutation.


This study of healthcare worker exposure to COVID recommends the continuous wearing of surgical masks in both patient and staff areas of the hospital.

*Has since been removed from the preprint server.


This preprint reports on an analysis of patients with ‘COVID arm,’ a delayed skin reaction that has occurred in patients who received the mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine.

The authors concluded that although most cases resolve spontaneously, “…topical glucocorticosteroids and oral anti histamines are effective in resolving the skin lesions and...
controlling symptoms.”


Researchers studied a cohort of patients with multiple myeloma and related diseases at five large New York City institutions. Risk factors for more severe COVID symptoms tracked with those documented in the general population. The authors make recommendations for cancer treatment and COVID risk reduction during the pandemic.


This preprint article describes a novel use of automated machine learning to predict patient survival and mortality from COVID-19. The authors were also able to identify the most important biomarkers correlated with mortality.


The authors present a technique to generate chemotherapy episodes to make data more discoverable so researchers can compare treatments for patients with cancer.


A preprint of a two-arm, single-institution phase II study of N-acetylcysteine in 42 patients with severe COVID-19 admitted to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center between May 2020 and April 2021.


In this brief report, the authors did a retrospective study to determine the impact of COVID-19 infections on 321 childhood cancer survivors seen at Memorial Sloan Kettering between May 5 and September 10, 2020. Based on preliminary results, they report that pediatric survivors don’t seem to be at high risk for COVID-19 complications.


This preprint describes a study of patients in two hospitals in NYC: SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University and Maimonides Medical Center. The researchers undertook quantifying the mortality risk associated not only with static data (e.g. demographics and patient history) but also with dynamic factors, such as changes in biomarkers, throughout hospitalization.


A study of 382 patients with lymphomas and COVID-19 diagnoses found that 13.9% of the surviving 368 patients still showed persistent COVID symptoms 30 days after testing positive.


The authors assess whether the prostate cancer drug enzalutamide could be used to treat COVID-19 patients. Use in a mouse model found inconclusive results.


In this preprint paper, the authors assess if human embryos could be susceptible to COVID-19 infection.


This preprint identifies five drugs approved for other diseases that bind to both COVID-19 and Dengue virus.


Researchers found that a synthetic rocaclate molecule had antiviral effects against...

This preprint describes the creation and use of an artificial intelligence tool for predicting COVID-19 severity in cancer patients at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.


This preprint re-analyzed data, originally collected for a genome-wide association study (GWAS) of Italian and Spanish participants by an international consortium group, using gene ontology analysis and protein-protein interaction analysis to determine which biological processes were most implicated in respiratory failure in COVID-19 patients.


This preprint describes a model for predicting hospitalizations from COVID in the San Francisco area two to four weeks ahead of time.


This work reports on the “...first series to demonstrate an increase in pro-inflammatory CSF cytokines...” in cancer patients with moderate and severe COVID-19 infections “...who subsequently developed moderate to severe neurologic symptoms” in the weeks following respiratory illness, suggesting that “...neurologic toxicity associated with COVID-19 is biochemically similar to CAR T cell neurotoxicity.”


This preprint studies outcomes in 423 patients with cancer hospitalized for COVID-related symptoms. It found age (over 65) and immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy to be risk factors for disease severity and hospitalization.


In this preprint, researchers use a mouse model of SARS-COV-2 to determine how lung development impacts disease susceptibility. *Previous version of preprint was posted on Synapse COVID-19 list under the title “Age-related expression of SARS-CoV-2 priming protease TMPRSS2 in the developing lung.”


In this preprint, a publication not yet peer-reviewed, the authors use clinical data from patients and results from experiences conducted in the lab to study how COVID-19 might affect the heart.


The authors characterize the structure of a particular SARS-CoV-2 antibody type to determine features that might be targeted by vaccines and therapeutics in COVID-19 and other diseases.


This retrospective study analyzed “…14418 COVID-19 patients in five major medical centers in New York City (NYC), between March 1 and June 12, 2020” using machine learning and routinely collected clinical data. The goal of the study was to “…derive and validate COVID-19 subphenotypes to assess temporal patterns of these subphenotypes during the pandemic course and examine their interaction with social determinants of health (SDoH).”


This preprint article describes how the expression of genes that are coronavirus receptors are found in large amounts in the nasal passages. This could explain why nasal respiratory transmission is so significant.


A retrospective cohort study of 966 patients with a hematologic malignancy who also have a COVID-19 diagnosis. Of this cohort, 143 (14.8%) received convalescent plasma and were found to have higher 30-day mortality rates than the control group.


This study investigates the connections between viral infections, such as COVID-19, and autoimmune disease.


In this preprint, the authors studied autoantigens from human Jurkat T-cells. This study allows growing the autoantigens database to better understand post-COVID syndromes, such as autoimmune effects.


This preprint describes a COVID autoantigen atlas developed using proteins from human fetal lung fibroblast HFL1 cells. This autoantigenome information contributes to a detailed molecular map that can be used to investigate neurological and autoimmune manifestations of COVID-19.


This preprint describes the identification of an autoantigen atlas from human lung epithelium–like A549 cells. The authors hope to understand better the autoimmune diseases caused by COVID-19.

Wang X, Sacramento CQ, Jockusch S, Chaves

This preprint reports on the identification of two hepatitis C NS5A inhibitors (Pibrentasvir and Ombitasvir) as potential drugs to work in combination with current treatments such as Remdesivir, to reduce the viral RNA replication of SARS-CoV-2. This preprint describes a potential combination therapy for treatment of COVID-19.


This preprint reports on a data evaluation effort at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center to find possible therapeutic agents for preventing COVID-19 infection. The statistical analysis study identified two classes of therapeutic agents that have a potential to play a preventative role by affecting ACE2, our gene associated with SARS-CoV-2 infection.


The authors used machine learning to create a COVID-19 mortality prediction model, taking data from electronic health records and chest X-rays.


This preprint describes how citizen scientists worldwide simulated protein folding to contribute to the understanding of SARS-CoV-2 and potential COVID treatments.
Meeting Abstracts

(51)
This meeting abstract finds that early breast cancer diagnoses declined in April and May 2020 compared to March 2020, a decline not present in a 2019 cohort. Those diagnosed February-June 2020 were more likely than those diagnosed the year before to have systemic therapy as their primary treatment.


This abstract describes a global consortium of outcomes of COVID-19 infection in thoracic malignancies. It identified COVID-19 risk factors for increased mortality in these patients, such as age, smoking status, cancer stage, and need for steroids.


The research data on COVID-19 in cancer patients generated during the pandemic is abundant and complex and it is recorded in multiple institutional and cross-institutional registries. It became a challenge to technically reconcile COVID-19 and cancer research registries built on different standards. To address the need, MSKCC created a framework for ensuring compatibility of COVID-19 and cancer research registries.


A description of the experience of the Precision Pathology Center at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center adopting digital and remote pathology solutions during the COVID-19 pandemic.


A description of the experience of the Precision Pathology Center at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center adopting digital and remote pathology solutions during the COVID-19 pandemic.


This conference abstract reports on the results of a survey posted periodically on social media in the first half of 2020 and completed by specialized healthcare workers - Infection Preventionists (IPs) - from 16 US states and 4 countries, working predominantly in Acute Care. The reported experiences of IPs during the beginning of the pandemic included working long hours/overtime, shortages of protective equipment, stress, emotional exhaustion, etc. At the same time, the survey respondents felt that their profession’s standing was boosted.


A review of blood product utilization and transfusion reaction reports of cancer patients with COVID-19, with authors noting this population requires a significant commitment of resources from the transfusion service.


A description of a COVID-19 pandemic surge plan to meet the needs of cancer patients who were at an increased risk for infection during hospitalization.

Results of an electronic survey of 118 pathology trainees to identify how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted their education and training.


Results of an electronic survey of 118 pathology trainees to identify how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted their education and training.


Results of an online survey of mental health providers offering services to Latino or Hispanic cancer patients in the United States, Latin America, and Spain, specifically their perspective of the concerns and needs of these patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.


This work reports on the experience of 192 patients (treated at 208 sites) who after the pandemic restrictions were relaxed and opted for fully remote management via telemedicine. The safety data that was prospectively collected and the data from patient satisfaction surveys showed that “treatment with fully remote providers is safe and feasible” and that there was high patient satisfaction.


This meeting abstract reports on a study (of 89 pulmonary and extrapulmonary samples from 24 COVID-19 autopsies) that attempted to investigate the relationship between SARS-CoV-2 lung infection and the severity of pulmonary disease.


This conference abstract reports an international study of 50 patients with CNS lymphoma and concurrent COVID-19.


This conference abstract describes 19 hematology, oncology and hematopoietic cell transplant pediatric patients who tested positive for COVID. Most had mild symptoms similar to children without cancer.

Glincher R, Cheung NK, Kasper C, Scoppetuolo LA, Modak S. Teledicine blood pressure monitoring after anti-GD2 monoclonal antibody immunotherapy during the

A conference abstract about remotely monitoring blood pressure post-immunotherapy during the pandemic in order to detect the potential onset of adverse treatment effects.


This multi-center study that included ninety-three patients with hematologic malignancies from 4 institutions (114 RT courses), evaluated the preliminary efficacy and toxicity of novel hypofractionated radiation therapy regimens that were adopted during the COVID pandemic (1/1/2020 to 8/31/2020) according to guidelines published by the International Lymphoma Radiation Oncology Group (ILROG). The preliminary findings showed "...low rates of acute toxicity and reasonable short-term treatment efficacy" but longer follow-up and further control group analysis is needed and forthcoming.


This study evaluates a single center’s experience adopting emergency guidelines published by the International Lymphoma Radiation Oncology Group (ILROG) to support hypofractionation across multiple dose regimens for 36 non-Hodgkin lymphoma patients. The group reported that early response rates to the one dose regimen (adopted between March 30, 2020 through November 30, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic) are similar but that “...longer term follow-up is required to confirm the durability of these results.”


A description of the experience of standardizing acute and ongoing care for cancer patients during a COVID-19 surge.


By comparing a cohort of new patients early in the COVID pandemic (March 17, 2020-July 2020) versus a historical, contemporay pre-COVID patient cohort (November 2019-March 16, 2020), the authors were able to evaluate if “...early oropharyngeal cancer (OPC) outcomes with radiation therapy (RT) were affected” by COVID pandemic-related practice changes. Although “...no difference in early 6 month outcomes” between cohorts were found, important clinical trends were identified that may not be favorable to long-term outcomes.


This conference abstract looked at how teledermatology provided support to patients experiencing immune checkpoint inhibitor toxicity during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.


A retrospective review of 70 cancer patients over the age of 75 admitted between March 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020 who tested positive for COVID-19 within 72 hours of admission.


This abstract from the 2021 Annals of Behavioral Medicine meeting reports on a survey of 410 American adults on the perception of their own risk versus the risk to other people.

Jani K McMillen T Robilotti E, Aslam Viale A, for optimal decision making on treatment of treatment. This conclusion will be instrumental to the severity of COVID-19 rather than cancer that patient-related characteristics influence specific treatment for lung cancer established cancer and cancer treatments. The research on as to whether these vulnerabilities were related to severe course of COVID-19, it raised questions with COVID-19 were especially vulnerable to a While it became clear that cancer patients with COVID-19 were especially vulnerable to a severe course of COVID-19, it raised questions as to whether these vulnerabilities were related predominantly to patient characteristics or to cancer and cancer treatments. The research on specific treatment for lung cancer established that patient-related characteristics influence the severity of COVID-19 rather than cancer treatment. This conclusion will be instrumental for optimal decision making on treatment of these patients.

McMillen T, Jani K, Viale A, Robilotti E, Aslam A, Sokoli D, Mason G, Shah M, Korenstein D, Kamboj M, Babady E. Comparison of nasopharyngeal swabs and saliva samples for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA. Journal of Molecular Diagnostics. 2020;22(Suppl. 11):S37-S38. This meeting abstract reports on the results of a study (during which eighty-seven paired NPS and saliva samples were collected) looking into the feasibility of using saliva as an alternative for COVID-19 testing (SARS-CoV-2 RNA detection by RT-PCR) in order to overcome the lack of availability of nasopharyngeal swabs (NPS). Saliva was found to be an acceptable alternative sample for SARS-CoV-2 RNA detection by RT-PCR.

McMillen T, Jani K, Viale A, Robilotti E, Aslam A, Sokoli D, Mason G, Shah M, Korenstein D, Kamboj M, Babady E. Comparison of oral rinses and nasopharyngeal swabs for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA. Journal of Molecular Diagnostics. 2020;22(Suppl. 11):S37-S38. This meeting abstract reports on the results of a study (during which ninety-eight paired oral rinse and NPS samples were collected) looking into the feasibility of using oral rinse as an alternative for COVID-19 testing (SARS-CoV-2 RNA detection by RT-PCR) in order to overcome the lack of availability of nasopharyngeal swabs. Oral rinses were not found to be a suitable alternative to nasopharyngeal swabs.

McMillen T, Jani K, Viale A, Robilotti E, Aslam A, Sokoli D, Mason G, Shah M, Korenstein D, Kamboj M, Babady E. The evaluation of oropharyngeal swabs and saliva samples for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA. Journal of Molecular Diagnostics. 2020;22(Suppl. 11):S39. This meeting abstract reports on the results of a study (during which a total of one hundred paired saliva and oropharyngeal swabs (OPS) samples were collected) looking into the feasibility of using saliva versus OPS for COVID-19 testing (SARS-CoV-2 RNA detection by RT-PCR). Saliva was found to be superior to oropharyngeal swabs for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA.


Orom HA, Waters EA, Hay JL, Tuman M, Kiviniemi MT. The US failure to control the COVID-19 epidemic has a Whiteness problem.
Meeting Abstracts (51)


This conference abstract discusses the results of a survey on COVID-19 beliefs and prevention completed by a representative sample of the U.S. adults in June 2020. The respondents’ breakdown by race, and the impact of different racial groups attitudes towards COVID-19 prevention on the course of the pandemic, is discussed.


Results of a survey of 114 healthcare providers to evaluate patterns of care in early-stage estrogen receptor positive breast cancer during the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic.


This ASCO meeting abstract presents the negative findings of a retrospective cohort study of 465 prostate cancer patients who were evaluated for SARS-CoV-2 viral detection by PCR to determine whether the use of androgen deprivation therapy by patients prior to COVID-19 diagnosis offered protection against severe COVID illness.


A description of the creation of the ‘Support RN’ role within the intensive care unit to help transition step-down nurses to critical care nursing during the COVID-19 pandemic.


This conference abstract describes the agenda for a clinical expert discussion panel on the unique challenges that faced cancer patients, caregivers and cancer care providers, as well as lessons learned and innovative modifications to providing care that can be incorporated into post-pandemic practice and improve future cancer care delivery.


A description of a clinical practice change to include manual proning as a standard practice with COVID-19 patients who were mechanically ventilated.


A description of how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the second cohort of a two cohort, non-randomized study to treat patients with oropharyngeal carcinoma and how oncology nurse navigators and oncology nurses responded.


This study investigated whether short-course radiation therapy (SCRT) as part of total neoadjuvant therapy (TNT) is safe and feasible for patients by following a cohort of 42 patients who were treated with SCRT during an institutional COVID-19 pandemic mandate (from March to June of 2020), when all patients undergoing radiation therapy for locally advanced rectal cancer were treated with SCRT. The findings suggest that a watch-and-wait (WW) strategy after SCRT-TNT is feasible, but more long-term research is needed to establish oncologic safety.


This meeting abstract reports on the
results of a small study (seven treatments administered to three patients) investigating the feasibility of using glucarpidase to make outpatient high dose methotrexate administration to CNS lymphoma patients possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.


A retrospective study of 1,770 cancer patients who tested positive for COVID-19 2021. The research was aimed at establishing whether any correlation existed between beliefs prioritizing hierarchical social order, and individualism (beliefs prioritizing autonomy) and perception of infectious disease risks.


This abstract from the 2021 Annals of Behavioral Medicine meeting introduces the symposium’s risk perception research presenters and their topics.


A prospective evaluation of 18 cancer patients with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection and subsequent neurologic manifestations, with authors noting that findings suggest a potential role for anti-inflammatory treatments with these patients.


A retrospective study of 1,770 cancer patients who tested positive for COVID-19
between March 2020 and May 2020 at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, with authors noting results suggest short-term mortality among patients receiving immuno-therapy may be higher than those receiving chemotherapy alone.


A review of 414 computed tomography simulation scans performed on 400 radiotherapy patients between March 1, 2020 and April 13, 2020, with authors noting that these scans obtained for radiation treatment planning can be reviewed for signs of COVID-19 pneumonia.