



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) is the world's leading member-driven organization specifically dedicated to improving cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science and application of cancer immunotherapy. Established in 1984, SITC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer to improve cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science, development and application of cancer immunology and immunotherapy through our core values of interaction/integration, innovation, translation and leadership in the field.

Vision Statement

SITC aims to make cancer immunotherapy a standard of care and the word "CURE" a reality for cancer patients everywhere.

Core Values

- Interaction/Integration: Facilitate the exchange of information and education among basic and translational researchers, clinicians, young investigators, societies and groups sharing the SITC mission
- Innovation: Challenge the thinking and seek the best research in the development of cancer immunotherapy
- Translation: Facilitate the transfer of cancer immunology and immunotherapy research from the bench to the clinic and back
- Leadership: Define what is new and important and effectively communicate it to all relevant stakeholders

Letter from the President

As I write my final letter as the President of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC), I am in awe of the milestones we accomplished as a community for cancer patients worldwide. I start every morning with a gratitude and today I am grateful for the resilience of the SITC family. Over the last two years, you continued to dedicate your energy, wisdom, creativity, and passion to finding a cure for cancer despite the pandemic, staffing challenges, and so many other hurdles.

Together, let's celebrate the incredible accomplishments in this annual report. We, as a community dedicated to curing cancer for everyone, saw several advancements, set records, and demonstrated that collaboration is paramount – as much so as ever.

It is a wonderful honor to present SITC's 2022 *Year in Review*. Here is a sampling of the incredible accomplishments we achieved:

- Hosted a record-breaking Annual Meeting where **over 7,400 individuals** gathered, learned, and collaborated while emerged in the latest science and research in the immunotherapy space
- Formed a **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force** and implemented meaningful and impactful programming in its inaugural year
- Published a field-wide, standard-setting **manuscript and conceptual framework** in selecting phase III trials evaluating anti-PD-1-based combinations for activation
- Convened key oncology experts from academia, industry and government, including the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI), to lead a conversation around what's become a **crisis in clinical research**
- Brought together a group of regulatory stakeholders to collaboratively find ways we can **bring immunotherapy to regions around the world**, learning from the regulatory bodies in the US, Europe, and Asia
- Hosted a **Cellular Therapy Regulatory Summit**, which consisted of cellular therapy experts to identify the most significant hurdles facing cellular therapy researchers throughout the Investigational New Drug (IND) application process

Within these pages, you will see more detail of the distinctive ways in which SITC's vast member network – comprised of research scientists, physician scientists, clinicians, patients, patient advocates, government representatives and industry leaders – collaborated in support of the mission that drives each of us: to make "cure" a reality for all patients.

I hope you enjoy the *Year in Review* and I look forward to celebrating the continued success of our field with **Dr. Leisha Emens** as our 2023–2024 SITC President.

Sincerely,



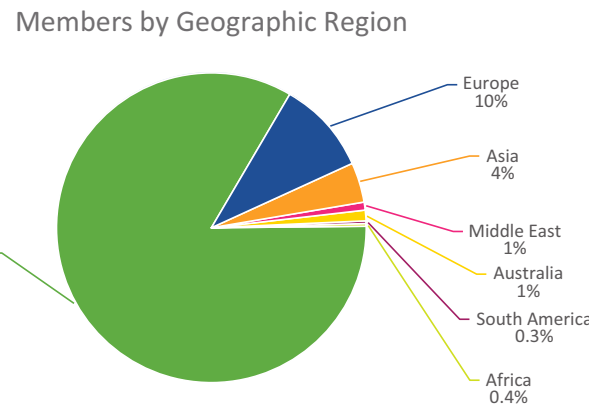
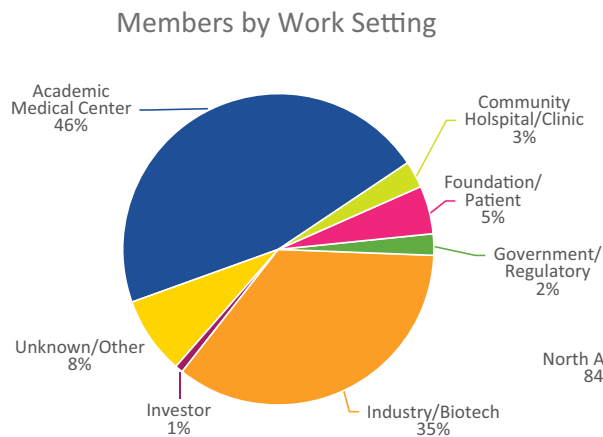
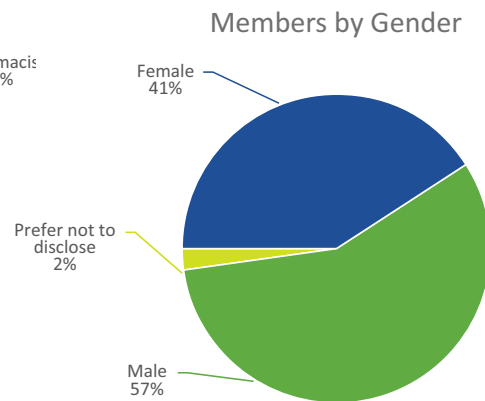
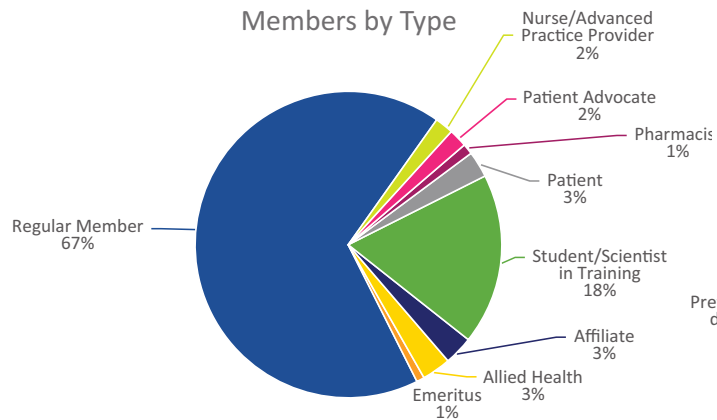
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Hwu'.

Patrick Hwu, MD
SITC President (2021-2022)

Membership and Financial Health

MEMBERSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

SITC is the world's only member-driven society dedicated to professionals working in the field of cancer immunotherapy.



4,245 Total Members

1,205 New Members

340 20-Year Members

78 10-Year Members

23 5-Year Members

VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteers help shape the direction of SITC and the immunotherapy field. Together, we are leading the field to elevate cancer immunotherapy as a standard of care.

2,581 Volunteers

311 Committee Members

25 Committees

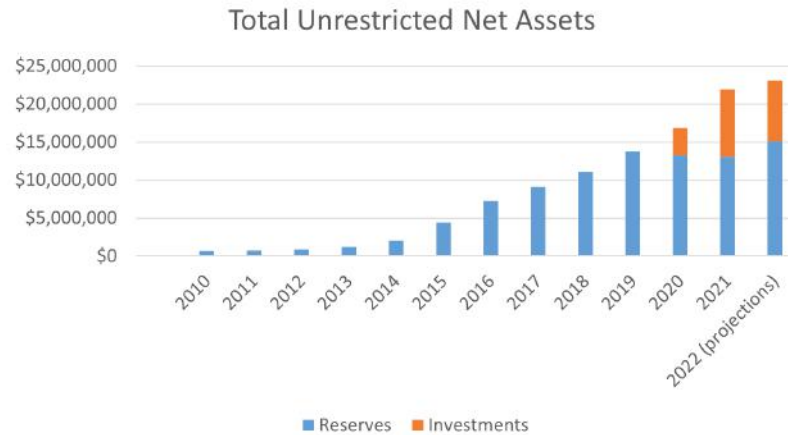
4 Task Forces

Join or renew your SITC membership! sitcancer.org/join

Membership and Financial Health

FINANCIAL HEALTH

SITC's financial health continues to strengthen. Despite a slight loss in reserves in 2020 due to COVID-19, SITC's total unrestricted net assets have continually grown over the past decade, providing a solid footing to build strategic initiatives. SITC's days' cash on hand (not including investments) is 369, ensuring SITC can operate for over a year with no income should the need arise.



CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

A SITC corporate membership provides organizations in the field of cancer immunotherapy and cancer research a forum in which to address common issues impacting the field with the goal of improving cancer patient outcomes.

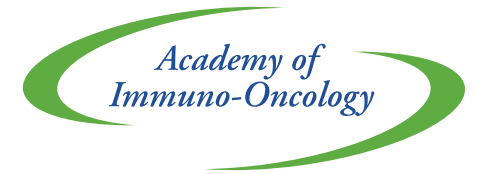


For more information about Corporate Memberships, please contact development@sitcancer.org

Awards and Recognition

FELLOWS OF THE ACADEMY OF IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY (FAIO)

SITC established the Academy of Immuno-Oncology to honor individuals who have launched the field of cancer immunotherapy into the breakthrough cancer treatment it is today and bring together the brightest minds in the field to continue to advance SITC, the field, and the next generation of immuno-oncologists.



The 2022 FAIO inductees are:



Rafi Ahmed, PhD
Emory University, School of Medicine



Lisa M. Coussens, PhD, FAACR
Oregon Health & Science University



Mark M. Davis, PhD
Stanford University



Olivera J. Finn, PhD
University of Pittsburgh



Tak Mak, PhD
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University Health Network



Cornelis J.M. Melief, MD, PhD
Leiden University Medical Center & ISA Pharmaceuticals



Lloyd J. Old, MD
Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research – Honored Posthumously



Drew M. Pardoll, MD, PhD
Johns Hopkins University



Suzanne L. Topalian, MD
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg-Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy



Giorgio Trinchieri, MD
National Cancer Institute



Louis M. Weiner, MD
Georgetown University/ Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center



Theresa L. Whiteside, PhD
University of Pittsburgh

For a full listing of the FAIO, visit sitcancer.org/membership/academy-immuno-oncology/faio

Awards and Recognition

ANNUAL AWARDS

SITC recognized an incredible group of members and colleagues who notably contributed to the cancer immunotherapy field. Recipients were celebrated during the 37th Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs.

SITC Lifetime Achievement Award



Michael B. Atkins, MD
Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center

Tara Withington Public Service Award



Bernard A. Fox, PhD
Earle A. Chiles Research Institute, Providence Cancer Institute

Pedro J. Romero Service to JITC Award



Cornelis J.M. Melief, MD, PhD
Leiden University Medical Center & ISA Pharmaceuticals

Richard V. Smalley Memorial Award



Zelig Eshhar, PhD
Weizmann Institute of Science Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center

CONNECT-A-COLLEAGUE

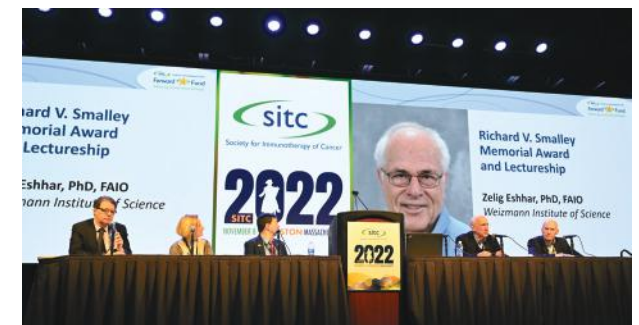
SITC's Connect-a-Colleague program allows SITC members to refer colleagues to the society for membership. The SITC member who refers the most new members each year is recognized during the SITC Annual Meeting Award Ceremony.



Jennifer Guerriero, PhD
Brigham and Women's Hospital

301 individuals referred to SITC in 2022

To refer a colleague to SITC, visit sitcancer.org/connect-a-colleague



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

SITC formed the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Task Force to help set the society's strategic direction on its DEI efforts. The task force aims to improve opportunities for research, education, and professional development that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within the society and field of cancer immunotherapy.



Chair
Leisha A. Emens, MD, PhD
Ankyra Therapeutics



Co-Chair
Adekunle Odunsi, MD, PhD
University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center



Ghassan K. Abou-Alfa, MD, MBA
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



Ana Carrizosa Anderson, PhD
Harvard Medical School



Tullia C. Bruno, PhD
University of Pittsburgh



Charlie T. Garnett-Benson, PhD
Bristol Myers Squibb



Chelsea Pinnix, MD, PhD
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



Avery D. Posey, Jr., PhD
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

NEW

Membership Management

Recruit, retain and foster a diverse community of domestic and international members.

Research

Breakdown barriers to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the broader cancer immunotherapy research community.

Education

Increase diversity of the immuno-oncology workforce and educate the community on diversity, equity and inclusion issues.

Professional Development

Represent diverse backgrounds and experiences within all society funding, speaking, volunteer and training opportunities.

Patient Care and Clinical Trials

Understand and address the barriers and needs of SITC members in clinical practice, and advocate for equitable patient access, domestically and globally.



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

DIVERSITY IN CLINICAL TRIALS

NEW

The DEI Task Force held a roundtable discussion with key stakeholders, including pharmaceutical and biotech companies, the FDA and SITC leadership, to discuss the FDA draft guidance on diversity in clinical trial enrollment. The roundtable resulted in a prioritized list of educational, consensus building, and collaborative initiatives that SITC could champion in the next three years to support the oncology community in implementing effective and successful race and diversity plans submitted with FDA protocols.

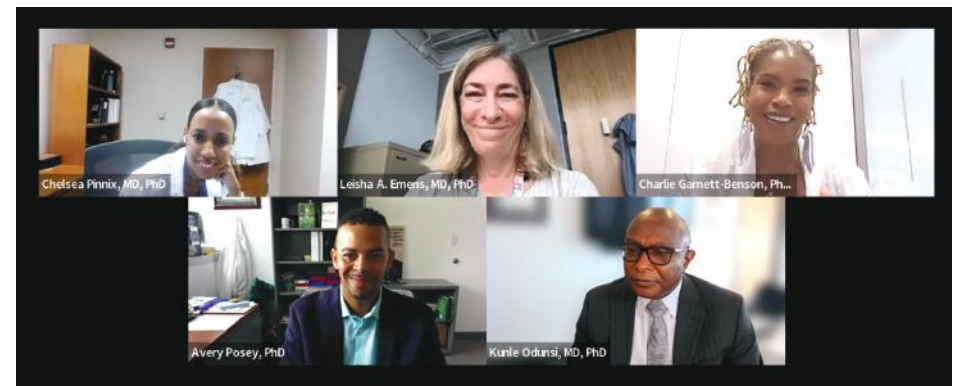


Read the executive summary here:
[sitcancer.org/dei-roundtable](https://www.sitcancer.org/dei-roundtable)

BARRIERS TO BLACK AND AFRICAN AMERICANS IN SCIENCE AND MEDICINE DIVERSITY PANEL

NEW

Barriers to Black and African Americans in Science and Medicine Diversity Panel — the second in a series of diversity panels — is an hour-long group discussion presented by members of the DEI Task Force who share personal and professional reflections as Black and African Americans working in science and medicine in the United States.



Watch the video! www.sitcancer.org/diversity
Hear the panelists' suggested solutions for enacting change

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

MENTORSHIP AND NETWORKING PROGRAM FOR URM UNDERGRADS IN STEM

NEW

For the first time, SITC hosted an interactive, day-long workshop for underrepresented minority (URM) undergraduates in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Held at the Annual Meeting, the program gave students the opportunity to hear from leaders in the field, meet with mentors from various backgrounds and network with other students interested in science and medicine.



SITC welcomed 44 students for the in-person program



LMIC REGISTRATION RATES

NEW

SITC offered free Annual Meeting registration to SITC members and discounted rates to non-members from low and middle income countries (LMIC).

DIVERSITY FELLOWSHIPS AND URM TRAVEL AWARDS

NEW

Two diversity-focused fellowships were offered in 2022: the SITC-Nektar Therapeutics Cancer Immunotherapy Equity and Inclusion Fellowship and the SITC-Genentech Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship. SITC also dedicated nearly half of all *Forward* Fund supported travel awards to students, trainees, and early career investigators from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds to attend the Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Network (WIN) Leadership Institute and Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School.





Education and Scientific Exchange

SERVE AS THE LEADING RESOURCE for information and education on cancer immunotherapy



37TH ANNUAL MEETING & PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMS

The SITC 37th Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs continued to be the leading destination for scientific exchange, education, and networking in the cancer immunotherapy field. For the first time, the Annual Meeting was held in Boston, MA, and broke society records for attendance, abstract submissions, and poster presentations.

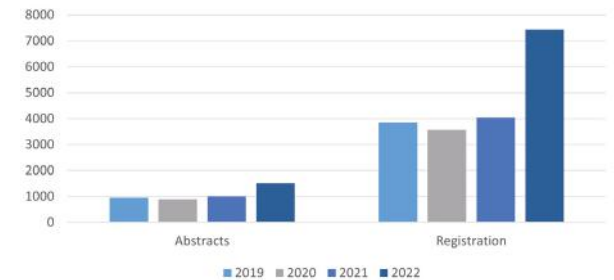


Record Abstract Submissions
1,509

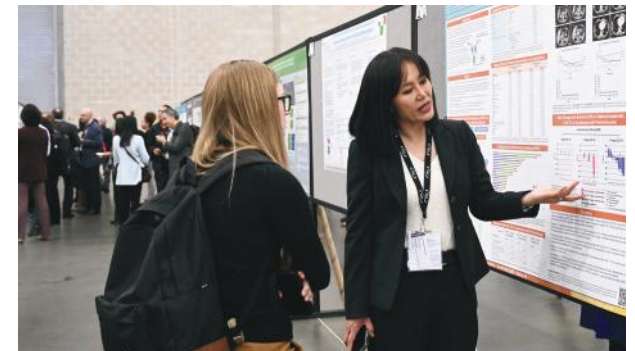
SAVE THE DATE!



Annual Meeting Abstracts and Registration by Year



Over 7,400 Attendees
(in person and virtual)



Over 75 Oral Abstract Presentations

Over 1,400 Poster Abstract Presentations



Education and Scientific Exchange

SERVE AS THE LEADING RESOURCE for information and education on cancer immunotherapy

TARGETS FOR CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY: A DEEP DIVE

SITC hosted the second online seminar series of its kind, exploring the underlying biology of various immunotherapy drugs. With this deeper biological understanding, attendees of the series can now address important scientific questions and rationally design clinical trials for cancer immunotherapies.

Nearly **500** attendees



Topics included:

- LAG-3
- TIL therapies
- Enhanced CTLA-4 Blockade
- NK cell Engagers
- Targeted Systemic Delivery of Innate Immune Activators
- Recombinant IL-18
- B cell Modulation for Anti-tumor Immunity
- IPSC cell Derived Therapies
- TCR-based Therapies

ADVANCES IN CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY™

The SITC Advances in Cancer Immunotherapy (ACI) series featured an expansive curriculum of live programming and complementary virtual courses with interactive components dispersed throughout. Attendees benefited from education specific to their specialties, as each program focused on one topic. Three virtual pre-courses provided a deep dive into foundational concepts to prepare attendees for program content.

Advances
in Cancer
Immunotherapy™



15 programs now available at sitcancer.org/education/aci

Ten disease states including lung cancers, gynecologic cancers, hematologic malignancies, breast cancers and head and neck cancers.

Five special topics including intratumoral vaccines, toxicity management and biomarkers.

Three foundational concept online interactive courses took participants through the basics of tumor immunology, immunotherapy and toxicity management

SITC-NCI COMPUTATIONAL IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY WEBINARS



Returning in 2022, in partnership with the NCI, SITC hosted nine online webinars designed to help participants foster better communication concerning data science technologies and analyses between cancer immunotherapy researchers and clinicians to fuel translational immunotherapy research.

Over **1,900** attendees

For on-demand webinars, visit sitcancer.org/compio



Professional Standards

SET INDUSTRY STANDARDS for the field of cancer immunotherapy

CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY GUIDELINE PROGRAM

The SITC Cancer Immunotherapy Guidelines program is a collection of clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) developed by multi-disciplinary expert panels who draw from their own practical experience as well as evidence in the published literature and clinical trial data to build evidence- and consensus-based recommendations on when and how to use immunotherapy to help improve outcomes for patients with cancer.



Since 2013, SITC has published **19 CPGs**, with nearly **304,000 total accesses** and **1,252 citations**.

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES (CPGs)

SITC CPGs distill the published literature and the best clinical judgment of the expert panel into practical, actionable recommendations to help cancer care providers develop immunotherapy treatment plans for their patients. SITC has published CPGs covering a variety of hematologic malignancies, solid tumors, and toxicity management.

In 2022, SITC published two new guidelines on the following disease areas:

- Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma
- Nonmelanoma Skin Cancer

CPG EDUCATION

SITC offers free live and on-demand companion educational resources in support of the published CPGs. These activities are designed to provide a deeper understanding of the recommendations in the SITC guidelines and how to apply them in various clinical scenarios.

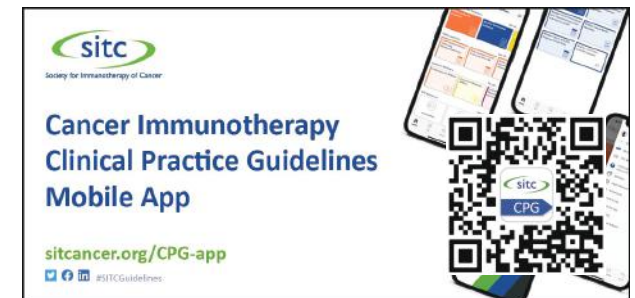
In 2022, SITC produced:

- 8 CPG webinars
- 21 CPG mini modules

CPG MOBILE APP

The SITC CPG Mobile App is the first and only tool of its kind, offering easy access to SITC's CPGs. Highlighting key information from SITC's published guidelines, the SITC CPG Mobile App features the evidence- and expert consensus-based recommendations on important aspects of immunotherapy treatment from the published guidelines, as well as new and interactive tools and companion educational resources. The content is open access and free to download from the Apple App or Google Play stores.

- 14 abridged versions of the published SITC guidelines
- 61 tools and tables – including several only available on the app
- More than 12,000 sessions of users accessing the SITC guideline recommendations, resources and/or tools





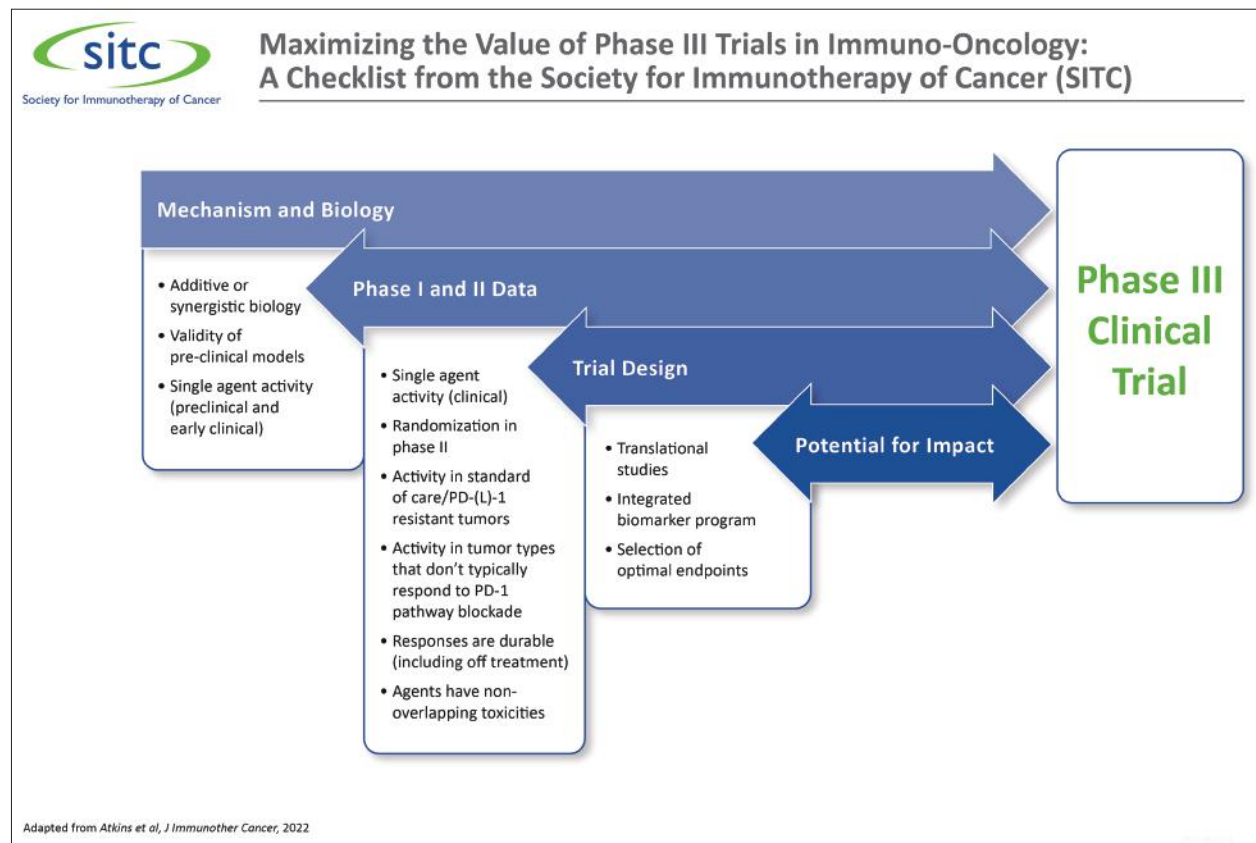
Professional Standards

SET INDUSTRY STANDARDS for the field of cancer immunotherapy

MAXIMIZING THE VALUE OF PHASE III TRIALS IN IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY: A CHECKLIST FROM THE SOCIETY FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY OF CANCER (SITC)

NEW

SITC developed a conceptual framework to assist investigators in selecting phase III trials evaluating anti-PD-1-based combinations for activation within their institutions based on potential value to patients and the immuno-oncology field. To apply the framework, investigators evaluate the mechanism and biology, early clinical evidence, trial design, and potential for impact using a simple checklist.



Published in the *Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC)* as the manuscript, "Maximizing the value of phase III trials in immuno-oncology: A checklist from the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC)."



Global Access and Impact

ADVANCE THE SCIENCE and application of cancer immunotherapy worldwide

GLOBAL REGULATORY SUMMIT

NEW

SITC convened a group of regulatory stakeholders to discuss gaps between the progress in biologic and regulatory sciences in immunotherapy, as well as the differences and similarities in regulatory approaches in immunotherapy development in different parts of the world. This summit was the first step in identifying SITC-actionable solutions to address the emerging differences between immunotherapeutic agents and standard therapy development, as well as regulatory discrepancies and complexities. In early 2023, the participants will develop a white paper and recommendation documents as the first steps to address these challenges.



CRISIS IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

NEW



SITC convened key oncology experts from academia, industry and government, including the FDA and NCI, to discuss the evolving crisis in clinical research – limited patient access and slowed drug development due to staffing shortages, administrative burdens, and current business models. The summit featured over 600 attendees and detailed issues and potential solutions as the field works toward an actionable plan forward. In addition to the executive summary, planned next steps include:

- Collaborative discussions with like-minded societies to help gather data on clinical research staffing and process improvements
- Creation of op-ed's and whitepapers to help continue momentum towards addressing the crisis in clinical research
- Discuss how the field of oncology can help facilitate changes in the clinical research staffing and business models

Watch on-demand and read the executive summary at sitcancer.org/crisis



Policy and Advocacy

INFORM AND INFLUENCE the science and research, regulation, as well as quality of care and quality of access impacted by public policy, ensuring the patient voice is heard and recognized

ADVOCATING FOR INCREASED FUNDING FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY RESEARCH



In March 2022, the SITC Policy & Advocacy Committee drafted language for incorporation into congressional appropriations bills to advocate for the advancement of immunotherapy through funding support from the FDA, NCI and National Institutes of Health. SITC visited 12 congressional offices to advocate for both FDA and NCI report language focused on cellular therapies and correlative research studies, respectively.

12 congressional office visits in 2022

Funding bills passed by the House in 2022 included FDA and NCI appropriations language

SITC QUALITY MEASURES PROJECT

NEW

SITC developed immunotherapy-centric quality measures for consideration to be included for submission to the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) coordinated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Through this effort, SITC aims to ensure that cancer patients across the United States will receive the best and most appropriate treatment.

In 2022, the SITC quality measure entitled ‘Appropriate intervention of immune-related diarrhea and/or colitis in patients treated with immune checkpoint inhibitors’ was accepted for rulemaking into the MIPS of CMS

SITC submitted its second quality measure to CMS in 2022: “Positive PD-L1 Biomarker Expression Test Result Prior to First-Line Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapy”

CELLULAR THERAPY REGULATORY SUMMIT

NEW

In August of 2022, SITC hosted the Cellular Therapy Regulatory Summit. Cellular therapy experts from academia, industry, and government met to identify the most significant hurdles facing cellular therapy researchers throughout the Investigational New Drug (IND) application process and offer solutions for SITC to champion. The group concluded that SITC could lead further discussions and refinement of cellular therapy release criteria via a future virtual summit, and facilitate a timely and thorough review of cellular therapy regulatory processes from the FDA. In 2023, these outcomes will be further detailed in an executive summary and whitepaper, with tactics implemented by the newly formed SITC Cell Therapy Committee.



Science and Research

CHALLENGE THE THINKING and seek the best research in the exploration and development of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy

TUMOR IMMUNE MICROENVIRONMENT: A HOLISTIC APPROACH WORKSHOP

SITC's scientific workshop focused on the tumor microenvironment and its possible impact on the development of future immunotherapies. The hybrid program featured these hot topics:

- Cancer Cell Metabolism and Nutrient Availability
- Hypoxia-induced Acidic Microenvironment
- Improving Outcomes in Pediatric Cancers
- Methods for Manipulating and Studying the TME
- Stromal Cell Biology Impacting the TME



Attracted a record-breaking **94** abstract submissions



PAN-TUMOR HARMONIZATION OF PATHOLOGIC RESPONSE ASSESSMENT FOR STANDARDIZED DATA COLLECTION IN NEOADJUVANT IO TRIALS (PATHDATA) **NEW**

The overall goal of PATHdata is to validate reproducibility of a standardized, pan-tumor approach for partial response (PR) assessment and data reporting for tissue specimens from patients treated with immunotherapy, and subsequently educate pathologists across the field on the developed method through an online workshop and associated training module. Efforts from the PATHdata project will help accelerate drug development by supporting clinical trial utility of the PR endpoint, accelerating regulatory approval and patient accessibility of future neoadjuvant immunotherapies.

SITC MULTIPLEX IMMUNOFLUORESCENCE – SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (MXIF-SIG) INITIATIVE **NEW**

Due to a lack of standardized data reporting methods for current and future studies, clinical adoption of multiplex imaging technologies remains limited. To address this, SITC launched the Multiplex Immunofluorescence – Special Interest Group (MXIF-SIG) Initiative. Volunteers from the SITC Pathology Committee and the JEDI Council (Joint Effort for Development of mxIf standards) developed a consensus checklist for multiplex immuno-fluorescence (IF) and immunohistochemistry (IHC) data validation and reporting. An accompanying manuscript is under development for publication in *JITC*.



Science and Research

CHALLENGE THE THINKING and seek the best research in the exploration and development of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy

JOURNAL FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY OF CANCER

The *Journal for Immunotherapy of Cancer* (JITC), celebrates ten years of publishing open access, peer-reviewed research. Readers from over 200 countries and territories throughout the world visited the journal in 2022, and over 6,000 followers “got social” with the journal via the journal’s official Twitter and LinkedIn pages.



12.469 Impact Factor

13.894 5-year Impact Factor

14.3 CiteScore

JITC PEER REVIEW MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

NEW

JITC developed a new peer review mentorship program designed to help train the next generation on the general practices of scientific peer review. One hundred applications to serve as a mentee were collected in the fall, leading to 20 mentees for the inaugural 2023 class.

IMAGING AND IMMUNOTHERAPY REVIEW SERIES

NEW

Guest Editors:



Elisabeth G. E. de Vries, MD, PhD –
University Medical
Center Groningen



Lawrence H. Schwartz, MD –
Columbia University
Medical Center

Comprised of several authoritative reviews, the *Imaging and Immunotherapy* series illustrated the multidisciplinary approach vital to using imaging for immunotherapy and its challenges in implementing new imaging methods into daily use.

Authored by leading voices in oncology, imaging sciences, and radiology, the series explores novel imaging strategies, new approaches to conventional imaging (artificial intelligence, radiomics, and MRI) and special considerations for radiotherapy, immunotherapy, and imaging.

Read the series at jitc.bmj.com/pages/collection/imaging-and-immunotherapy

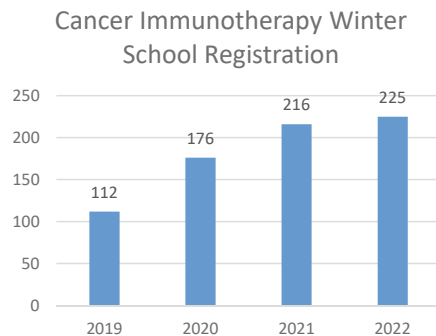


Leadership Development

CULTIVATE THE NEXT GENERATION of leaders and innovators in tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy

CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY WINTER SCHOOL

In its fourth year, the SITC Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School continued to grow. 225 early career scientists and clinicians walked away with a deep understanding of the core principles of tumor immunology, cancer immunotherapy, and developing areas including biomarker technology, validation, and clinical integration; clinical trial design, data analysis and considerations for combination therapies.



100% of respondents would recommend the program to a colleague

WOMEN IN CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY NETWORK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



The WIN Leadership Institute strives to provide female professionals the tools needed to succeed as emerging leaders in the field of cancer immunotherapy.

“This was a phenomenal program. I have already recommended it to multiple other female physician scientist colleagues in my field. It really impacted my career and development, as well as my support of more junior women in the field.”

SPARKATHON ACCELERATOR: EMERGING LEADERS IGNITING INNOVATION

Sparkathon 2.0 Accelerator: Emerging Leaders Igniting Innovation, SITC’s innovative program designed to foster leadership development, collaborations and scientific exchange among early career investigators who are emerging leaders in the field of cancer immunotherapy. 12 “sparkies” began their journey at the SITC Annual Meeting, focusing on the topic of optimizing combination therapy based on immunological mechanisms.



Early Career Scientists

The future of cancer immunotherapy is rooted in research and education, primarily by early career scientists. SITC's Early Career Scientist (ECS) Committee oversees the activities at SITC's Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs for those in the early stages of their careers.

MEET-THE-EXPERT LUNCH



The Meet-the-Expert Lunch focuses on unique issues related to early career scientist career development, and provides attendees the opportunity to interact with experts in key areas of immunotherapy. The Meet-the-Expert Lunch addresses different relevant topics in a setting that fosters attendee/expert interactions and provides networking opportunities with leaders in the field. Experts answer questions and lead informal dialogue to help provide guidance and career advancement advice.

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

The Grant Writing Workshop opened with an overview of the grant submission process, the principles of grant writing, big data, and NCI Officer tips for the grant writing process.

The second session allowed attendees to experience a mock study section evaluating a grant proposal, helping to identify points that determine the success of the submission, and optimize the grant re-submission process.



SPEED MENTORING EVENT

NEW



The Speed Mentoring Event provided early career scientists the opportunity to be mentored by a cancer immunotherapy expert in a one-on-one setting. Mentees were matched with an expert mentor in one of the following three categories: industry/non-academic careers, basic/translational science, or clinical science.

NETWORKING RECEPTION

The networking event gives early career scientists an opportunity to meet colleagues and make early connections to be fostered throughout the Annual Meeting.



SAVE THE DATE



Forward Fund

ABOUT THE FORWARD FUND

In an effort to create opportunities that further the mission of SITC and expand the knowledge of and interest in cancer immunotherapy, SITC established the *Forward Fund*. Since 2014, SITC has awarded more than \$5 million in research funding to deserving early career scientists.



STEVEN A. ROSENBERG, MD, PHD, ENDOWED SCHOLARS FUND

Established in 2020 in honor of Dr. Rosenberg, this fund recognizes his many contributions to the field of cancer immunotherapy by providing research support to emerging leaders in the field. Each year, SITC seeks the best and brightest to continue Dr. Rosenbergs's legacy as a Rosenberg Scholar. This select group of deserving applicants will look to advance the science and tackle the hurdles facing cancer immunotherapy.



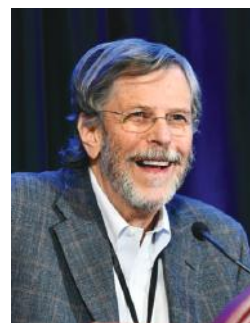
Dr. Steven A. Rosenberg MD, PhD
Cancer Researcher, Professor and Surgeon



SITC recognized Emily Z. Keung, MD, AM, FACS, FSSO as the third Rosenberg Scholar at SITC's 37th Annual Meeting.

MARTIN "MAC" CHEEVER EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TRIAL DESIGN TRAVEL AWARD

Established in 2022 in loving memory of Dr. Martin "Mac" Cheever, this fund recognizes his many contributions to the field of cancer immunotherapy by providing travel awards to deserving early career investigators pursuing excellence in clinical trial design. Each year, SITC will identify the best and brightest in the field to continue Dr. Cheever's passion for improving immunotherapy protocols through this award.



Dr. Martin "Mac" Cheever, MD



Roberto Leon-Ferre, MD was the first recipient of this award in 2022.

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

Established in 1991, the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) Presidential Award recognizes the young investigator presenting the most outstanding oral abstract presentation at the SITC Annual Meeting. The winner of the Presidential Award receives: \$1,000 honorarium, up to \$1,000 in travel reimbursement, a one-year SITC membership, and other recognition.



SITC recognized Geoffrey Markowitz, PhD as the Presidential Award recipient for his abstract called, "Deficiency of metabolic regulator PKM2 activates the pentose phosphate pathway to generate TCF1+

progenitor CD8 T cells to improve efficacy of PD-1 checkpoint blockade."



Fellowships and Awards Program

Through the *Forward* Fund, SITC's Fellowship and Award program supports the development of early career scientists in the field to cultivate the next generation of cancer immunotherapy experts.

Nine Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship and Technology Awards totaling \$680,000 in support of early career scientists were awarded in 2022:

- 2022-2024 SITC Bristol Myers Squibb Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Fellowship Award: \$200,000 (two-year)
- 2022 SITC Amgen Cancer Immunotherapy in Hematologic Malignancies Fellowship Award: \$100,000 (one-year)
- 2022 SITC AstraZeneca Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer Clinical Fellowship Award: \$100,000 (one-year)
- 2022 SITC Merck Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award: \$100,000 (one-year)
- 2022 SITC Genentech Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship Award: \$50,000 (one-year)
- 2022 SITC Nektar Therapeutics Equity and Inclusion in Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship Award: \$50,000 (one-year)
- 2022 SITC Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals Adverse Events in Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship Award: \$40,000 (one-year)
- 2022 SITC Natera ctDNA in Immunotherapy Response Monitoring Fellowship and Technology Award Award: \$40,000 and access to Natera's Signatera™ testing technology
- 2022 SITC NanoString Technologies Single Cell Biology Award Award: Access to NanoString Technologies' CosMx™ Spatial Molecular Imager (SMI)

37 Abstract Travel and Presidential Awards

- SITC fosters the growth and development of the next generation of cancer immunotherapy experts and tumor immunologists by providing them additional support and opportunities to present their research at the SITC Annual Meeting. Young Investigator Awards include Abstract Travel, Annual Meeting, Presidential Travel and Presidential Awards.

10 SITC Meeting Travel Awards

- In addition to the Annual Meeting Travel Awards, SITC provided support to early career scientists to attend SITC's Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School and WIN Leadership Institute.

12 New Class Members Added to Sparkathon

- Established in 2017, SITC has inducted 81 "sparkies" to this innovative program. Sparakthon is designed to foster leadership development, collaborations and scientific exchange among early career investigators who are emerging leaders in the field of cancer immunotherapy.

To learn more about the *Forward* Fund, please visit sitcancer.org/donate



To join SITC's mission to make cancer immunotherapy a standard of care and the word "CURE," a reality for cancer patients everywhere, please visit sitcancer.org/join.

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