



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2020

Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer Announces Recipients of 2020 Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowships and Award

MILWAUKEE – The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) is pleased to announce the recipients of six fellowships and a new award, which support the next generation of cancer immunotherapy and tumor immunology experts through dedicated funding of novel research.

This year's awards include:

- SITC-Bristol-Myers Squibb Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Fellowship
 - a two-year, \$200,000 award
- SITC-Amgen Cancer Immunotherapy in Hematologic Malignancies Fellowship
 - a one-year, \$100,000 award
- SITC-AstraZeneca Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer Clinical Fellowship
 - a one-year, \$100,000 award
- SITC-Merck Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship
 - a one-year, \$100,000 award
- SITC-Genentech Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship
 - a one-year, \$50,000 award
- SITC's Holbrook Kohrt, MD, PhD, Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Memorial Fellowship (sponsored by Genentech)
 - a one-year, \$50,000 award
- SITC-NanoString Technologies Spatial Profiling Award
 - access to NanoString Technologies' spatial profiling technology to further research

SITC's *Forward* Fund, established to advance important new findings from the laboratory into clinical trials, has committed more than \$4 million in funding to deserving early career scientists in the field of cancer immunotherapy.

"Thanks to the generous support of our industry partners, SITC is able to support promising areas of research conducted by these early career investigators and future leaders within the cancer immunotherapy field," said SITC President Mario Sznol, MD. "This is an investment in the future of our field that we hope will lead to new immunotherapy approaches and better outcomes for patients."

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The 2020 SITC Fellowships and Award recipients are:

SITC-Bristol-Myers Squibb Postdoctoral Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Fellowship

Awardee: Li Qiang, PhD

Institution: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School

Project Title: "Signaling pathways in tumoricidal macrophages in pancreatic cancer"

Award Amount: \$200,000 (two year)

SITC-Amgen Cancer Immunotherapy in Hematologic Malignancies Fellowship

Awardee: Suman Paul, MBBS, PhD

Institution: Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Project Title: "T Cell receptor variable gene targeting for T cell cancer immunotherapy"

Award Amount: \$100,000 (one year)

SITC-AstraZeneca Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer Clinical Fellowship

Awardee: Jacob Kaufman, MD, PhD

Institution: Duke University Medical Center

Project Title: "Strategies to overcome immunotherapy resistance in LKB1 and KEAP/NRF2 mutated NSCLC: modulating ferroptosis to restore immune sensitivity"

Award Amount: \$100,000 (one year)

SITC-Merck Cancer Immunotherapy Clinical Fellowship

Awardee: Joseph Clara, MD

Institution: National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Project Title: "CRISPR-Cas9-based gene editing to enhance cytotoxicity of natural killer cells against multiple myeloma"

Award Amount: \$100,000 (one year)

SITC-Genentech Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Fellowship

Awardee: Natalie Vokes, MD

Institution: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Project Title: "Dissecting the molecular mediators of treatment response and resistance evolution in NSCLC"

Award Amount: \$50,000 (one year)

**SITC's Holbrook Kohrt, MD, PhD Cancer Immunotherapy Translational Memorial Fellowship
(Sponsored by Genentech)**

Awardee: Kipp Weiskopf, MD, PhD

Institution: Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

Project Title: "Engaging macrophages to eliminate cancers with driver mutations"

Award Amount: \$50,000 (one year)

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SITC-NanoString Technologies Spatial Profiling Award

Awardee: Todd Triplett, PhD

Institution: University of Texas Dell Medical School

Project Title: “Determining the interplay between T-ALL and the immune system in distinct organs by digital spatial profiling”

Award: Access to NanoString Technologies’ spatial profiling technology to further research.

This year’s SITC Fellowships and Award were made possible through the generosity of Amgen, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Genentech, Inc., Merck and NanoString Technologies. The fellowship and award recipients will be honored during a ceremony at the society’s [35th Anniversary Annual Meeting](#), at the Gaylord National Hotel & Convention Center in National Harbor, Md.

To learn more about current and past SITC Fellowship and Award recipients, visit the society’s website, [SITC Cancer Immunotherapy CONNECT](#).

About SITC

Established in 1984, the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) is a nonprofit organization of medical professionals dedicated to improving cancer patient outcomes by advancing the development, science and application of cancer immunotherapy and tumor immunology. SITC is comprised of influential basic and translational scientists, practitioners, health care professionals, government leaders and industry professionals around the globe. Through educational initiatives that foster scientific exchange and collaboration among leaders in the field, SITC aims to one day make the word “cure” a reality for cancer patients everywhere. Learn more about SITC, our educational offerings and other resources at sitcancer.org and follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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