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Title: Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigators Dean Award

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Brian Rini

Contracting Organization: Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN

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PREPARED FOR: U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command
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| 14. ABSTRACT The CDMRP/KCRP Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigators (ACKI) fosters the development and commitment of early career kidney cancer investigators through provision of the raw materials and structured mentorship for focused, sustainable, and ultimately independent success. A Dean and advisory panel of relevant experts has been established and the first class of mentor/mentee pairs has been admitted to the Academy. The initial kick-off meeting was held in November 2020 to refine mentee projects and establish concrete SMART goals and timelines for the following year. Quarterly AKCI meetings were held virtually for project status updates, input from the entire group as to ongoing issues, barriers and how to overcome them and future directions. In addition, monthly didactics with relevant topic experts outside of AKCI have begun. Significant academic output has already been realized through this structured virtual academy. | | | | | |
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1. INTRODUCTION: The CDMRP/KCRP Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigators (AKCI) was established as a non-traditional method to foster the development of early career investigators in renal cell carcinoma-focused research. The inaugural Dean’s award and the corresponding awards to the mentor/mentee pairs established the foundation of this Academy. The first year saw a kick-off meeting to gather all relevant parties and focused on refining the submitted projects of the mentees. Significant improvements/changes were made to projects. My role of the Academy Dean has been to facilitate and enrich the provision of the raw materials and establish the framework to ensure continued progress towards the mutual goal of eliminating kidney cancer. I established a diverse advisory panel with broad expertise across laboratory and clinical RCC realms which has facilitated the career growth of the mentees through regular feedback.

2. KEYWORDS: *AKCI, mentoring, renal cell carcinoma, mentor, mentees*

3. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

What were the major goals of the project?

SOW goals and accomplishments towards goals

| | Accomplishments |
|---|---|
| Major Task 1: Establishment of SMART goals | |
| Initial virtual meetings to align AKCI members and provide feedback on scientific projects, goals and mentoring plan | Inaugural AKCI kick-off meeting held November 2020 with focused feedback to all mentees |
| First annual AKCI meeting held in conjunction with KCA meeting | Inaugural AKCI kick-off meeting held November 2020 with focused feedback to all mentees |
| Establishment of virtual mentoring platform (MentorcliQ) | Platform established and all AKCI members have access |
| Finalize goals for all AKCI participants | Mentees submitted revised SMART goals after meeting |
| Major Task 2: Ongoing education, goals/progress | |
| Monthly virtual interactive meetings | Monthly didactics ongoing |
| Ongoing assessment of progress towards goals, barriers, strategies to overcome barriers and refinement of goals, including ongoing MentorcliQ use | Quarterly AKCI meetings with all members and advisory board held |
| Annual AKCI meeting | Held November 2020 and planned for November 2021 |
| Meeting including KCRP staff | Held November 2020 and planned for November 2021 |
| Major Task 3: Collaboration | |
| Assignment of advisory board member as secondary mentor to one AKCI early career investigator | Ongoing |
| Establishment of DUA/MTAs across AKCI institutions | Ongoing |
| Integration of AKCI members with CDMRP Consortium Award institutions | Ongoing |
| Major Task 4: Deliverables / SMART goals | |
| Abstract annually to at least one major relevant | See below for accounting of deliverables |

| | |
|---|--|
| meeting | |
| First author, peer-reviewed publications | |
| Peer-reviewed funding for laboratory-based investigators or industry funding for clinical trials/translational work | |
| Participation in multiple clinical trials and named Principal Investigator | |
| Establishment of a collaborative project with at least one AKCI member/institution | |
| Invitations to speak at other academic medical centers | |
| Membership and active participation/leadership in 1-2 national or international societies | |

What was accomplished under these goals?

As noted above, all required meetings for the AKCI as intended for year 1 have occurred. These meetings provided a forum for mentees to present their updated research plans and significant feedback and refinement of plans occurred. The table below outlines the suggested quantitative metrics for AKCI members and the achievements to date. All of the achievements listed below are at least partially attributable to the mentee involvement in AKCI

| Stated Goals | Cumulative achievements of AKCI mentees |
|--|--|
| Submission of least 1 abstract annually to at least one major relevant meeting (e.g. ASCO, AACR, GU symposium, KCA) annually | 6 RCC abstracts submitted to major meetings |
| An average of 2-3 first author, peer-reviewed publications annually | 7 total first-author publications |
| At least one podium presentation at a national meeting annually | 3 podium presentations at national meetings |
| Securing either peer-reviewed funding for laboratory-based investigators or industry funding for clinical trials/translational work | 3 peer-reviewed grants submitted |
| Establishment of a collaborative project with at least one AKCI member/institution within the first two years, and 2-3 collaborative projects over the course of the award | 1 collaborative project initiated |
| Invitations to speak at other academic medical centers (e.g. Grand Rounds; average 1-2 invites/per year) | 16 talks at other academic centers |
| Membership and active participation/leadership in 1-2 national or international society committees over the course of the award | Active participation in 5 societies |

What opportunities for training and professional development has the project provided?

The didactic series that has begun offers mentees the ability to interact with recognized experts in the RCC field and hone relevant skills. Further, opportunities for presentation of their work (quarterly AKCI meetings, presentations at the annual KCA meeting) are critical to continued professional development.

How were the results disseminated to communities of interest?

Nothing to Report

What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals?

The ACKI will continue its quarterly meetings and didactic series. Further growth of AKCI membership will also contribute to a more robust RCC community to refine projects and goals of the mentees.

4. IMPACT:

What was the impact on the development of the principal discipline(s) of the project?

The AKCI has established the framework for a functional, virtual academy with high-level academic output. Most notably, this growing Academy will serve to draw more early career investigators into RCC-relevant research to benefit patients and the broader RCC community.

What was the impact on other disciplines?

Nothing to Report

What was the impact on technology transfer?

Nothing to Report

What was the impact on society beyond science and technology?

Nothing to Report

5. CHANGES/PROBLEMS:

Changes in approach and reasons for change

There were no significant changes. Dr. Celeste Simon was added to the advisory board to expand expertise in basic RCC research. I will continue to consider refinement to advisory board membership to suit the needs of the mentees.

Actual or anticipated problems or delays and actions or plans to resolve them

Implementation of the MentorCliq mentoring software has been slow in large part due to technical review required by Vanderbilt. We are working through this and are about to launch use of this software which will be a platform for AKCI member communication, posting of relevant materials such as recording of the Zoom didactics and publications, etc.

Changes that had a significant impact on expenditures

None

6. PRODUCTS: *Nothing to report*

7. PARTICIPANTS & OTHER COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

What individuals have worked on the project?

See attached

Has there been a change in the active other support of the PD/PI(s) or senior/key personnel since the last reporting period?

Brian Rini, MD

W81XWH2020046 (Rini) began 09/02/2020

Title: Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigators Dean Award

Effort: 2.4 calendar months

Performance Period: 09/02/2020 – 09/01/2025
Effort: 2.4 calendar months

2P30 CA068485-25 (Pietenpol) **began** 09/01/2020
Title: Cancer Center Support Grant
Performance Period: 09/01/2020–08/31/2025
Effort: 1.2 calendar months
Role: Co-Investigator

3P30 CA068485-25S2 (Pietenpol) **began** 09/01/2021
Title: The COVID-19 and Cancer Consortium: NCI Administrative Supplement to P30 (CCSG)
Performance Period: 05/01/2021–08/31/2025
Effort: 0.6 calendar months
Role: Co-Project Lead

W81XWH2120025 (Rini) **began** 09/15/2021
Title: Kidney Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium
Performance period: 09/15/2021–09/14/2023
Effort: 2.40 CM

James Brugarolas, MD

Project **ended** 02/21/2021
Title: Dissecting the interplay between BAP1 and PBRM1 in renal cancer
Time commitment: 1.2 calendar months
Supporting agency: CPRIT
Period of Performance: 03/01/2018-02/28/2021
Effort: 1.2 CM

Sumanta Pal, MD

W81XWH2020046 (Rini) **began** 09/02/2020
Title: Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigator Dean Award
Time commitments: 0.48 calendar
Performance period: 09/02/2020-09/01/2025
Role: Advisory Board Member

Robert Uzzo, MD

W81XWH2020046 (Rini) **began** 09/02/2020
Title: Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigator Dean Award
Time commitments: 0.48 calendar
Performance period: 09/02/2020-09/01/2025
Role: Advisory Board Member

David McDermott, MD

Project 3 **began** 09/01/2020
Title: HHLA2 as a Therapeutic Target in RCC
Performance period: 09/01/2020-08/31/2025
Effort: 0.60 CM

W81XWH2020046 (Rini) **began** 09/02/2020
Title: Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigator Dean Award
Time commitments: 0.48 calendar
Performance period: 09/02/2020-09/01/2025
Role: Advisory Board Member

W81XWH2020023 (Jonasch) **began** 09/15/2020

Title: DF/HCC Clinical Trials Site Application for Kidney Cancer Research Consortium Award Mechanism

Performance period: 09/15/20-09/14/23

Effort: 1.02 CM

Role: Site PI

KC190207 (Chakraborty) **began** 9/30/2020

Title: Exploiting Epigenetic Dysregulation to Identify Targetable Vulnerabilities in ccRCC

Performance period: 09/30/20-09/29/24

Effort: 0.60 CM/No salary support

Role: Mentor

5P50CA101942-15 (McDermott) **ended** 8/31/2020

Title: DF/HCC Kidney Cancer SPORE Project 4 "Optimal Targeting of the PD-1/PDL-1 Pathway in Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma

Performance period: 09/18/03-08/31/20

Effort: 0.60 CM

W81XWH-18-2-0052 (Jonasch) **ended** 09/14/20

Title: Kidney Cancer Clinical Trial Consortium

Performance period: 09/15/18-09/14/20

Effort: 0.60 CM

Role: Site PI

M. Celeste Simon, MD

W81XWH2020046 (Rini) **began** 09/02/2020

Title: Academy of Kidney Cancer Investigator Dean Award

Time commitments: 0.48 calendar

Performance period: 09/02/2020-09/01/2025

Role: Advisory Board Member

W81XWH2010856 (Simon) **began** 09/20/2020

Title: Exploiting Cholesterol Metabolism to Treat Primary and Metastatic Renal Carcinoma

Effort: 1.2 CM

Performance period: 09/30/2020-09/29/2022

P30 CA016520-45 (Vonderheide) **began** 01/20/2021

Title: Abramson Cancer Center Support Grant

Effort: 2.04 CM

Performance period: 01/20/21–11/30/25

Role: Co-Investigator

What other organizations were involved as partners?

See attached

8. SPECIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

N/A

9. APPENDICES: None