

# AACR VIRTUAL PATIENT ADVOCATE FORUM

## THE TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL OF BIOMARKERS

### Speakers

*-in order of appearance*



**GEORGE DEMETRI, MD, FAACR**

**Professor, Medicine, Harvard Medical School**  
**Director, Center for Sarcoma and Bone Oncology**  
**Senior VP, Experimental Therapeutics**  
**Quick Family Chair, Medical Oncology**  
**Dana Farber Cancer Institute**  
**Boston, Massachusetts**

Since 1989, Dr. Demetri has served on the faculty of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, or Dana-Farber, and Harvard Medical School, where he is a Professor of Medicine and serves as one of the Directors of the Ludwig Center at Harvard. At Dana-Farber, Dr. Demetri is the Senior Vice President for Experimental Therapeutics, as well as an Associate Director for Clinical Sciences at the NCI-designated Dana-Farber/Harvard Comprehensive Cancer Center Consortium. Dr. Demetri's research and clinical interests have centered on mechanism-based drug development for solid tumors, with an emphasis on molecularly defined subsets of sarcomas such as gastrointestinal stromal tumors. Dr. Demetri has contributed to the development of several new drugs for sarcomas and other malignancies, including imatinib, sunitinib, dasatinib, trabectedin, everolimus, pazopanib and regorafenib.

Dr. Demetri served as the chair of the Science Policy and Government Affairs Committee for the American Association for Cancer Research as well as several other scientific and editorial advisory boards. Dr. Demetri received an A.B. in biochemistry from Harvard College and an M.D. from Stanford University School of Medicine.



**JILL FELDMAN**

**Co-founder, EGFR Resisters**  
**Patient Advocate, AACR Scientist↔Survivor Program®**  
**Chicago, Illinois**

Jill Feldman is a lung cancer patient and advocate. When Jill was 13 years old, she lost her dad and two grandparents to lung cancer and then her mom and close aunt died of lung cancer when she was in her 20's. She became a volunteer, an advocate and past president of LUNgevity Foundation before the unthinkable happened. In 2009, at 39 years old with four small children, Jill herself was diagnosed with EGFR-positive lung cancer. Jill continues to be involved with LUNgevity. She is also Deputy Chair of IASLC's patient advisory board and a member of The Chicago Institute of Translational Medicine's patient advisory board. Jill is committed to understanding and promoting

patient-centered research as a member of the programmatic panel for the Department of Defense Lung Cancer Research Program, as a planning committee member on IASLC's North America Conference on Lung Cancer and as a member of the ECOG-ACRIN Research Group's patient advocate committee and thoracic committee. She is the patient advocate on the National Lung Cancer Round Table steering committee. She is a co-author of the ASTRO Guidelines for SBRT in early stage lung cancer that was published in an ASCO special article in the Journal of Clinical Oncology. In 2017, Jill co-founded the EGFR Resisters, a grassroots, patient-driven community committed to accelerating research that will prolong and better the lives of people diagnosed with EGFRm lung cancer. Jill also continues to share her story in the media and at various events and participates in countless advocacy opportunities to shine a light on lung cancer and end the stigma associated with it.



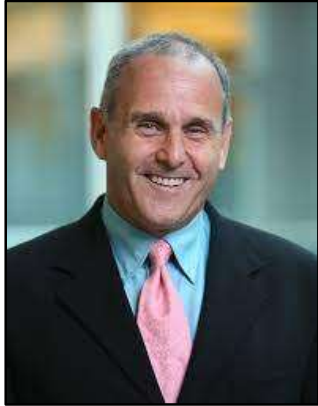
**LAURA VAN 'T VEER, PHD**

**Angela and Shu Kai Chan Endowed Chair in Cancer Research  
Co-leader, Breast Oncology Program  
Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center  
University of California San Francisco  
San Francisco, California**

Dr. van 't Veer is a world-renowned Molecular Biologist and inventor of MammaPrint®. Her research focuses on personalized medicine to advance patient management based on knowledge of the genetic make-up of the tumor as well as the genetic make-up of the patient. Dr. van 't Veer is the Biomarker Committee Chair for the Foundation of NIH sponsored multicenter adaptive clinical trial I-SPY 2, overseeing the processes for FDA-IDE biomarker usage and qualifying biomarker companion diagnostic testing. She served 2010-2014 as Board member of the American Association of Cancer Research. She has over 230 peer-reviewed scientific articles and is co-inventor of 6 patents.

Dr. van 't Veer received undergraduate training in biology and a master of science in molecular oncology (1984) at the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. She earned her PhD in Medicine at the University of Leiden and then completed two postdoctoral fellowships, first at the Cancer Center of Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston (1989-1991), followed by the Division of Molecular Carcinogenesis at The Netherlands Cancer Institute (1992-1993).

Dr. van 't Veer moved to UCSF as Professor of Laboratory Medicine in 2010 and assumed leadership of the Bay Area Breast Cancer SPORE and the BOP. In 2011 she assumed leadership of the Athena Breast Health Network at UCSF. She holds the Angela and Shu Kai Chan Endowed Chair in Cancer Research.



**JOSHUA LABAER, MD, PHD**

**Professor, and Executive Director, Biodesign Institute**  
**Executive Director & Professor, ASU-Banner Neurodegenerative Disease Research Center**  
**Executive Director & Professor, School of Life Sciences Interdisciplinary Graduate Faculty**  
**Arizona State University**  
**Tempe, Arizona**

Dr. Joshua LaBaer is one of the nation's foremost investigators in the rapidly expanding field of personalized diagnostics. Formerly founder and director of the Harvard Institute of Proteomics, Professor LaBaer was recruited to ASU's Biodesign Institute as the first Piper Chair in Personalized Medicine in 2009. His group applies open reading frame clones to the high throughput (HT) study of protein function. In addition, his group invented a novel protein microarray technology, Nucleic Acid Programmable Protein Array, which has been used widely for biomedical research, including the recent discovery of a panel of 28 autoantibody biomarkers that may aid the early diagnosis of breast cancer. He was named executive director of the Biodesign Institute in March 2017.

Dr. LaBaer earned his medical degree and a doctorate in biochemistry and biophysics from the University of California, San Francisco. He completed his medical residency at the Brigham and Women's Hospital and a clinical fellowship in oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, both in Boston. He has contributed more than 150 original research publications, reviews and chapters. Dr. LaBaer is an associate editor of the Journal of Proteome Research, a recent member of the National Cancer Institute's Board of Scientific Advisors, chair of the Early Detection Research Network Steering Committee and recent president of the U.S. Human Proteome Organization.



**STEVEN D. AVERBUCH, MD**

**Adviser, S. D. Averbuch Consulting, LLC**  
**Princeton, New Jersey**

An industry veteran with more than 35 years in oncology drug development and more than a decade in biomarker and drug diagnostic co-development, Dr. Averbuch has contributed to multiple drug and companion diagnostic approvals in the U.S. and other major markets.

Dr. Averbuch recently retired from Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) where he led integrated biomarker and pharmacodiagnostic activities across the company's R&D portfolio. During his tenure, Dr. Averbuch spearheaded the Pharmacodiagnosics Center of Excellence, established in 2008, which led to the application of BMS' precision medicine strategy across all therapeutic areas. Under his leadership, the Center integrated the co-development and co-commercialization of diagnostic tests as companions to BMS medicines. Previously, Dr. Averbuch oversaw corporate-wide strategic initiatives for translational and targeted medicine and served as the Head of Early Global Clinical Research, where he was responsible for early asset development strategy and execution of all Phase 2 oncology programs.

Prior to joining BMS, Dr. Averbuch served in leadership roles at Merck Research Laboratories, where he was the therapeutic area head for oncology clinical research, and at AstraZeneca, where he led oncology drug development. Prior to joining industry, Dr. Averbuch held academic appointments at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) School of Medicine in Bethesda, Md.

## Moderator



### **ANNA D. BARKER, PHD**

**Founder and Chair, AACR Scientist↔Survivor Program®**

**Chief Strategy Officer of the Lawrence J. Ellison Institute for Transformative Medicine of USC**

**Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Complex Adaptive Systems Arizona State University**

**Los Angeles, CA**

Dr. Barker is the founder and chair of the AACR Scientist↔Survivor Program® and chief strategy officer of the Lawrence J. Ellison Institute for Transformative Medicine at USC and distinguished visiting fellow at Arizona State University. She develops information-based strategies through internal research and engagement of networks of leading experts in medicine, science, and engineering to solve complex problems in cancer and other diseases. Previously, Dr. Barker served as the principal deputy director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) where she led the development of Foundational platforms (Clinical Proteomics and National Cancer Nanotechnology Centers) and national programs (e.g., TCGA, Physical-Sciences Oncology Centers) to support the emerging concept of precision medicine. Hallmarks of these strategic innovative programs were networks of global institutions, team science and publicly available data.

Post NCI, Dr. Barker served as director of Transformative Healthcare Networks, co-director of Complex Adaptive Systems -Biomedicine (CAS) and professor of practice, School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University (ASU), where she maintains a courtesy academic appointment. At ASU, she employed CAS approaches through “knowledge networks” to enable progress in areas ranging from clinical trial designs to biomarker discovery and applying concepts from the physical sciences to fundamentally understand and control complex diseases such as cancer.

Dr. Barker also spent several years at Battelle Memorial Institute, a nonprofit transdisciplinary research organization, where she progressed from a research scientist to serve in several senior executive roles. She has received numerous awards for her contributions to cancer research, cancer patients and patient advocates, professional organizations, and the ongoing national effort to prevent and cure cancer. Dr. Barker received her doctoral degree from the Ohio State University.