An AACR Special Conference in Cancer Research
Advances in Ovarian Cancer Research
September 19-21, 2025 | Grand Hyatt Denver | Denver, CO

CURRENT AS OF 9/15/25

COCHAIRS:
Ronald Bukanovich, Magee-Womens Research Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
Jung-Min Lee, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD
Elizabeth M. Swisher, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Oladapo Yeku, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

Presentation time
Keynote Speaker: 35min (25+10)
Invited Speakers: 25min (20min+5)
Short-talk speakers: 10min (8min+2min)
Patient Advocacy Session Speakers: 12min presentation+3min Q&A

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Registration and Poster set-up
3:00 pm- 5:00 pm | Colorado Ballroom Foyer

Welcome and Introduction by Cochairs
Drs. Lee, Swisher and Yeku
5:00 p.m. – 5:05 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom

Introduction by the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance (OCRA)
5:05-5:10 | Colorado Ballroom Foyer

Audra Moran, President & CEO, Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance

Opening Keynote Address
5:10 p.m.-5:50 p.m. | Colorado Ballroom

Keynote Introduction
Ronald Buckanovich, Magee-Womens Research Institute, Pittsburgh, PA

Building the foundations for effective immunotherapy of ovarian cancer
George Coukos, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, Switzerland

Patient advocacy: Clinical trials and survivorship
5:50 p.m. 7:00 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Goli Samimi (NIH)

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5:50 p.m.-6:05 p.m.	**Full circle: Return of value to ovarian cancer research participants, advocates, and survivors** Celeste Leigh Pearce, University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI
6:05 p.m.-6:20 p.m.	**Prevention of taxane-induced peripheral neuropathy** Kathryn Pennington, Alaska Women's Cancer Care, Anchorage, AK
6:20 p.m.-6:35 p.m.	**TEAL: Trial of Exercise And Lifestyle in Women with Ovarian Cancer – Improving treatment tolerance through lifestyle medicine** Tracy E. Crane, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, FL
6:35 p.m.-6:50 p.m.	**The biology of stress and resilience in ovarian cancer** Susan K. Lutgendorf, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa
6:50 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	**Survival divide: A comparative analysis of black women and white women with ovarian cancer in the United States*** Alexandria Fletcher, H. Lee Moffit Cancer Center, Tampa, FL

Lightning Talks A
7:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. | Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: *Oladapo Yeku (MGH)*

7:02: p.m.-7:04 p.m.	**A PARP-inhibitor-induced early adaptive survival response is tackled through depletion of FRA1 by Brigatinib in high-grade serous ovarian carcinoma** Julie Duffield, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
7:05 p.m.-7:07 p.m.	**miR-195 Re-expression reverses chemoresistance in ovarian cancer by suppressing WNT7A/β-Catenin signaling** Shailendra Dwivedi, University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, Oklahoma City, OK
7:08 p.m.-7:10 p.m.	**PARP-targeted alpha therapy for the treatment of PARP inhibitor resistant ovarian cancer** Sarah Gitto, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
7:11 p.m.-7:13 p.m.	**PAX8-dependent signaling networks as drivers of progression and immune evasion in high grade serous ovarian cancer** Joohyun Im, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL
7:14 p.m.-7:16 p.m.	**Monitoring PARP trapping in live ovarian cancer cells using a CRISPR-engineered FRET biosensor** Daniel J. Marks, Imperial College, London, United Kingdom

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7:17 p.m.-7:19 p.m.   **Targeting a cancer-specific mitotic vulnerability in ovarian cancer by combining Mirvetuximab Soravtansine with inhibitors of Polo-like kinase 1**
Jesse Patterson, Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, MIT, Cambridge, MA

7:20 p.m.-7:22 p.m.   **Preclinical evaluation of PTT, an At-211-labeled Rucaparib analogue, as a theranostic agent for cancer therapy**
Aladdin Riad, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

7:24 p.m.-7:26 p.m.   **Application of HRDefine: a biomarker for identifying root causes of homologous recombination deficiency to a phase 3, randomized, placebo-controlled trial of veliparib in front-line treatment of advanced ovarian cancer (VELIA/GOG-3005)**
Isabel Rodriquez, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

7:27 p.m.-7:29 p.m.   **Targeting translesion synthesis to enhance PARP inhibitor efficacy and prevent resistance in BRCA-deficient ovarian cancer**
Qi-En Wang, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Opening Reception + Poster Session A
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.| Aspen Ballroom

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Continental Breakfast
7:00 am-8:00 am | Colorado Ballroom Foyer/Maroon Peak

Plenary Session 1: Tumor initiation
8:00 am-9:55 am | Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Charles Ishak (MD Anderson)

8:00 a.m.-8:25 a.m.   **Soil forming the seed: stromal drivers of ovarian cancer initiation**
Lan G. Coffman, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA

8:25 a.m.-8:50 a.m.   **Discovery of fitness fingerprints and flower monoclonal ab therapy in ovarian cancer**
Rajan Gogna, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

8:50 a.m.-9:00 a.m.   **Spatially resolved epithelial and immune heterogeneity reveals distinct endometriosis-related precursors to ovarian cancer***

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Valentina Iacobelli, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli, IRCCS, Rome, Italy

9:00 a.m.-9:25 a.m. **Immune suppression in the fallopian tube: Insights from the pre-cancer atlas**
Tanjina Kader, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

9:25 a.m.-9:50 a.m. **Understanding the cellular origins of ovarian cancer histotypes**
Hui Shen, Van Andel Institute, Grand Rapids, MI

Break
9:50 am-10:10 am | Colorado Ballroom Foyer

Spotlight on Proffered Talks*
10:10 a.m.-11:20 a.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Jung-Min Lee (NCI)

10:10 a.m.-10:20 a.m. **Gene-modified iPS-derived MSC restore a 'Hot' immune microenvironment in high-grade serous ovarian cancer**
Michael Andreeff, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

10:20 a.m.-10:30 a.m. **Enhancing anti-tumor immunity through targeting DDR2 on cancer-associated fibroblasts in ovarian cancer**
Jaidev Bapat, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

10:30 a.m.-10:40 a.m. **Organoid models reveal distinct mechanisms of pre-tumor immune surveillance in high grade serous ovarian cancer**
Jianmei Hou, NYU Grossman SOM, New York, NY

10:40 a.m.-10:50 a.m. **Phase 2 study of the PD-L1 inhibitor durvalumab and VEGFR inhibitor Cediranib combination with and without PARP inhibitor Olaparib in patients with recurrent ovarian cancer**
Junya Tabata, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD

10:50 a.m.-11:00 a.m. **Exploiting CTPS1 dependency for the treatment of ovarian cancer**
Xiyin Wang, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

11:00 a.m.-11:10 a.m. **Metabolic reprogramming of ovarian CD137+ TILs for treatment**
Stephanie Mills, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

11:10 a.m.-11:20 a.m. **IL1β+ myeloid cells fuel/induce neutrophil-driven chemoresistance in metastatic ovarian cancer**

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Nan Zhang, The Wistar Institute, Philadelphia, PA

Plenary Session 2: Tumor heterogeneity
11:20 a.m. – 12:55 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Shailendra Dwivedi (U. Oklahoma HSC)

11:20 a.m.-11:45 a.m.	**Leveraging ovarian cancer heterogeneity to drive precision therapeutic innovation** Rugang Zhang, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
11:45 a.m.-11:55 a.m.	**Single cell multiomic analysis of high-grade serous ovarian carcinoma reveals an intrinsic epigenetic program that primes chemotherapy tolerance in persister cells*** Mihai Dumbrava, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine, Rochester, MN
11:55 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	**Mechanisms and consequences of bispecific T-cell engager immunotherapy for ovarian cancer** Oladapo Yeku, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
12:15 p.m.-12:25 p.m.	**CRISPRi screening reveals RNA editing and the integrated stress response as major determinants of platinum and taxol sensitivity in high-grade serous ovarian cancer*** Yi Wen Kong, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
12:25 p.m.-12:55 p.m.	**Targeting quiescent cancer cells to overcome chemotherapy resistance** Ronald J. Bukanovich, Magee-Womens Research Institute, Pittsburgh, PA

Lunch on own
1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Plenary Session 3: Tumor immunology (biology)
2:30 p.m. – 4:05 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Saranya Rajendran (Indiana U.)

2:30 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.	**Reprogramming tumor-associated myeloid cells to improve ovarian cancer therapies** Sandra Cascio, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

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2:55 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.	**Enhancing T cell metabolic fitness for ovarian cancer immunotherapy** Juan Cubillos-Ruiz, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, NY
3:20 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	**Lipid-droplet associated hydrolase (LDAH) dysregulates lipid metabolism and polarization of TAMs in ovarian cancer*** Bhawna Deswal, Albany Medical College, Albany, NY
3:30 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.	**Enhancing adoptive T cell efficacy by elucidating and counteracting inhibitory factors in the tumor microenvironment** Daniel Powell Jr., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
3:55 p.m. – 4:05 p.m.	**Chronic stress drives ovarian cancer progression via myeloid-derived suppressor cells infiltration and notch signaling pathway activation*** Yadiel Rivera-Lopez, Ponce Health Sciences University, Ponce, Puerto Rico

Break
4:05 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom Foyer

Plenary Session 4: Precision therapy
4:25 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Rebecca Porter (DFCI) and Melica Brodeur (McGill U.)

4:25 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.	**Replication stress marker phospho-RPA2 predicts response to platinum and PARP inhibitors in homologous recombination-proficient ovarian cancer** Mary Margaret Mullen, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
4:50 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	**Targeting chronic inflammation in ovarian cancer through immune engineering*** Zeda Zhang, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY
5:00 p.m. – 5:25 p.m.	**Advancing precision therapy through molecular profiling and targeting DNA replication vulnerabilities in ovarian cancer** Jung-Min Lee, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD
5:25 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.	**Targeting RAS-MAPK signaling pathway in low grade serous ovarian carcinoma** Susana Banerjee, The Royal Marsden Hospital, London, United Kingdom

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5:50 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	**Targeting KRAS mutation to overcome immunotherapy resistance in ARID1A-mutated ovarian cancer*** Ayumu Matsuoka, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Lightning Talks B
6:00 p.m.-6:35 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Ronald Bukanovich, (Magee-Women's RI)

6:02 p.m.-6:04 p.m.	**Evaluating spatial inter-tumor heterogeneity in whole genome duplication states and homologous recombination deficiency status in advanced ovarian high grade serous carcinoma** Paula Cunnea, Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom
6:05 p.m.-6:07 p.m.	**Discerning mechanisms of semaphorin 7A-mediated therapy resistance and tumor progression in high-grade serous carcinoma of tubo-ovarian origin** Alan Elder, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO
6:08 p.m.-6:10 p.m.	**BRCA1 regulates ZNFX1-induced mitochondrial dysfunction and STING activation in high grade serous ovarian cancer** Zahra Gohari, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD
6:11 p.m.-6:13 p.m.	**Serum-based multi-omic signatures of ovarian cancer in women with vague abdominal symptoms: analysis of two independent cohorts** Abigail McElhinny, AOA Dx, Denver, CO
6:14 p.m.-6:16 p.m.	**Chronic stress-induced hippocampal changes in murine ovarian cancer models: a link to depressive-like behaviors** Luinet Melendez, Ponce Health Sciences University, Ponce, Puerto Rico
6:17 p.m.-6:19 p.m.	**Ascites-derived natural killer (NK) cells exhibit chronic overstimulation and metabolic dysfunction in patients with advanced epithelial ovarian cancer** Rebecca Porter, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA
6:20 p.m.-6:22 p.m.	**Loss of SMARCA4 leads to intron retention and generation of tumor-associated antigens in small cell carcinoma of the ovary, hypercalcemic type** Elizabeth Raupach, Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, AZ

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6:23 p.m.-6:25 p.m. **Investigating the interplay between BRCA status and WT1-CD200 axis in stromal regulation of TLS formation in HGSOC**
Swati Suresh, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

6:26 p.m.-6:28 p.m. **Homologous recombination DNA repair dependent survival associations in high-grade serous ovarian carcinoma: an ovarian tumor tissue analysis consortium study**
Ashley Weir, The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Parkville, Australia

6:29 p.m.-6:31 p.m. **Dual roles of LATS1/2 in ovarian cancer reveal critical context dependence of hippo pathway signaling**
Yalun Zhu, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

6:32 p.m.-6:34 p.m. **Complement C3 inhibition as a novel immunotherapy strategy in recurrent ovarian cancer with malignant effusions: Interim results from a phase 2 trial of Pegcetacoplan**
Emise Zsiros, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY

Reception + Poster Session B
6:35 p.m. – 8:05 p.m.| Aspen Ballroom

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Continental Breakfast
7:00 am-8:00 am | Colorado Ballroom Foyer/Maroon Peak

Plenary Session 5: Tumor immunology
8:00 a.m.-9:25 a.m. | Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Lindsay Brubaker (U.Colorado) and Rita Serda (U. New Mexico)

8:00 a.m.-8:25 a.m. **Cracking the code: Identifying immunogenic targets in ovarian tumors**
Marion R. Curtis, Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ

8:25 a.m.-8:35 a.m. **ARID4B induces immune escape in high-grade serous ovarian cancer by upregulating B3GNT5-mediated glycosphingolipid synthesis***
Yiming Fang, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

8:35 a.m.-9:00 a.m. **Dendritic cells and modulation of TME in the therapy of ovarian cancer**
Pawel Kalinski, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY

9:00 a.m.-9:25 a.m. **Treatment of advanced ovarian cancer using CAR-NK cells**

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Branden S. Moriarity, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

9:25 a.m.-9:35 a.m**.** **Tumor-derived IL-4 links chemotherapy to immunotherapy resistance in ovarian cancer***

Alessia Baccarini, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Break
9:35 am -9:55 am | Colorado Ballroom Foyer

Plenary Session 6: Genomics
9:55 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Isra Elhussin (Tuskegee U.)

9:55 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.　　　　**BRCA mutations and protein products in cancer**
Neil Johnson, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA

10:20 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.　　　　**Characterizing resistance at single cell resolution in HR deficient HGSOC***
Elizabeth Christie, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Victoria, Australia

10:30 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.　　　　**Clonal hematopoiesis and risk of therapy-related myeloid neoplasms in tubo-ovarian cancer survivors**
Elizabeth M. Swisher, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

10:55 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.　　　　**Mutational signatures in ovarian cancer**
Kalyan Banda, Fred Hutchison Cancer Center, Seattle, WA

11:20 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.　　　　**Ultra-deep characterization of TP53 somatic evolution in the fallopian tube and its association with ovarian cancer risk***
Coohleen Ann Coombes, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Break
11:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.| Colorado Ballroom Foyer

Keynote 2
11:45 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Elizabeth M. Swisher (U. Washington)

11:45 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.　　　　**Frontiers of tumor evolution in ovarian cancer**
Sohrab Shah, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY

Plenary Session 7: Pathology
12:20 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.| Colorado Ballroom
Session Chair: Rinda Soong (U.Pitt)

12:20 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. **AI-powered discovery of biomarkers in ovarian cancer**
Heba Sailem, King's College London, London, United Kingdom

12:45 p.m. – 1:10 p.m. **International multicentrer validation and clinical implementation of AI-driven support for ultrasound detection of ovarian cancer**
Elisabeth Epstein, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden

1:10 p.m. – 1:35 p.m. **Early detection of ovarian cancer using cell-free DNA fragmentomes**
Jillian A. Phallen, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Closing Remarks + Departure
1:35 p.m. | Colorado Ballroom

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