



## 2017 Spotlight on Gastric Cancer Program May 12 – 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Title: Helicobacter pylori and stomach cancer: How does a bacteria cause cancer?**

**Nina Salama, PhD**

Principal Investigator

Member of Division of Human Biology and Public Health Sciences Division

Affiliate Member, Basic Sciences Division

Affiliate Professor, University of Washington Department of Microbiology

**Title: Updates in Treatment of Advanced Gastric Cancer**

**Veena Shankaran, MD**

Associate Professor in the Division of Medical Oncology at the University of Washington and an Associate Member in the Clinical Research Division at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

**Title: Hereditary Gastric Cancer: State of the art review**

**William Grady, MD**

Member of Clinical Research Division and Public Health Sciences Division

Rodger C. Haggitt Professor, Division of Gastroenterology | University of Washington School of Medicine

Medical Director, GI Cancer Prevention Program Clinic | Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

**Title: The Future of GI Research to Reduce Mortality from Gastric Cancer (tentative)**

**John Inadomi, MD**

Cyrus E. Rubin Endowed Chair in Medicine

Professor of Medicine and Head, Division of Gastroenterology

**Title: Advances in Endoscopic Resection of Gastric Cancer**

**Joo-Ha Hwang, MD, PhD**

Chief of the gastroenterology section at Harborview Medical Center

Fellow of the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (FASGE)

**Title: Genetic Counseling: What should you and your family do?**

**Rebekah Moore, MS, CGC**

Certified Genetic Counselor | Cleveland Clinic

### Patient, Family and Caregiver Speakers

**Title: One Regular Guy's Fight Against Stomach Cancer: A Brother's Pledge to Improve the Cancer Patient Experience**

**Wil F. Lukens, MBA**

Chief Commercial Officer, CenTrak, Inc.

**CDH1/Gastrectomy Patient**

**Stephanie Smith, BSN, RN, OCN**

Clinical Educator, Inpatient Oncology and OPIV | Anne Arundel Medical Center

**\*Please join us at our Night of Healing at the Courtyard Marriot Lake Union at 6:30 pm. Light snacks and refreshments are provided.**

## Wil Lukens



Wil is the brother of the late Rob Lukens, Ph.D. Rob passed away in August of 2015 after a two-year fight against stomach cancer. Rob had a passion for life that transpired through the incredible love for his family, history, work, and ultimate will to survive. He had a PhD in History from Temple University and held various Public History leadership roles over the years, including Exhibits and Education Director at the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center in Washington, D.C. However, there was no job Rob was more passionate about than his position as President of the Chester County Historical Society, in his hometown of West Chester, PA. In the later stages of his illness, Rob and his wife Rebecca courageously chronicled their story, a narrative that culminated in the November publication of [Man with a Backpack: One Regular Guy's Fight Against Stomach Cancer](#).

Wil has over 20 years of successful execution in high tech healthcare marketing, business development, and sales management roles. He currently functions as Chief Commercial Officer for CenTrak, a location services company focused on bringing high quality, reliable, and affordable real-time location technology to healthcare. Upon the realization of his brother's fate, Wil spent the final months of Rob's life in West Chester, doing what he could to comfort Rob and his family. In the process, Wil was exposed to many examples of how our healthcare system provides efficient and compassionate cancer care and many instances where it fell short. Wil harnesses his personal experiences to ensure that CenTrak stays focused on addressing the unique challenges of the cancer care community.

Wil holds a BA from Maryville College and an MBA from the University of Tennessee.

## Stephanie Smith



Stephanie Smith, RN, BSN, OCN spoke at last years' Spotlight event where she shared her journey through stomach cancer. Smith was diagnosed at the fragile age of 20 with stage IIIC signet cell adenocarcinoma. Rightfully so, her whole life changed, but if you ask her, it was for the better. She had the opportunity to evolve from being a cancer patient to now being a cancer provider. What she did not share that day however, was that she was awaiting the results of a second genetic test panel. A colleague of Smiths' suggested she repeat genetic testing to assess rather or not she possibly had a genetic syndrome following a brief illness. Smith was reluctant to do so since she was told she was CDH-1 negative when diagnosed years ago.

Never did she think that it would come back positive – especially for the CDH-1 genetic mutation. Over the past year, five of Smiths' closest loved ones have been diagnosed with the mutation. She has since been guiding her loved ones through their CDH-1 diagnosis, and what to expect next. She will be speaking to you today about deception, disappointment, guilt, but best of all, gratefulness.

## Nina Salama, PhD



Dr. Salama is a microbiologist who studies the human pathogen *Helicobacter pylori*: how it colonizes the stomach, and how it triggers the chronic inflammation that can lead to peptic ulcers and, for some, stomach cancer. She is fascinated both by this pathogen's unusual ability to survive in the stomach and why the bacterium triggers cancer in only a relatively small percentage of those infected. Dr. Salama is a Dr. Penny E. Petersen Memorial Chair and Full Member of the Human Biology Division at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Affiliate Professor in the Department of Microbiology, University of Washington and Co-Director of the UW/Fred Hutch Molecular & Cellular Biology Graduate Program.

She received a BS with high distinction in Honors Biology from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, a PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology from University of California Berkeley, performed postdoctoral at Stanford University and in 2001 was recruited to Fred Hutch. Throughout her career, Dr. Salama's work has been recognized by several awards including a NSF pre-doctoral fellowship, a Jane Coffin Child Memorial Fund for Medical Research post-doctoral fellowship, a Pew Charitable Trusts Biomedical Scholar Award and Fellowship in the American Academy of Microbiology.

## Veena Shankaran, MD



Dr. Veena Shankaran is an Associate Professor in the Division of Medical Oncology at the University of Washington and an Associate Member in the Clinical Research Division at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Her clinical focus is in gastrointestinal malignancies, in particular gastric and esophageal cancer. Dr. Shankaran is the medical oncology lead for the esophageal and gastric cancer multidisciplinary clinic at the University of Washington. She is the principal investigator for several clinical trials in upper GI cancers and is committed to improving outcomes in these diseases.

Dr. Shankaran has been on the faculty at University of Washington and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center since 2009. She completed her fellowship training at Northwestern University in Chicago and medical school/residency at the University of Michigan. She also received a Master's Degree in 2012 from the University of Washington School of Pharmacy (Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research and Policy Program).

## William Grady, MD



Dr. Grady studies the mechanisms that cause normal cells to turn into cancer cells. He also works to identify molecular changes associated with precancerous conditions of the gastrointestinal tract, including colon polyps, which can be precursors of colon cancer, and Barrett's esophagus, which can develop into esophageal cancer.

One of his goals is to develop safe, accurate and easy tests to screen for signs of gastrointestinal cancer in blood, tissue or stool samples. Such tests could encourage more people to undergo screening while helping to limit more invasive exams to those at highest risk of cancer. As part of this effort, he has led local National Institutes of Health–sponsored studies to evaluate biomarkers that might help in the early detection of colon cancer

or in monitoring for signs of advancing disease in patients with Barrett's esophagus. Dr. Grady is developing new methods to detect DNA from rare precancerous cells in patients with a higher risk of gastrointestinal cancer and is also devising accurate preclinical models of these diseases so they can be studied in detail in the lab.

He is a principal investigator of the National Cancer Institute–sponsored Early Detection Research Network, a national collaboration aimed at moving gains in the molecular marker field from the lab to the clinic. Dr. Grady also cares for patients at the University of Washington Medical Center and Seattle Cancer Care Alliance and serves as medical director for SCCA's Gastrointestinal Cancer Prevention Program, the region's only dedicated clinic for those at high risk for such cancers.

Dr. Grady earned his M.D. from the University of Michigan in 1990. He completed a fellowship in molecular biology at Fred Hutch in 1994 and in gastroenterology at Case Western Reserve University in 1998. He was on the faculty of Vanderbilt University from 2000–2004, and he joined the faculty at Fred Hutch and UW in 2004. He has received numerous awards including the Clinical Scientist Award in Translational Research from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund in 2008; the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers from the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2005; and the Damon Runyon–Lilly Clinical Investigator Award in 2002. He has been a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation since 2009.

## John Inadomi, MD



Dr. Inadomi received an undergraduate degree in biomechanical engineering from M.I.T. and an M.D. from the University of California, San Francisco. He has been on the faculty of the University of New Mexico, the University of Michigan, and the University of California, San Francisco, where he was the Dean M. Craig Endowed Chair in Gastrointestinal Medicine. Dr. Inadomi was recruited to UW Medicine in 2010 to become the fourth head of the Division of Gastroenterology in the Department of Medicine.

Dr. Inadomi is a gastroenterologist with expertise in comparative effectiveness research. He has received funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to evaluate new techniques to decrease mortality from esophageal adenocarcinoma, and to test novel interventions to increase adherence to colorectal cancer screening tests.

He is currently the Clinical Research Councilor for the Governing Board of the American Gastroenterological Association, associate editor of *Gastroenterology*, and a standing member of the NIH DDK-C Study Section.

## Joo-Ha Hwang, MD, PhD



Dr. Hwang is the chief of the gastroenterology section at Harborview Medical Center. He specializes in early detection of gastrointestinal malignancies including esophageal cancer, gastric (stomach) cancer, pancreatic cancer, bile duct cancer and colon cancer. Dr. Hwang performs advanced endoscopic procedures including EUS-FNA, ERCP and enteroscopy. In addition, Dr. Hwang performs endoscopic therapy to treat early esophageal and gastric cancer and is one of the few gastroenterologists in the country who performs endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD).

Dr. Hwang received his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana in electrical engineering. He then received his M.D. degree from the University of Chicago and his Ph.D. in bioengineering from the University of Washington. He fulfilled his residency in internal medicine and fellowship in gastroenterology at the University of Washington, and has been a faculty member at the University of Washington since 2004. He has also been selected as one of "Seattle's Top Doctors" by both *Seattle Magazine* and *Seattle Metropolitan Magazine*.

Dr. Hwang is board certified in gastroenterology. He is active with local, national and international professional societies. He is a fellow of the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (FASGE) and is a past-president of the Pacific Northwest Gastroenterology Society.

## Rebekah Moore, MS, CGC



Rebekah is a certified and licensed genetic counselor who joined Cleveland Clinic's Genomic Medicine Institute as a cancer genetic counselor in February 2017. She graduated from Ohio Valley University in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and earned a Master of Science degree in genetic counseling from Case Western Reserve University in 2014. Prior to joining the Cleveland Clinic, Rebekah was a member of the cancer genetic counseling team at Inova Translational Medicine Institute in northern Virginia.

Rebekah is an active member of the National Society of Genetic Counselors and is excited to have joined the profession at a time when technology and science are rapidly changing and advances continue to be made in patient-centered care. She is glad to have found a career that allows her to combine her love of genetics and passion for patient education and empowerment. In addition to seeing patients and spreading awareness of genetic counseling through community outreach events, Rebekah enjoys traveling and Cleveland Cavaliers basketball.

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