A HOPE FOUNDATION PROGRAM
ESTABLISHED 2008

THE DR. CHARLES A. COLTMAN, JR. FELLOWSHIP

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Dr. Charles A. Coltman, Jr. was elected Group Chair in 1981, serving 24 years in that role before passing the torch to Dr. Laurence Baker in 2005. During his tenure as SWOG Chair, Coltman helped establish the Young Investigator Training Course, a flagship educational initiative for the Group which has trained 95 participants to date. In 2008, Baker and The Hope Foundation’s board of directors launched a fellowship program in Coltman’s name, officially recognizing, in perpetuity, his commitment to training and mentoring SWOG cancer trial leaders.

“He was proud of his leadership and involvement in the ASCO/AACR young investigator annual course in Vail, Colorado and in Europe as well. He was a mentor to many young clinical investigators at Wilford Hall and at UTHSCSA. The Board wanted to honor his valuable contributions.” — Dr. Laurence Baker, former SWOG Chair (2005-2013)
Dr. Veena Shankaran, a researcher trained in healthcare economics, used her two-year award to develop what today has become the first study of financial toxicity in the National Clinical Trials Network. S1417CD is designed to measure the incidence of treatment-related financial hardship in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer using a combination of questionnaires and consumer credit data. Guided by Dr. Scott Ramsey, who conducted some of the earliest research into the financial burden caused by cancer treatment, Shankaran’s path-breaking work is setting the stage for further National Cancer Institute studies of financial toxicity.

“The Coltman Fellowship was instrumental in giving me access to mentorship within SWOG, protected time to develop my research and apply for funding, research connections and collaborations throughout the country, and facilitated my promotion to associate professor. I couldn’t have done this without the Coltman Fellowship.”

— Veena Shankaran
**Sarah Goldberg, MD, MPH**
Mentored by Roy Herbst, MD, PhD

"My mentor, Dr. Hershman, provided excellent input and a sounding board for ideas and approaches. She was very responsive and her advice and input were always timely, constructive, and insightful. We continue to work closely and have published in total 27 papers together."

**Soham Puvvada, MD**
Mentored by Thomas Miller, MD

"My mentor, Dr. Hershman, provided excellent input and a sounding board for ideas and approaches. She was very responsive and her advice and input were always timely, constructive, and insightful. We continue to work closely and have published in total 27 papers together."

**Sahana Dey, MD**
Mentored by Thomas Miller, MD

"The Coltman Fellowship taught me so much about acute myeloid leukemia, so I could better understand what important and interesting research questions were. The work done through the fellowship has continued to give me perspective on the big picture of research."

**Fabianna Ostronoff, MD**
Mentored by Fred Appelbaum, MD

"Perhaps the most valuable element that came out of the Coltman Fellowship was the opportunity to engage with a cadre of leaders in SWOG that are truly the best and brightest in the field."

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**Timeline**

- **2008**
  - Deborah Bradley, MD
    Mentored by Maha Hussain, MD

- **2009**
  - Jason Zell, DO, MPH
    Mentored by Frank Meyskens, Jr., MD
    
  - Joseph Unger, PhD
    Mentored by Dawn Hershman, MD, MS

- **2010**
  - Clifton Fuller, MD, PhD
    Mentored by Charles Thomas, MD

- **2011**
  - Megan Othus, PhD
    Mentored by Fred Appelbaum, MD

- **2012**
  - Sarah Goldberg, MD, MPH
    Mentored by Roy Herbst, MD, PhD

  - Joseph Underger, PhD
    Mentored by Dawn Hershman, MD, MS

  - Melissa Accordino, MD
    Mentored by Dawn Hershman, MD, MS

  - Anne Chiang, MD, PhD
    Mentored by David Gandara, MD

- **2013**
  - Soham Puvvada, MD
    Mentored by Thomas Miller, MD

- **2014**
  - Timur Mitin, MD, PhD
    Mentored by Charles Thomas, MD

- **2015**
  - Siwen Hu-Lieskovian, MD, PhD
    Mentored by Antoni Ribas, MD, PhD

- **2016**
  - Paul Barr, MD
    Mid-career fellowship

- **2017**
  - Megan Othus, PhD
    Mentored by Fred Appelbaum, MD

  - Fabiana Ostronoff, MD
    Mentored by Fred Appelbaum, MD

  - Veena Shankaran, MD
    Mentored by Scott Ramsey, MD, PhD

  - Sumant Pal, MD
    Mentored by Seth Lerner, MD
Lung cancer is one of the most common cancers in the world, and one of the most common driver mutations in lung cancer is in the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) gene. SWOG researchers like Dr. Sarah Goldberg and her mentor, Dr. Roy Herbst, are testing new treatment approaches for patients with EGFR mutation positive lung cancer. A 2014 Coltman Fellowship recipient, Goldberg used her protected research time to conduct a clinical trial examining the impact of combining afatinib with cetuximab, two drugs used to block the action of EGFR mutations. Goldberg and her team presented their interim study findings at the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) World Conference in 2016.
Under the mentorship of Dr. Dawn Hershman, Dr. Melissa Accordino is leading S1703, a cancer care delivery trial soon to be activated. Through the SWOG-NCORP Research Base, Accordino will study patients with newly diagnosed hormone receptor (HR) positive metastatic breast cancer to determine whether serum tumor marker directed disease monitoring is an acceptable alternative to usual care. S1703 will also assess differences in costs of care, and patient reported anxiety and quality of life. The trial’s purpose is to find the most cost-effective, patient-centered approach to monitoring patients with metastatic breast cancer without compromising survival.
Your gifts fuel our grants. Advancing critical SWOG research projects and promising careers since 1993.