



## **SARCOMA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA**

**9899 Main Street, Suite 204**

**Damascus, Maryland 20872**

**[www.curesarcoma.org](http://www.curesarcoma.org)**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SARCOMA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA AWARDS HALF MILLION DOLLARS IN RESEARCH FUNDS**

**DAMASCUS, Md.** – May 7, 2013 – The Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA), an organization dedicated to increased awareness and research for sarcoma, today announced that it has awarded \$500,000 in research funds to deserving scientists at institutions across the United States as part of its 2014 SFA Research Grant program. Ten 2014 SFA research grants, each worth \$50,000, have been awarded to researchers who have made it their mission to study sarcoma, a rare cancer that arises in the body's connective tissue. All proposals are peer reviewed by the SFA Medical Advisory Board who award the grants to the best, most promising research toward the cure for sarcoma.

The Sarcoma Foundation of America began its research grant program in 2003. Since that time, the Foundation has invested funds more than \$5 million in research. More information on SFA's research program can be found at [http://www.curesarcoma.org/index.php/research\\_grants/](http://www.curesarcoma.org/index.php/research_grants/).

#### **Sarcoma Foundation of America 2014 Research Grants**

***Alexander Burdo/ZIOPHARM Research Award***

Christopher DeRenzo, MD

Baylor College of Medicine

“B7-H3-Engager T cells for the immunotherapy of osteosarcoma”

***Ashley Davis Memorial/Miles 2 Give Research Award***

Eleanor Chen, MD, PhD

University of Washington

“Targeting YAP/HIPPO pathway in embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma”

***Heidi Connery Memorial Research Award***

Andrew Koff, PhD

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

“Proteomic and genomic approaches to understanding intrinsic and acquired resistance to CDK4 inhibition therapy in well differentiated/dedifferentiated liposarcoma”

***Kate McGarrigle Memorial Research Award***

Lee Spraggon, PhD

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

“Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumor: Establishment & Validation of New Cell Lines & Therapeutic Targeting of EWS-WT1 Transcription Factor using Splice Switching Oligonucleotides”

***Pittsburgh 5K Cure Sarcoma Research Award***

Liang-Chuan Wang, PhD

University of Pennsylvania

“CAR T Cell Therapy for Sarcoma”

***Sarcoma Foundation of America Research Award***

David Gordon, MD, PhD

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

“Identification of novel therapeutic targets in Ewing's Sarcoma by modeling tumorigenesis in differentiating human embryonic stem cells”

***Sarcoma Foundation of America Research Award***

Michael Major, PhD

University of North Carolina Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center

“Kinase Activity Profiling in Soft Tissue Sarcoma”

***Sarcoma Foundation of America Research Award***

Seth Pollack, MD

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

“Unmasking Immunomodulatory Effects of Radiation in Synovial and Myxoid/ Round Cell Liposarcoma”

***Sarcoma Foundation of America Research Award***

Cliona Rooney, PhD

Baylor College of Medicine

“BiCAR-VZV T cells for the treatment of Sarcoma”

***Sarcoma Foundation of America Research Award***

Brian Van Tine, MD, PhD

Washington University in St. Louis

“Targeting the Pentose Phosphate Pathway for the Treatment of Synovial Sarcoma”

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***About the Sarcoma Foundation of America***

*The Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization, is an advocate for increased research to find new and better therapies with which to treat patients with sarcoma. Sarcoma is a rare cancer in adults (1 percent of all adult cancers) but rather prevalent in children (about 15 percent of all childhood cancers). For more information, please visit [www.curesarcoma.org](http://www.curesarcoma.org).*