AGENDA
JW Marriott Washington DC, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Wednesday, February 26

7:30am-5:00pm Grant Review Committee Meeting (by invitation)…………………………………………………Salon I

12:00-5:30pm Melanoma Patients, Advocates & Foundations Forum ……………………………………………………Salon IV

4:00-8:00pm Retreat Registration open………………………………………………………………………………..Foyer of Penn Avenue Terrace

6:00-7:30pm Opening Reception…………………………………………………………………………………………Penn Avenue Terrace

Thursday, February 27

6:30am-6:00pm Registration………………………………………………………………………………………………Foyer of Salon III & IV

7:00-8:15am General Breakfast……………………………………………………………………………………………..Salon II

7:00-8:15 am Young Investigators Breakfast (by invitation)……………………………………………………………Salon I

8:30-8:45am Opening Remarks Day 1……………………………………………………………………………………Salon III & IV
Michael Kaplan, MRA President & CEO
Marc Hurlbert, MRA Chief Science Officer
Grace Wenzel, Patient Advocate

8:45-9:15am Lecture
Jedd Wolchok, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center: Maintaining innovation: New directions in melanoma research

9:15-11:25am Session 1: Novel therapeutic approaches for treating melanoma
Chair: Ronit Satchi-Fainaro, Tel-Aviv University

9:15-9:40 Thorsten Mempel, Massachusetts General Hospital: CARMA1 in control of regulatory T cell function in melanoma

9:40-10:05 Elaine Fuchs, The Rockefeller University: How skin stem cell biology can guide us to the basis for tumor relapse

10:05-10:20 Break

10:20-10:40 Nick Huntington, Monash University: Effective melanoma immunity by targeting NK cell checkpoints

10:40-11:00 Rizwan Haq, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute: Melanoma selective cytotoxicity achieved through a novel switchable kinase inhibitor
11:00-11:25  Richard White, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center: Why tumors appear where they do: positional memory in the pathogenesis of acral melanoma

11:25-11:55am  Lecture: Padmanee Sharma, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center: From the clinic to the lab: Investigating response and resistance mechanisms to immune checkpoint therapy

11:55am-12:05pm  Transition to lunch

12:05-1:05pm  Networking Lunch and General Roundtables #1.................................................................Salon I & II

Seating at roundtables limited by prior registration. Additional tables with open seating available for general networking and/or scheduled meetings. Topics are:

1. Acral melanoma;
2. AI/imaging/diagnostics;
3. Brain metastasis and leptomeningeal;
4. Cell therapy (ACT, TIL, etc);
5. Clinical trials: multi-site and patient recruitment;
6. Founding your own company;
7. IO-understanding immune-related adverse events;
8. Microbiome;
9. MRA dermatology fellows;
10. Neoadjuvant and adjuvant treatments;
11. Overcoming resistance to IO/targeted therapies;
12. Pediatric and young adult melanoma;
13. Predictive, diagnostic & prognostic biomarkers;
14. Prevention & early detection;
15. Role of genetics, genomics, & epigenomics;
16. Single-cell technologies sequencing and imaging;
17. Targets: finding/validating new targets & drug discovery;
18. Treatment: combos, sequencing, and duration of treatment;
19. Tumor microenvironment;
20. Vaccines & intralesional therapies.

12:00-2:00pm  Scientific Advisory Panel meeting and lunch (by invitation).................................The Senate Room

1:05-1:20pm  Transition to general session room (Salon III & IV)

1:20-2:30pm  Session 2: Understanding melanoma metastasis
Chair: Ashani Weeraratna, Johns Hopkins University

1:20-1:45  Eva Hernando, New York University: Melanoma-secreted Amyloid Beta Suppresses Neuroinflammation and Promotes Brain Metastasis

1:45-2:05  Florian Karreth, Moffitt Cancer Center: MicroRNA deregulation in melanoma progression

2:05-2:30  Carmit Levy, Tel Aviv University: Identification of novel regulators of melanoma brain metastasis

2:30-2:50pm  Break

2:50-4:00pm  Session 3: Special Focus - Acral Melanoma
Chair: Nick Hayward, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute

2:50-3:15  Boris Bastian, University of California, San Francisco: The genetics of acral melanoma
3:15-3:35  Phyu Aung, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center: Acral melanoma – histologic and molecular studies

3:35-4:00  Ruth Halaban, Yale University and Aaron Newman, Stanford University: Recurrent patterns of structural variation promote tumorigenesis in acral melanoma

4:00-4:30pm  Lecture: James Allison, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center: Immune checkpoint blockade in cancer therapy: Historical perspective, new opportunities, and prospects for cures

4:30-4:35  Closing Remarks Day 1
Kristen Mueller, MRA Senior Director, Scientific Program

4:45-6:15pm  Young Investigator, Dermatology Fellow, and Pilot Awardee Poster Session..........................................................Penn Avenue Terrace
All retreat attendees encouraged to attend

4:45-5:45pm  ACS-MRA grant awardees reception (by invitation).................................State Room

6:30-9:00 pm  Reception and Dinner.................................................................................Zaytinya*
Dress: Casual
Reception: 6:30-7:00pm; Dinner 7:15pm

Friday, February 28

6:30-10:00am  Registration open..................................................................................Foyer of Salon III & IV

7:00-8:30am  Networking Breakfast and General Roundtables #2.................................Salon I & II
Seating at roundtables limited by prior registration. Additional tables with open seating available for general networking and/or scheduled meetings. Topics are:

1. Clinical trials: Benefits and impediments to Phase 1 trials;
2. Founding your own company;
3. Sex-related biology and melanoma;
4. Heterogeneity and phenotype switching
5. IO – understanding immune-related adverse events;
6. Melanoma metastases – dormancy;
7. Overcoming resistance to IO/targeted therapies;
8. Predictive, diagnostic & prognostic biomarkers;
9. Prevention & early detection – melanoma initiation;
10. Role of genetics, genomics & epigenomics in melanoma;
11. Surgery: current and emerging methods of surgical treatment;
12. Targets: finding/validating new targets & drug discovery;
13. Tumor metabolism and metabolomics;
14. Tumor microenvironment;
15. Understanding the biology of in-transit melanoma;
16. Uveal & mucosal melanoma;
17. Women in melanoma research & care.

7:00-8:30 am  Industry Roundtable Breakfast (by invitation).........................................Salon FG
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<td>8:40-8:45 m</td>
<td>Opening Remarks Day 2</td>
<td>Salon III &amp; IV</td>
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<td>Kristen Mueller</td>
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<td>8:45-9:15 am</td>
<td>Lecture: Christian Blank, Netherlands Cancer Institute: Neoadjuvant approaches for treating melanoma</td>
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<td>9:15-10:25 am</td>
<td>Session 4: Understanding melanoma initiation to improve patient outcomes</td>
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<td>Chair: Sheri Holmen, Huntsman Cancer Institute at University of Utah</td>
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<td>9:15-9:40</td>
<td>Chengyu Liang, University of Southern California: Molecular mechanisms of UV-induced mutagenesis in melanoma</td>
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<td>9:40-10:00</td>
<td>Eleonora Leucci, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven: LncRNAs as modulators of protein synthesis rewiring in melanoma</td>
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<td>Lorenz Studer, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center: Cell of origin as a driver of heterogeneity in melanoma</td>
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<td>10:45-11:30 am</td>
<td>Session 5: Novel approaches for diagnosing melanoma and assessing therapeutic efficacy</td>
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<td>Chair: Christin Burd, Ohio State University</td>
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<td>10:45-11:05</td>
<td>Ashish Kulkarni, University of Massachusetts, Amherst: Nanoscale Approaches for Targeting Tumor-associated Macrophages</td>
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<td>11:05-11:30</td>
<td>Joann Elmore, University of California, Los Angeles: The importance of applying AI to assess histologic features to improve melanoma diagnosis</td>
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<td>11:30am-12:15 pm</td>
<td>Panel Discussion: Maintaining the momentum: New directions in melanoma research</td>
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<td>Moderator: Michael Atkins, Georgetown University, Chair of MRA Medical Advisory Panel</td>
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<td>• Susan Swetter, Stanford University</td>
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<td>• Suzanne Topalian, Johns Hopkins University, Chair of MRA Scientific Advisory Panel, MRA Board of Directors</td>
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<td>• Richard Carvajal, Columbia University</td>
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<td>• Marisol Soengas, Spanish National Cancer Research Center</td>
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<td>• Lorenzo Cohen, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center</td>
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<td>12:15pm-12:30 pm</td>
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<td>Michael Kaplan and Marc Hurlbert</td>
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<td>12:30-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Lunch and Departures</td>
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<td>12:30-6:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch and Melanoma Models Workshop (Chaired by Dr. Liz Patton and Dr. Glenn Merlino) (by invitation)</td>
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