



NASSAU/SUFFOLK - LONG ISLAND

A group of swimmers, both men and women, are shown from the chest up. They are all wearing bright green swim caps and goggles. Many of them are smiling and giving thumbs up. The background is a clear blue sky.

**GIVE HOPE
ON LONG ISLAND ★**

REGISTER AND LEARN MORE:
SWIMACROSSAMERICA.ORG/NS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

THE SAA MISSION

We unite the swimming community by hosting benefit swims that raise money to fund life saving cancer research and clinical trials.

THE NEED

Doctors with ideas to fight cancer can't get the funding for clinical trials and research.

OUR SOLUTION

Host Charity Swims to raise money that funds clinical trials and cancer research.

YOUR IMPACT

Over \$90 million in SAA grants to our beneficiaries has turned into an estimated \$200 million in new funding that they might otherwise not have received.



SOUND TO COVE OPEN WATER SWIM SAA - NASSAU/SUFFOLK, LONG ISLAND SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

PRYIBIL BEACH, GLEN COVE, NY
1/2-MILE, 1-MILE, 2-MILE, 5K AND 10K SWIM OPTIONS

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center.

Feinstein Institute for Medical Research
Northwell Health

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MDAnderson
Cancer Center

Weill Cornell Medicine
Sandra and Edward
Meyer Cancer Center

SHARE
CANCER SUPPORT

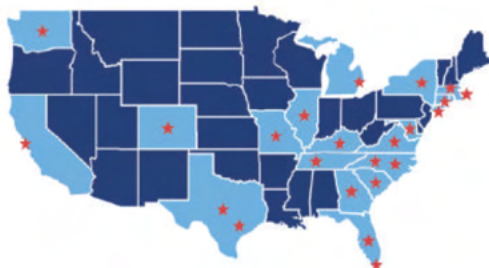


Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

DID YOU
KNOW?
FACTS
ABOUT
SWIM
ACROSS
AMERICA

24

COMMUNITIES
MAKING WAVES



100,000+

SWIMMERS

300

OPEN WATER
SWIMS

150+

OLYMPIANS
PARTICIPATED

4 FDA

- APPROVED TREATMENTS

Yervoy, Opdivo,
Tecentriq & Keytruda all
received initial grant
funding from SAA



THREE

TIMES OUR
SWIMMERS HAVE
CIRCUMNAVIGATED
THE EARTH



11

DEDICATED
SWIM ACROSS
AMERICA LABS



60+

GRANTS FUNDED BY
SWIM ACROSS AMERICA
ANNUALLY



5 TO 92

AGES OF
PARTICIPANTS

SAA – Nassau/Suffolk Metrics

Over \$13.9 MILLION raised since 2001
500+ Swimmers & Volunteers annually
82% of Donations go directly to Beneficiaries

SAA – Nassau/Suffolk 2025 Goals

\$1,000,000 Total fundraising
\$75,000 corporate sponsorships

SAA – Nassau/Suffolk Swims

Stay Tuned for 2025 Pool Swim Dates!

ANYONE CAN JOIN WITH THE SAA MY WAY VIRTUAL OPTION

SAA My WAY program enables our participants and teams to Make Waves in the Fight Against Cancer if you don't want to swim. You can Walk, Run, Bike, Hike, Climb... get CREATIVE !

WHEN: You decide - done on your timeline as an individual or as a team. Perfect for corporate teams to include everyone!

WHAT: All participants receive a SAA swag kit in the mail after registering! Learn more at swimacrossamerica.org/saamyway



NASSAU/SUFFOLK - LONG ISLAND

MAKING WAVES SINCE 2001★

BENEFITING



WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR SPONSORS



SAA - NASSAU/SUFFOLK



Team Carolyn



Team Stacey

SWIM ACROSS AMERICA 
NASSAU—SUFFOLK

**IS PROUD TO HOST THE TOP TWO
FUNDRAISING TEAMS NATIONWIDE!**

2023 TOP FUNDRAISING TEAMS	2023 TOP FUNDRAISING TEAMS
#1 - TEAM STACEY SWIM ACROSS AMERICA - NASSAU/SUFFOLK	#2 - TEAM CAROLYN SWIM ACROSS AMERICA - NASSAU/SUFFOLK
	



SAA - Nassau/Suffolk-Long Island World Class Beneficiary Partners



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

The goal of the Swim Across America laboratory at [Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center](#) is to develop new approaches to cancer treatment through stimulating the immune system to attack cancer cells. Results from our laboratory are the basis of ongoing clinical trials at MSKCC in patients with melanoma, breast cancer, prostate cancer, kidney cancer and lymphoma. The lab has been one of the most successful in the world at moving lab discoveries into the clinic. The SAA lab was instrumental in the development of the first Melanoma US FDA-approved drug in 13 years. Read the [MSKCC thank you letter](#) to hear directly from our funded researchers.



Weill Cornell Medicine
Sandra and Edward
Meyer Cancer Center

Under the direction of Drs. Jedd Wolchok and Taha Merghoub, the Swim Across America team at [Weill Cornell Medicine's](#) Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center is advancing cancer research through groundbreaking immunotherapy approaches. Their work focuses on stimulating the immune system to recognize and combat cancer cells, particularly by overcoming tumor cells' ability to evade detection. Through Swim Across America's support, the team explores why patients respond differently to treatments while developing methods to enhance immune cell recognition of tumors. Their research has yielded significant findings, from blocking specific cellular proteins and activating immune responses that improve tumor detection to developing novel CAR T cells for treatment. Read the [Weill Cornell thank you letter](#) to hear directly from our funded researchers.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Children's Cancer Hospital®

Since 2006, Swim Across America has been funding the 'Stacey Leondis Fellowship' to help develop a targeted treatment for osteosarcoma, a type of bone cancer that mostly affects kids and teens. Dr. Richard Gorlick and his team are working on a new drug designed to treat this cancer. SAA-Nassau-Suffolk continues to support Dr. Gorlick, who is the department chair of Pediatrics at [The University of Texas MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital](#). Read the [MD Anderson Cancer Center testimonial](#) to hear directly from our funded researchers.

SAA - Nassau/Suffolk-Long Island World Class Beneficiary Partners



Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

Swim Across America has funded [Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory](#) since 2008 and currently supports research from Dr. Corina Amor and Dr. Semir Beyaz. Dr. Amor's work focuses on aging, the biggest risk factor for cancer, which remains poorly understood. Most cancer research uses young mice, though human cancer develops later in life. Her team developed a more efficient way to study cancer in older models, bringing new insights into how aging contributes to tumor growth. Dr. Beyaz's research targets metastatic colorectal cancer, a deadly disease with limited treatment options. His team is working to strengthen immune cells by boosting their "metabolic fitness," helping them fight cancer more effectively. This approach could lead to new treatments that improve survival and quality of life. Both projects offer promising paths toward better cancer treatments and potential cures. Read the [CSHL testimonial](#) to hear directly from our funded researchers.



Swim Across America has been supporting [The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research of North Shore](#) since 2011. Currently, funds support Dr. Shih Shih Chen who is studying chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), a type of blood cancer. CLL can spread through the lymph nodes, and patients with a specific form of the disease, called Richter's syndrome, often face poor outcomes and have difficulty responding to treatments.

Dr. Chen's team is making great strides in understanding how the cancer changes the surrounding cells in the body, which help the cancer grow and resist treatment. They are working on new treatments that target a specific protein to help patients whose cancer doesn't respond to standard therapies. Read the [Feinstein Institute at North Shore testimonial](#) to hear directly from our funded researchers.

MAKING CANCER HISTORY

“Our Swim Across America team has experienced another highly productive year yielding many exciting results. SAA’s funding has also helped us support investigators from underserved populations and address health disparities by developing cell therapies to treat cancers prevalent in populations of various descents, ethnic minorities and socioeconomic levels. Every step forward and breakthrough we achieve represents progress and adds to our growing arsenal of options for patients everywhere fighting cancer.”

Dr. Jedd Wolchok

Sandra and Edward Meyer
Cancer Center Director
Weill Cornell Medicine



MAKING CANCER HISTORY



Richard Gorlick, MD
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1515 Holcombe Blvd., Unit 0087
Houston, Texas 77030-4009

August 22, 2023

Dear Swim Across America Friends:

This year has been a good one in our fight against osteosarcoma. As is the case periodically, our current Swim Across America Stacey Leondis Fellow, Yifei Wang, MD will be replaced, as he is moving onto a new role performing a clinical Orthopedic Spine Fellowship in Boston. We are now in the process of recruiting an individual to serve as sixth Stacey Leondis Fellow, and we anticipate that Dr. Wang's fellowship will serve as a next step in his future return to clinical oncology. Dr Wang leaves the laboratory having accomplished much of our goals of developing new treatments for their clinical translation to patients with osteosarcoma.

Dr. Wang's work has identified drugs that exist that could be repurposed for treating osteosarcoma as well as proteins that may be targeted that do not have drugs yet developed. In prior letters and conversations, we have mentioned we are very excited about one protein target – B7H3 also known as CD276, which already has drugs and cell therapy approaches made to target it. Laboratory research demonstrated the activity of multiple antibody-drug conjugates targeting this protein in preclinical models of osteosarcoma. Laboratory studies continue investigating how to combine these drugs with both the existing treatments for osteosarcoma as well as together with other novel agents. Finally, and most importantly, these drugs have moved into phase 2 clinical trials, testing their safety and effectiveness, in patients with osteosarcoma.

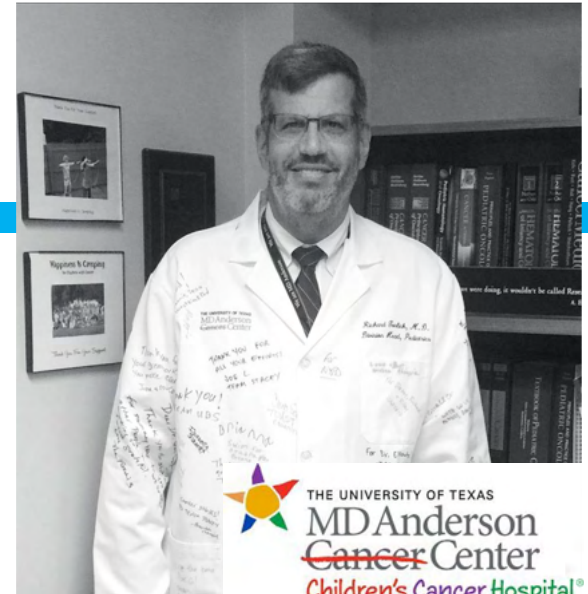
While at one time we would have never envisioned developing drugs specifically for osteosarcoma; however, new approaches such as creating antibody-drug conjugates allows this to be feasible, mixing and matching existing components as well as reducing both the cost and complexity of their development. Indeed, for rare diseases, such as osteosarcoma, this is paradigm shifting, allowing an optimization never before possible. For one of the identified targets, cell adhesion molecule 1 (CADM1), a novel antibody-drug conjugate was created and tested in preclinical models. This critical proof-of-principle testing demonstrated that this novel, CADM1 antibody-drug conjugate is dramatically effective at limiting osteosarcoma growth. Work is ongoing developing this tool compound into a drug which can be given to patients with osteosarcoma as well as exploring additional targets for novel treatments.

We are immensely grateful for all of the support we have received from Swim Across America. For the past fourteen years, the support for our research efforts has been provided in the form of a Research Fellowship named in honor of Stacey Leondis. The ongoing and longstanding trust by the Leondis Family and their circle of family and friends have sustained our efforts through these many years, with us collectively believing the long-stalled progress in improving outcomes of this dreaded disease could be ended. We would never be at the point of where we are today without the immense dedication and support of the Leondis Family and friends, and we sincerely hope the approaches we are taking today are the light at the end of the tunnel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Gorlick".

Richard Gorlick, MD
Division Head and Department Chair, Pediatrics
H. Grant Taylor, M.D., W. W. Sutow, M.D. and Margaret P. Sullivan, M.D. Distinguished Chair in Pediatrics
Department Chair *ad interim*, Sarcoma Medical Oncology,
Division of Cancer Medicine
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Children's Cancer Hospital



Dr. Richard Gorlick Chair of the department of Pediatrics, MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital

His particular area of expertise is developing new therapeutics for the treatment of sarcomas—bone cancer. As a pediatric cancer survivor, Dr. Gorlick has committed his life to finding a cure.

Dr. Gorlick has published more than 80 peer-reviewed articles in leading medical journals and is a frequent invited lecturer in bone tumors at major medical meetings throughout the United States and Europe.

Swim Across America has granted **more than \$2 million** to Dr. Gorlick's osteosarcoma research.

Groundbreaking Research at MSKCC

Dear Kevin and Nassau/Suffolk Team:

Thank you for your continued support of our research.

It was truly a pleasure to join the Swim Across America (SAA) beneficiary community last year. Your commitment to the fight against cancer powers advancements here at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and our team is truly motivated by your selfless efforts.

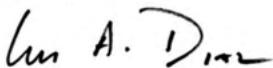
Your funding continues to save lives. SAA has been instrumental in launching groundbreaking, high-risk, high-reward research studies that push the boundaries of conventional approaches. Throughout the years, SAA has not only backed innovative and bold preclinical and translational studies but also provided support for young investigators at the beginning of their careers.

Our clinical trial testing a novel therapeutic combination in people with colorectal cancer (NCT04457284), along with ongoing research, will bring new treatment options to these patients. Our clinical trial involving anti-PD-1 treatment in locally advanced rectal cancer (NCT04165772) has achieved unprecedented success. The initial 14 participants had a 100% response with immunotherapy. We are excited to report that none of them have seen a relapse, and subsequently enrolled participants have also had a complete response. Since then, we have opened the trial for other cancer types. SAA supported the studies that made these trials possible.

Beyond these milestones, we are actively engaged in various studies, such as developing mRNA-based cancer vaccines, enhancing therapeutics' efficacy through engineered protein constructs, and seeking novel cancer detection strategies using target-bound drugs. With your support this year, we will keep making advances in understanding the disease and mechanisms of resistance, and improving therapeutic responses.

Your commitment to help patients propels us, and we are truly grateful for the profound impact you have on MSK's mission of ending cancer for life. We look forward to another great season in 2024. Together we can drive advancements in cancer research — saving lives as we change the face of this disease.

Warm regards,



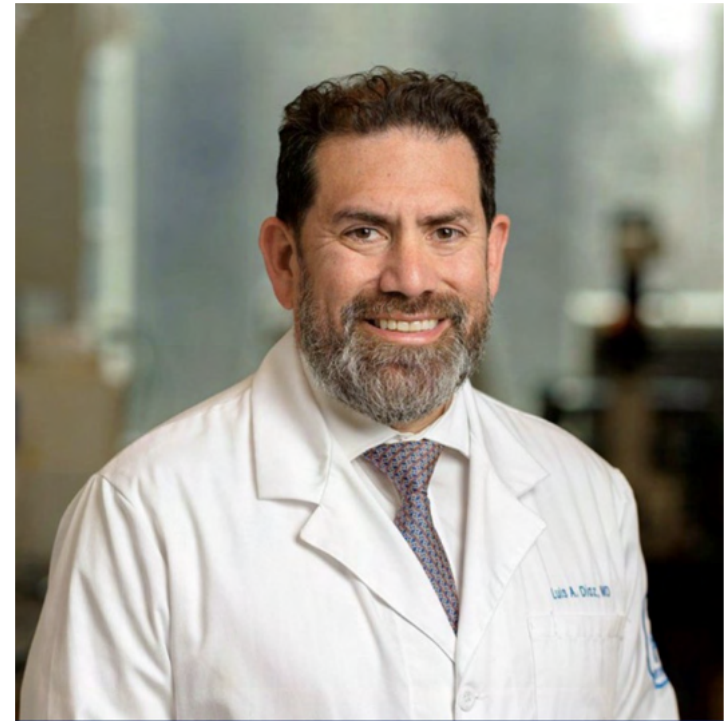
Luis A. Diaz, M.D.

Head, Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College
Grayer Family Chair
1275 York Ave, New York, NY 10065
www.mskcc.org

NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center



Dr. Luis A. Diaz, M.D:
Head, Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

The Feinstein Institute @ Northwell Health

November 2024



Dear Swim Across America Friends,

Our laboratory is truly honored and very grateful to be a beneficiary of Swim Across America. Our major focus continues to be therapeutically targeting the tumor microenvironment (TME) of B-cell leukemia and lymphoma. Thanks to your support, we have made significant progress in the project, "Targeting the Tumor Microenvironment to Treat Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)." Over the past year, we generated therapeutic anti-CLECL1 antibodies that mark and eliminate proliferating CLL cells. Targeting and eliminating these CLL cells within the TME not only reduces tumor burden in animal models but also blocks T-cell activation and IL-4 production. Additionally, we found that adding recombinant CLECL1 to TME-supportive stromal fibroblasts enhances their stretching and elongation, facilitating tumor cell infiltration. In vitro, anti-CLECL1 treatment blocks stromal cell-supported tumor cell survival and induces antibody-dependent cell cytotoxicity (ADCC), complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC), and antibody-dependent cell phagocytosis (ADCP).

This progress in generating and producing CLECL1 antagonist antibodies for therapeutic purposes has had several positive impacts. It has accelerated our patent application, fostered new collaborations, and provided key preliminary data for an NIH grant application, which received an impact score of 20 (the funding line is 25). Furthermore, this work has resulted in the acceptance of two abstracts—one oral and one poster—for presentation at the American Society of Hematology international conference this December.

We are very excited by the progress and all the proposed experiments. This work is highly translational, the results are highly applicable to almost all the B-cell tumors. Using the established models, we are now initiating our work in Mantle cell lymphoma. We are thankful for your support that accelerates our research, and truly hoping to continue our partnership with SAA to fight cancer.

Sincerely,

Shihshih Chen

Assistant professor
The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research at Northwell Health



Cold Spring Harbor Labs



Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory is proud to partner with
Team Carolyn and Swim Across America to find
treatments and cures for cancer.

The CSHL Cancer Center is the only National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center on Long Island and is at the forefront of understanding the molecular and cellular basis of human cancer, breaking new ground in tumor biology and developing innovative, advanced technologies.



Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

Dear Swim Across America Team, Supporters, and Fundraisers,

As the Beyaz Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL), we extend our sincere gratitude for your continued support of our research. Your generous gift supports our research into innovative cancer therapies. We hope to achieve a future where treatments are more effective, precise, and patient-focused. Your investment into this pursuit is highly appreciated.

Thanks to your contributions, we have made significant progress this year in developing next-generation immunotherapies. Building on a collaboration with the Moses laboratory here at CSHL, we previously generated novel small molecules capable of activating a metabolic switch to enhance immune cell fitness. Our current approach utilizes antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) to deliver these compounds directly to immune cells. This innovative strategy marks a departure from traditional ADCs, which typically deliver toxic agents to cancer cells.

This year, we have demonstrated that our ADCs were shown to selectively bind to immune cells and successfully deliver therapeutic agents. These ADCs activate the metabolic switch, enhancing immune cell fitness and their ability to combat tumors. We further showed that engaging this metabolic switch can synergize with immunotherapy to enable treatment of immune-evasive metastatic colorectal cancer in a clinically relevant mouse model. Metastatic disease is a significant unmet clinical need and highly resistant to immunotherapy, highlighting the potential therapeutic impact our approach may have.

In summary, our work has resulted in the identification of a metabolic switch that can enhance immune cell fitness and allows the immune system to overcome the suppressive microenvironment of immune-evasive metastatic tumors. We are developing a treatment approach that can selectively activate this metabolic switch in immune cells using ADCs, which has resulted in promising preliminary data. These findings form a robust foundation for developing cutting-edge cancer immunotherapies.

Your support is pivotal for these advancements, and we look forward to sharing future milestones with you.

With warmest regards,

Semir Beyaz, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor



NASSAU/SUFFOLK - LONG ISLAND

\$10,000 PLATINUM SPONSOR

- Company Tent at Event, Advertising, Logo on Shirts, Social Media and Brochure
- SAA Nassau-Suffolk Sponsorship recognition on SAA website
 - Full-Page Ad in SAA Nassau-Suffolk Yearbook
- Team Naming Rights & Registration for 10 Swimmers

\$5,000 GOLD SPONSOR

- Event Signage, Advertising, Logo on Shirts, Social Media and Brochure
 - SAA Nassau-Suffolk Sponsorship recognition on SAA website
 - Full-Page Ad in SAA Nassau-Suffolk Yearbook
- Team Naming Rights & Registration for 5 Swimmers

\$2,500 SILVER SPONSOR

- Event Signage, Advertising, Logo on Shirts, Social Media and Brochure
 - SAA Nassau-Suffolk Sponsorship recognition on SAA website
 - Half-Page Ad in SAA Nassau-Suffolk Yearbook
- Team Naming Rights & Registration for 2 Swimmers



For more information,
please contact our sponsorship chairs.

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