



Orthopaedic Oncology Division Update

Kristy Weber, MD



Orthopaedic Oncology Faculty



Kristy Weber, MD, FACS



Robert Wilson II, MD

Orthopaedic Oncology at Penn: A basic, translational and clinical approach

The Orthopaedic Oncology clinical service at Penn is comprised of Dr. Kristy Weber and Dr. Robert Wilson who work as part of a multidisciplinary team of caregivers focused on patients of all ages with bone and soft tissue tumors. This includes the care of patients with benign and malignant primary tumors as well as patients with metastatic bone disease. The core team also includes Sarah Borgia, MHA, Administrative Coordinator, Kate Barrie, PA, and April Chambers, RN. Patients are seen 4 days per week with clinic locations at PCAM and Radnor. Surgeries are performed 2-3 days per week at HUP. Dr. Wilson also has a presence at the Philadelphia VA Hospital where he sees orthopaedic oncology patients in addition to patients needing hip or knee arthroplasty for non-oncologic reasons. Patients are also managed in the clinic and OR at CHOP along with Dr. Alex Arkader (orthopaedic oncology/pediatric orthopaedics) and Amy Rapino, NP. A collaboration with the Philadelphia Shriners Hospital to evaluate and treat patients with bone or soft tissue tumors has continued this year. The Penn Orthopaedic Oncology Visiting Professor for 2019 is Dr. Ginger Holt, Program Director and Chief of Orthopaedic Oncology at Vanderbilt.

The multidisciplinary clinical team that treats patients with bone or soft tissue sarcomas meets weekly on PCAM South 12 for a clinical care videoconference to discuss the presentation and differential diagnoses of new patients as well as the ongoing multimodal therapy for existing patients. A Sarcoma leadership group meets monthly to work on quality initiatives and clinical pathways to improve the overall delivery of care to our patients. An initiative championed by Dr. Ronnie Sebro, MSK radiologist specializing in musculoskeletal tumors, has allowed an efficient process for image-guided needle biopsies for patients with bone and soft tissue tumors. Obstacles have been eliminated and now patients can get CT or ultrasound-guided biopsies without pre-procedure testing, often on the same day they are seen in tumor clinic.

Active marketing efforts continue at both Penn and CHOP to expand the reach of the orthopaedic oncology program in the region. Dr. Wilson continues his outreach to orthopaedic and oncology physicians and groups throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In addition, with the addition of Lancaster General and Princeton to the Penn Health Network, we developed care pathways and personal connections to collaboratively diagnose and treat patients with bone and soft tissue tumors.

One of the features that stands out about the Penn Sarcoma program is the presence of a collaborative scientific team focused on new discoveries in sarcoma. The core sarcoma research team is growing and includes Karin Eisinger, PhD, Malay Haldar, MD, PhD, Celeste Simon, PhD, Irfan Asangani, PhD, Margaret Chou, PhD (CHOP), and Nicola Mason, PhD, BVetMed. Recently, we hired an established physician-scientist at CHOP to start July, 2019 named Patrick Grohar, MD. He is RO1 funded for translational work in Ewing sarcoma and will join our research team and see patients at CHOP. Great news to be celebrated this year is the securing of RO1 funding in sarcoma for Karin Eisinger (The role and regulation of Hippo pathway in sarcomagenesis) and Malay Haldar (Regulation of antigen-presenting cells in the tumor environment by retinoic acid). We have innovative clinical trials ongoing for patients with soft tissue sarcoma with the SARC trial combining pembrolizumab and IMRT as well as the immune trial targeting NY-ESO. Dr. Sebro's hypoxia imaging trial for sarcoma is also accruing patients.

Finally, philanthropic support from grateful patients is critical for our research efforts and we are thankful for their generosity. Our patient and family Sarcoma Advocacy group is in their 5th year of organization and planning to support sarcoma research at Penn Med/Penn Vet/CHOP. In 2018, over \$110,000 was raised and nearly 1000 people attended the annual Walk/Run. This year the event is June 2, 2019 at Wilson Farm Park in Wayne, PA. More information can be found at www.stepstocuresarcoma.com/