

LIVER DIGEST

August 4, 2023

A bi-weekly update of PLRC happenings



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• PLRC Faculty Highlights

- Dr. Ed Prochownik and team publish in Cell Reports *with associated News Release

• Upcoming Seminars

- Aug 22nd @ 12PM "State of PLRC Address & PLI Announcement" S120 BST
- Aug 29th @ 12PM Dr. Irina Bochkis S120 BST

• Funding Opportunities

• Announcements

- CLA Program & Events
- AASLD "Liver Meeting" Nov. @ Boston
- PLI/PLRC Reception @ AASLD Nov. 11th
- PLRC Annual Retreat-October 17th
- ASIP "Tissue, Matrix, and Pathobiology" Oct. 22nd
- 2nd International Liver Cancer Res. Conf, Heidelberg, Germany
- PLRC P&F Grant Program RFA Announced

• Want Ads :

- Open positions/Jobseekers CVs posted

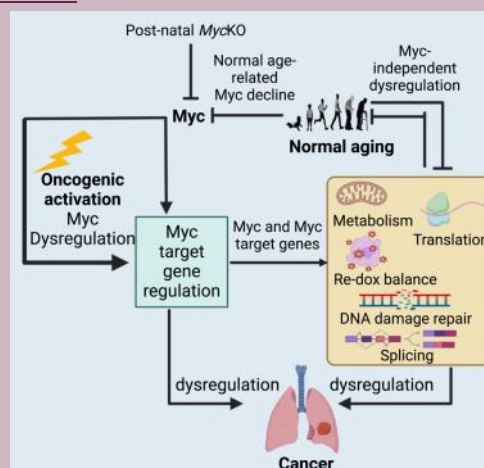
FACULTY HIGHLIGHT

Edward Prochownik, MD, PhD,

Professor of Pediatrics and Microbiology & Molecular genetics, along with Jerry Vockley, MD, PhD, and Rannar Airik, PhD, et.al, published an article in Cell Reports entitled, "**Premature aging and reduced cancer incidence associated with near-complete body-wide Myc inactivation**".



Wang H, Lu J, Stevens T, Roberts A, Mandel J, Avula R, Ma B, Wu Y, Wang J, Land CV, Finkel T, Vockley JE, Airik M, Airik R, Muzumdar R, Gong Z, Torbenson MS, Prochownik EV. Cell Rep. 2023 Jul 22;42(8):112830. doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2023.112830. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37481724.



ABSTRACT: MYC proto-oncogene dysregulation alters metabolism, translation, and other functions in ways that support tumor induction and maintenance. Although Myc[±] mice are healthier and longer-lived than control mice, the long-term ramifications of more complete Myc loss remain unknown. We now describe the chronic consequences of body-wide Myc inactivation initiated postnatally. "MycKO" mice acquire numerous features of premature aging, including altered body composition and habitus, metabolic dysfunction, hepatic steatosis, and dysregulation of gene sets involved in functions that normally deteriorate with aging. Yet, MycKO mice have extended lifespans that correlate with a 3- to 4-fold lower lifetime cancer incidence. Aging tissues from normal mice and humans also downregulate Myc and gradually alter many of the same Myc target gene sets seen in MycKO mice. Normal aging and its associated cancer predisposition are thus highly linked via Myc.

NEWS RELEASE 24-JUL-2023

UPMC and Pitt researchers identify link between cancer-causing gene and aging. (<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/996544>)

Please acknowledge all support from the PLRC in your publications and presentations. Note the grant number and all CORES used. (NIH/NIDDK P30DK120531)

Please continue to share your relevant accolades (grants, publications, awards and other news worthy items) with us, as it relates to the PLRC mission, so we can share with all of our members.

Visit the PLRC website (www.livercenter.pitt.edu) for up-to-date news, and upcoming seminar and event information. Contact Aaron Bell (bellaaro@pitt.edu) if you have specific questions or suggestions.

Our mailing address is:

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PLRC SEMINARS

NOTE: Upon resumption of the seminars in the Fall term, the Format will be Live In-Person talks with minimal Zoom/online options. *Everyone is highly encouraged to physically attend and help support our external and internal speakers.*

* **Aug 22nd @ 12:00-1:00PM in S120 BST**

“State of the PLRC Address” & “Announcement of Pittsburgh Liver Institute”

Speaker: Dr. Paul Monga

PLRC Member Attendance **STRONGLY** encouraged!

* **Aug 29th @ 12:00-1:00PM in S120 BST**



Irina Bochkis, PhD
Associate Professor of Pharmacology
University of Virginia

Email: imb3q@virginia.edu
Website: <http://pharm.virginia.edu/bochkis>

Seminar Title: Pioneer factor Foxa2 and chromatin landscape in the liver

ANNOUNCEMENT

**PLRC Pilot & Feasibility Grants
2024 Application Cycle NOW OPEN!**

PLRC Members should encourage qualified senior Post-Docs (ready to transition to independence) and junior faculty to begin to prepare now, and apply.

Letters of Intent Due: September 1st, 2023

Full application Due: October 13th, 2023

More details on the PLRC P&F [Website](#)

****NEW** CLA/PLRC Award**

The Community Liver Alliance and the PLRC joint award will prioritize funding studies of liver diseases in underserved communities, healthcare disparity, pathogenesis of sexually dimorphic diseases or other topics or candidates with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) focus.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Human Liver Tissue and Hepatocytes Resource-Related Research Project (R24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[RFA-DK-23-012 NIH/NIDDK](#)

The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to support a Human Liver Tissue and Hepatocytes Research Resource (HLTHRR) program to enable the continued availability of human liver tissue and hepatocytes to biomedical researchers. The research resource is expected to facilitate the procurement and preservation of human liver tissue and hepatocytes as well as the distribution of these materials to qualified biomedical researchers

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplements for Research on Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Populations (Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional): <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-od-22-032.html>

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research on the Health of Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Populations: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-md-22-012.html>

Notices of Intent to Publish:

NOT-DK-23-006 Notice of Intent to Publish a funding Opportunity Announcement for A Consortium for Gut-Brain Communication in Parkinson's Disease (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

NOT-DK-23-007 Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for A Consortium for Gut-Brain Communication in Parkinson's Disease (U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

NOFOs:

[RFA-DK-22-023 Ancillary Studies to the NIDDK Inflammatory Bowel Disease Genetics Consortium](#)

[\(R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#) Next Due Date:

[November 8, 2023.](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

To see all NIH Grants sorted by week, please visit [NIH Guide: 2023](#)

Or click below for recent weeks:

Week of: [July 21:](#) [July 28:](#) [Aug 4:](#)

[Click here](#) for all current **NIDDK Funding opportunities**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Communityliveralliance.org
DeLIVERing HOPE campaign: Liver Disease Awareness
- Pittsburgh Liver Institute/PLRC Reception at The AASLD LIVER MEETING in Boston. Saturday **November 11th**, 7:30pm-9:30pm @ Sheraton Hotel Boston **"Save the Date"**
- PLRC Annual Retreat 2023 **October 17th** at University Club. Agenda TBD. Keynote Speaker: Rebecca Wells, Univ. of Pennsylvania. **"SAVE the DATE"**
- PLRC Pilot & Feasibility Grant Program Open NOW! **More details and info available on Website**
LOI due **September 1, 2023**, Applications Due **October 13, 2023** **Link to RFA**
- FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF LIVER PATHOBIOLOGY: FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE. CRETE, GREECE
OCTOBER 11-16, 2023 **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE** / **SPEAKERS** / **REGISTRATION**
- FASEB **"The Cholangiocarcinoma Conference: Molecular Drivers, Microenvironment & Precision Medicine"** **August 13-17, 2023** @ Palm Springs, CA
Meeting Registration & Abstract Submission! **Meeting AGENDA**
- **AASLD "THE LIVER MEETING"** **Nov. 10-14, 2023** @ Boston, MA. Meeting Registration open Now!
- **ASIP "Tissue, Matrix, and Pathobiology: Joint Meeting of ASMB, HCS and ASIP"** **Oct. 22-25, 2023** @ Salt Lake City Utah. **Meeting Registration Site**
- **2nd INTERNATIONAL LIVER CANCER RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2023** "Novel Directions in Liver Cancer Research" **Oct. 11-13, 2023** @ Heidelberg, Germany **Detail-Flyer** **Conference Program**

WANT ADS

This section is available for PLRC members to communicate wants or needs in your laboratories.
Available positions / Collaboration ideas / Equipment needs
Please send any "wants/needs" to be advertised to Aaron Bell (bellaaro@pitt.edu)

OPEN POSITIONS:

- **Postdoc/Technician:** **Bone cell Differentiation** \$45K; PI: Harry Blair: US citizen ONLY! Contact: 412-383-9616 or hclair@pitt.edu

JOB SEEKERS:

- **Research Assistant Professor**, Pathology Dept, UPMC Hillman Cancer Ctr. With experience in Bioinformatics, proteomics, genomics, molecular biology. liz45@pitt.edu **link to CV**