



# The Gastrointestinal Malignancy Interest Group (GI)

## Facts & Enrollment Information

### About the Gastrointestinal Malignancy (GI) Interest Group

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- The Gastrointestinal Malignancy Interest Group (IG) is a collaborative multidisciplinary group of basic scientists including radiation biologists and basic cancer biologists; and clinical experts including surgical, medical, and radiation oncologists. The Gastrointestinal Malignancy IG convenes regularly to strategize, participate in educational discussion forums, planning meetings, and collaborative projects across institutions.

The IG purposes to develop clinical trial concepts incorporating novel radiosensitizers for cancers of the esophagus, stomach, pancreas, liver, biliary tract, colon, rectum, and anus. In so doing, the members of the group or outside collaborators will advance drug compounds from biologically rational preclinical models and translate these investigations into clinical trial concepts and companion biomarker development, in a stepwise and logical fashion. The breadth of these studies will include partnerships with NCI Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program (CTEP), individual institutions, industry, and the National Clinical Trial Network. These efforts will ideally culminate in national clinical trials with a solid preclinical foundation, which will springboard advancements in patient care.

### Goals

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1. To develop clinical trial concepts incorporating novel experimental therapeutics (including immunotherapy and radiosensitizers) for cancers of the esophagus, stomach, pancreas, and biliary tract.
2. To advance drug compounds from biologically rational preclinical models and translate these investigations into clinical trial concepts and companion biomarker development, in a stepwise and logical fashion. The breadth of these studies will include partnerships with NCI/CTEP, individual institutions, industry, and national cooperative groups. These efforts will ideally culminate in national clinical trials

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## GI IG Chairperson(s)

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### Esophageal cancers:

Terry Williams, MD, (Ohio State University, [Terence.Williams@osumc.edu](mailto:Terence.Williams@osumc.edu))

Salma Jabbour, MD, (Rutgers University, [jabbousk@cinj.rutgers.edu](mailto:jabbousk@cinj.rutgers.edu))

### Colorectal Cancer

Thomas J. George, degree (University of Florida, [thom.george@medicine.ufl.edu](mailto:thom.george@medicine.ufl.edu) )

### Pancreas Cancer

Theodore s. Hong, MD (Harvard University, [TSHONG1@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:TSHONG1@mgh.harvard.edu))

## Teleconference Schedule

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- The GI Interest Group meets monthly virtually via the WebEx platform – on every last Thursday of the month at 1 pm ET.
- The group membership is approximately 70.

## Activities and Accomplishments

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- Clinical Trials**
  1. Veliparib, Pembrolizumab, and Combination Chemotherapy in Treating Patient With Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer (<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02921256>) (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02921256).
  2. Talimogene Laherparepvec, Chemotherapy, and Radiation Therapy Before Surgery in Treating Patients With Locally Advanced or Metastatic Rectal Cancer (<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03300544>) (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03300544).
  3. Clinical Trial: A Phase I Trial combining Wee 1 Inhibitor AZD1775 with Chemoradiation prior to Surgery for resectable Esophageal Cancer.

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## Publications

1. T.J. George, A.J. Franke, A.B. Chakravarthy, P. Das, A. Dasari, B.F. El-Rayes, T.S. Hong, T.J. Kinsella, J.C. Landry, J.J. Lee, A.M. Monjazeb, S.A. Jacobs, D. Raben, O.E. Rahma, T.M. Williams, C. Wu, C.N. Coleman, B. Vikram, M.M. Ahmed, National Cancer Institute (NCI) state of the science: Targeted radiosensitizers in colorectal cancer, *Cancer*, 125 (2019) 2732-2746.

## Interested in becoming a member of the GI Interest Group?

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Please Contact the Interest Group Coordinator:

**Masoor M. Ahmed, PhD**

Radiation Research Program

Division of Cancer Treatment & Diagnosis

National Cancer Institute

**Tel:** 240 276 5700

**Email:** mansoor.ahmed@nih.gov