Alumnus Recognized for Contributions in Pancreatic Cancer Research

Lyssiotis's work has broad implications for harnessing the power of the immune system to treat the disease.

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Costas A. Lyssiotis, PhD (Damon Runyon Fellow '10–'13 and Damon Runyon-Dale F. Frey Breakthrough Scientist '13–'17), of the University of Michigan School of Medicine, Ann Arbor, received the American Gastroenterological Association Young Investigator Award for his contributions to immunotherapy for pancreatic cancer and new drug therapies targeting cancer metabolism. His lab has pinpointed several unique metabolic differences specific to the pancreas and is developing drugs to exploit them. Promising results in mice have led to a phase III clinical trial that will open soon at the Rogel Cancer Center comparing chemotherapy alone versus chemotherapy plus a metabolomic drug that switches off two pathways of energy.

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