Thank you for joining us!

Leveraging Innovation to Enhance Impact: Research, Practice, and Policy Perspectives
Dear Colleagues,

I would like to personally extend a warm welcome to the APOS 2021 Virtual Conference!

We are planning an interactive and dynamic virtual conference and we are excited about the many new program offerings that will ensure conference attendees not only learn about the latest in the science and practice of psychosocial oncology, but also have ample opportunities for engagement and networking.

Highlights include:

- Dynamic opportunity for engagement with program officers from funding agencies in the “Office Hours with Program Officers” session
- Exciting networking opportunities including Virtual Happy Hour and Noontime(ish)
- Knowledge
- Focused sessions to support Early Career Professionals, including the Career Coaching Series and the Virtual Internship, Fellowship and Job Fair
- Virtual Exhibit Hall with opportunities for engagement and interaction with our valued sponsors and exhibitors
- Virtual Book Club featuring a Q&A interactive session with guest authors
- Interactive sessions focused on self-care including morning Yoga, and new offerings including Mindfulness and Self-compassion practices

We sincerely appreciate your support of APOS and we look forward to hosting you at the APOS 2021 Virtual Conference!

Sincerely,

Yasmin Asvat, PhD
APOS 2021 Program Planning Chair
Thank You!
To our 2021 Program Committee!

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Rush University Medical Center

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Yesmin Asvat, PhD, is the program planning chair of the 2021 American Psychosocial Oncology Society virtual conference. She is a psychologist at Rush University Cancer Center in Chicago, and she specializes in psychosocial oncology, quality of life and resilience in cancer patients and survivors, mindfulness-based interventions in oncology, and health behavior changes in oncology.

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APOS
American psychosocial oncology society
Advancing the science and practice of psychosocial oncology.
2021 APOS Virtual Conference

Keynote and Plenary Speakers

**Monica Webb Hooper, PhD**
The Collision of Two Pandemics and the NIH Response: A Perspective from a Health Disparities Researcher

Wednesday, March 10th 3:00 – 4:00 PM Central

Sponsored by: WILEY

**Christine Chambers, PhD**
From Evidence to Influence: Moving Research into Practice and Policy

Thursday, March 11th 9:30 – 10:30 AM Central

**Victoria Forster, PhD**
Involving Cancer Survivors in Research: How to Avoid Tokenism and Enrich Projects with their Unique Expertise

Friday, March 12th 9:45 – 10:45 AM Central

**David Chambers, DPhil**
Advancing Implementation Science: Assumptions, Remedies and Future Directions

Friday, March 12th 3:30 – 4:30 PM Central
Define research, practice, and training priorities for the field of psychosocial oncology that reflect advancement and innovation in cancer care, with a special interest in implementation science efforts to enhance reach and impact.

Demonstrate how psychosocial oncology researchers, practitioners, advocates and policy makers leverage principles of innovation and its associated tools to advance the field - including (but not limited to) technology, data-driven metrics, emerging care delivery models, multi-disciplinary training programs.

Present evidence of the impact of psychosocial oncology to overall cancer care using metrics that may include cost-effectiveness, medical outcomes, psychosocial outcomes, patient and community satisfaction, provider satisfaction, and training outcomes.

Describe innovative models of psychosocial oncology care delivery that promote integration and adoption of scientific, evidence-based findings into clinical practice, training programs, and policy.
Accreditation Statement
In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Amedco LLC and American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS). Amedco LLC is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

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**Keynotes & Award Presentations**

- Opening Keynote Session: The Collision of Two Pandemics and the NIH Response: A Perspective from NIMHD by Dr. Monica Webb Hooper
- Plenary Session 2: From Evidence to Influence: Moving Research into Practice and Policy by Christine Chambers
- Plenary Session 3: Patient and Survivor Involvement in Research, a Call to Action: How to Effectively Integrate Patients Into Research Teams and Avoid Tokenism by Victoria Forster, PhD
- Closing Keynote Session: Advancing Implementation Science: Assumptions, Remedies and Future Directions by David Chambers, DPhil
- Presentation of The Jimmie Holland Lifetime Achievement Award
- Presentation of The Outstanding Clinical Award and The Outstanding Educational Award

**Symposia**

- Sleep Disturbances in Cancer and COVID: Treatment Dilemmas and Intervention Based Programs
- Meta-Vivorship: New Research on Long-Term Cancer Survivors With Metastatic Disease
- Innovations in e-Health: Translating Pandemic Pressures to Improve Access to Research Trials and Optimal Specialty Care
- Cancer Care Through COVID
- Psychosocial Screening in Pediatric Oncology: The Child/Adolescent/Young Adult Voice
- A New Era of Psychosocial Oncology Research: A Research Committee Symposium
- Leading in the Era of COVID-19: Innovations in Clinical Care, Research, and the Liaison Role
- Partnering With Cancer Rehabilitation to Improve Symptom Management, Psychosocial Distress, and Function: It’s More Than Lymphedema Referrals
- Strategies and Lessons Learned: The Development of a Psychosocial Oncology of Aging and Cancer Program
- Career Development for Early Career Professionals
- Standardization of Psychosocial Assessment and Intervention Across the Pediatric Oncology Illness Trajectory
- Organizational Resilience: Delivering Expanded, Accessible Psychosocial Care in the COVID-19 Era
- Psychiatric Oncology: Diagnostic Dilemmas and Clinical Conundrums for the Psychosocial Oncology Clinician (Sponsored by the Psychiatric Oncology SIG)
- Novel Interventions to Address Lung Cancer Stigma and its Negative Impacts
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Psycho-Oncology Training, Practice, and Research: Taking Action to Promote Organizational Change and Results of the APOS Health Equity Task Force
- Tales in Telehealth: Challenges and Solutions to Support the Sustained Use of Telehealth Services
- Leadership and Management in Psycho-Oncology: Four Perspectives From Academic and Community Programs

**Podium Sessions**

- Lightning Round Podium Session 1 - "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Part 1"
- Lightning Round Podium Session 2 - "Screening, Assessment and Outcomes"
- Lightning Round Podium Session 3 - "Innovations in Program Delivery"
- Lightning Round Podium Session 4 - "Symptom Management"
- Lightning Round Podium Session 5 - "Updates in Pediatric/AYA Care"
- Lightning Round Podium Session 6 - "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Part 2"
- Lightning Round Podium Session 7 - "Leveraging Virtual Care"
- Lightning Round Podium Session 8 - "Creative/Expressive Interventions"
- Lightning Round Podium Session 9 – “Updates in Caregiver Support”
- Top 10 Podium Session - "Best of the Best Poster"
CONGRATULATIONS!
The Jimmie Holland Lifetime Achievement Award

DR. TERRY BADGER is the Eleanor Bauwens Endowed Chair and Professor at the University of Arizona College of Nursing. She is the Chair of the Community and Systems Health Science Division and Professor in The University of Arizona Department of Psychiatry and the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. She has published over 125 papers in peer refereed journals and book chapters, led over 30 extramurally funded grants, and delivered more than 150 presentations at regional, national, and international conferences.

Dr. Badger is a pioneer and leader in the field of psychosocial oncology research among cancer survivor-caregiver dyads and in reducing health disparities among Latinas with breast cancer and their informal caregivers. For the past three decades, Dr. Badger has tested and continues to test psychosocial support interventions with the goal of improving the lives of the growing legions of cancer survivors and their informal caregivers. She has published groundbreaking landmark papers on the topic of interdependence of survivor and caregiver outcomes and developed an inter-individual model of distress, which provides sound theoretical grounding for dyadic psychosocial interventions. She is founder of the Symptoms, Health, Innovations, Equity (SHINE) research group that seeks to improve symptom management and quality of life for cancer survivors and their informal caregivers. Dr. Badger is currently the principal investigator, and the SHINE group members are co-investigators, on two National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01 grants devoted to the management of psychological distress and cancer- and treatment-related symptoms among survivors of solid tumor cancers and their informal caregivers. Her current research tests optimal personalized sequencing of interventions and determines if addressing depressive symptoms allows cancer survivors and caregivers to cognitively reframe beliefs regarding the efficacy of their actions towards symptom management.

Dr. Badger is committed to nursing education and preparing a new generation of researchers and practitioners. Since 2000, she has graduated over 45 PhD and DNP students, over 25 of them as a major professor. Dr. Badger’s professional service is extensive and includes serving as a reviewer for health sciences research, education, and practice journals; conference organizer; advisory board member; president of professional societies; reviewer of grants for the American Cancer Society, NIH, and numerous foundations; and consultant to community mental health organizations. She is a Past President and Fellow of the American Psychosocial Oncology Society.

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Moffitt Cancer Center
DR. ELYSE PARK is a clinical health psychologist and health services researcher who focuses on improving health-related behaviors among populations at risk for cancer and survivors. Her research is conducted at the MGH Mongan Institute for Health Policy and she co-directs the cancer survivorship program at the MGH Cancer Center. Additionally, she is director of Behavioral Research at the Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine at MGH and the MGH Tobacco Research and Treatment Center.

Her research focuses on developing and implementing behavioral interventions to enhance resiliency, decrease tobacco use, and improve access to healthcare. She founded the MGH Qualitative Mixed Methods Research Unit. She has been funded by the American Cancer Society (ACS), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJ), and the Livestrong Foundation to support her survivorship and cancer prevention research. Her contributions are reflected in 250 peer-reviewed publications. Clinically, she treats cancer survivors. She founded two hospital-based clinical services: the MGH Cancer Center’s Smokefree Support Service and the MGH Cancer Center Resiliency Survivorship Group Program.

As recipient an NCI K24 mentoring award recipient to promote patient-oriented research, she conducts her research, and mentors junior Medicine trainees and faculty, on the integration of behavioral interventions into cancer clinical care. She is currently conducting two NCI-funded R01 effectiveness-implementation trials integrating telehealth-delivered tobacco treatments into patients’ care during cancer screening and at the time of a cancer diagnosis. These trials are available to English and Spanish speaking patients and utilize novel health information technology (IT) platforms to promote patient outreach and access, including patient portals, informational clinician videos, and video-conferencing software. She is also conducting an American Cancer Society-funded trial to assess a health insurance navigation for childhood cancer survivors. Dr. Park has utilized national cohorts to examine survivors’ quality of life, specifically, the Childhood Cancer Survivor Study (CCSS), Cancer Care Outcomes Research and Surveillance (CanCORS) Consortium, and the National Lung Screening (NLST) Trial cohort.

Dr. Park was the standing Chair of the American Cancer Society’s national peer review Psychosocial and Behavioral research committee and has served as an ad hoc reviewer for NIH review committees as well as for various foundations. She is a member of the NCCN’s Guidelines for Smoking Cessation for cancer patients and the American Society of Clinical Oncology’s Tobacco Taskforce. She serves on the American Cancer Society’s National Lung Cancer Round Table as a Task Group member of the Provider Outreach and Tobacco Task Groups. She co-chairs the ECOG-ACRIN Health Promotion Subcommittee within the Cancer Control and Survivorship Committee, to advance a program of health promotion research within the community-based oncology clinics in the National Clinical Trials Network.
Congratulations!
The Distinguished Public Service Award

Catherine Alfano, PhD, Vice President, Cancer Care Management and Research; Northwell Health Cancer Institute Professor, Department of Medicine; Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell; & Center for Personalized Health, Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research. She is an international leader in cancer survivorship and cancer rehabilitation. At Northwell Health, she leads both clinical care design and research across the health system.

Operationally, she develops and oversees the implementation and integration of a high-quality cancer survivorship program for the health system with a goal of reducing unnecessary costs as a result of more timely and effective care while simultaneously improving long-term patient outcomes. She also oversees the growth of new research development and training programs and research projects. Before joining Northwell, she served as the Vice President of Survivorship at the American Cancer Society where she provided vision and leadership to ACS research, programming, and policy efforts nationwide to improve the lives of cancer survivors. She previously served as the Deputy Director of the National Cancer Institute’s Office of Cancer Survivorship where she created funding opportunity announcements to fill gaps in cancer survivorship and transdisciplinary research and administered a grant portfolio of cancer rehabilitation, symptom management, and behavior change trials. Dr. Alfano’s research aims to speed the effective translation of research into practice and inform supporting policy to optimize patient outcomes and clinic efficiency, address provider shortages, and decrease healthcare costs. This research focuses on: 1) Domestic and global efforts to improve interventions and models of care delivery for oncology, cancer rehabilitation, and survivorship; 2) Integrating multi-source Big Data including Real World Evidence to generate insights for predictive and prescriptive analytics and creating mobile health and other digital health tools leading to better-personalized care approaches; 3) Incorporating rehabilitation, healthy behavior change, and self-management into oncology and cancer follow-up care; and 4) The integration of biological and behavioral pathways governing health, accelerated aging, function, and cancer prognosis.

In addition to her roles at Northwell, she has led work with the American Society of Clinical Oncology to help American healthcare systems develop risk & need-stratified survivorship care that focuses on helping patients self-manage their health and delivers care outside of clinic walls. She has held leadership positions as the Chair of the Cancer Special Interest Group of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, and Co-Chair of the American Society of Clinical Oncology Clinical Practice Guideline Panel: Diet, Physical Activity and Weight Management During Cancer Treatment. She has served on the American Society of Clinical Oncology’s Survivorship Committee and Energy Balance Sub-committee; and on the Research Task Force of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine’s Cancer Networking Group.
CONGRATULATIONS!

The Outstanding Educational Award

**Sharla Wells-Di Gregorio** is an Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Palliative Medicine at The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital where she provides clinical psychology services, specializing in work with patients and families with advanced cancer and at the end of life. She is also Associate Vice Chair for Wellness in Internal Medicine tasked with improving wellness and resilience for a department of 600 physicians and staff.

She is current Director of Professional Education for the American Psychosocial Oncology Society, overseeing a national committee of 20 professionals responsible for the education and training of psychologists, nurses, psychiatrists, and social workers in psychosocial oncology. This committee is building an Online Psychosocial Oncology Core Curriculum, conducting a survey to establish productivity benchmarks, and creating an online platform for building psychosocial oncology programs. This includes activities for resilience building. Her research focuses on translation and empirical validation of psychological interventions for symptom management, evaluation of psychosocial oncology models of care, and studies to improve oncology communication, particularly for patients with serious illness. In her role at Ohio State, she developed a two-year Psychosocial Oncology & Palliative Medicine Fellowship Program for clinical psychologists. She also chaired the multi-disciplinary committee at the James Cancer Hospital to validate the James Supportive Care Screening, a measure recommended nationally for comprehensive cancer screening.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Outstanding Clinical Award

**Mary K. Hughes** earned both her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from Texas Woman’s University and is certified in thanatology. She has been a clinical nurse specialist in the Psychiatry Department at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center since 1990 and sees patients as well as caregivers. She has won several awards from the Oncology Nursing Society and the Sword of Hope from the American Cancer Society as well as the Brown Foundation Award from UT MD Anderson Cancer Center. She lectures internationally and nationally about quality-of-life issues of cancer patients and has published on these subjects.
CONGRATULATIONS!
The New Investigator Award

Dr. Reese is an Associate Professor in the Cancer Prevention and Control Program at Fox Chase Cancer Center, a behavioral scientist and licensed psychologist. Her program of research focuses on developing evidence-based interventions that aim to improve sexual health outcomes, relationships, and quality of life for those affected by cancer. A key long-term objective of her work is to integrate sexual health into the care of individuals diagnosed with and treated for cancer.

Dr. Reese recently completed an American Cancer Society (ACS) Mentored Research Scholar Grant centering on the development and evaluation of patient- and provider-focused interventions to improve clinical communication about sexual concerns in breast cancer. She currently has funding from the National Cancer Institute to pilot test a mobile learning (mLearning) intervention aimed at enhancing breast cancer clinicians’ communication about sexual health. She also has funding from the National Cancer Institute to evaluate a couple-based Intimacy Enhancement intervention to address sexual concerns and improve sexual, relationship, and psychosocial outcomes for breast cancer survivors and their partners. She is currently working to extend this line of research to include women with metastatic breast cancer with funding from the American Cancer Society. Dr. Reese is incoming Chair Elect of the Scientific Network on Female Sexual Health and Cancer and serves as an Associate Editor of Annals of Behavioral Medicine, as well as a member of the Affiliate Editorial Board of the journal Psycho-Oncology.

Sponsored by:

Fox Chase Cancer Center
Temple Health
Scott A. Irwin, M.D., Ph.D., is currently the Director of Cedars-Sinai Cancer’s Patient and Family Support Program and a Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences within Cedars-Sinai Health System. His career focuses on improving outcomes for those with cancer or other progressive, potentially life-limiting illnesses, and their families, through leading-edge clinical services, ongoing research, and program development, improvement, and implementation.

He is widely published, has been recognized at many levels for his research, teaching, consulting, and clinical endeavors, and has received research funding from the NCI, NIMH, the National Palliative Care Research Center, the Archstone Foundation, and industry. Dr. Irwin earned his Bachelor of Science from the University of California, Los Angeles, and both his MD and PhD (neuroscience) at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He successfully completed his psychiatry residency at UC San Diego as chief resident of Outpatient Psychiatric Services, as well as a two-year elective in hospice and palliative care at San Diego Hospice and The Institute for Palliative Medicine. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, with subspecialty certification in psychosomatic medicine.

Dr. Lynne Padgett is a rehabilitation psychologist who has worked in multiple healthcare and cancer care settings, including the School of Medicine at Emory University, Kaiser Permanente Department of Hospital Medicine, the National Cancer Institute, the American Cancer Society, and currently at the Washington, D.C. Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Her research interests are at the intersections of cancer rehabilitation, psychosocial and palliative care in oncology. More specifically she has worked in screening for distress, symptoms and physical function in cancer patients, palliative care decision making, cognitive and psychosocial effects of cancer and cancer treatment and the implementation of evidenced based care in community cancer settings. She is interested in the potential of technology to extend the reach of clinical care and to facilitate screening and referrals. Her clinical work focuses on symptom management in cancer patients, particularly cognition and fatigue. She has published in these areas and works as part of two writing and research teams.

Dr. Padgett currently serves as the APOS Secretary and served as Director of Research. She is also a member of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, where she is a member of the Cancer Rehabilitation Cognition and Research and Outcomes working groups. Dr. Padgett’s work has been characterized by a focus on translation scientific evidence into care. From her experiences she has taken the following lessons: If it’s worth doing, it’s worth evaluating; Quality care builds on the unique strengths of a cancer center; and Start programs where they are excited to see you!
Congratulations!

APOS Fellows class of 2021

Dr. Alla Sikorskii is a Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Michigan State University. Dr. Sikorskii has formal training in Statistics and Probability and a track record of successful productive collaboration with health researchers and clinicians. She has built a program of research in cancer symptom management and patient-reported outcomes, and design and evaluation of interventions to improve these outcomes among people with cancer and other chronic conditions.

Dr. Sikorskii has designed numerous randomized controlled trials (RCTs) including procedures for screening, randomization, timing of longitudinal assessments, measurement of important factors, and ways to control for them. Her completed work includes defining the cut-points for symptom severity and anchor-based definition of responses to multiple cancer-related symptoms, in collaboration with Drs. Barbara and Charles Given. She has proposed and successfully implemented the innovative analyses of response and times to response to the management of multiple symptoms. She has served as a co-investigator and statistician on 18 NIH-funded R01 grant projects. Her most recent work is devoted to the advance from traditional RCTs that test fixed interventions to adaptive interventions tailored to individuals. This shift requires research that sequences interventions and creates decision rules for switching from one intervention to another based individuals’ demonstrated needs. When an intervention does not initially work, clinical logic is to either extend the timeframe or move to a more intensive intervention. This logic leads to multi-staged interventions, where the subsequent stage is individually tailored, based on the response to the previous intervention (stage). The sequential multiple assignment randomized trial (SMART) allows to build the evidence base for multi-staged interventions. Dr. Sikorskii has led the applications of the SMART design to test sequences of supportive care interventions among people with cancer.

Dr. Sikorskii has over 170 peer-reviewed publications. She has served as a member and chair of NIH study sections; peer reviewer for many journals including Psychooncology; editorial board member of the Journal of Clinical Oncology; and Associate Editor of Research in Nursing and Health.

Dr. Jon Levenson’s specialty within psychiatry includes consultation-liaison psychiatry. He is board certified in the related subspecialty of Psychosomatic Medicine. Within these fields Dr. Levenson’s special areas of interest include psychiatric aspects of AIDS and Oncology, as well as psychiatric contributions to palliative care. He is past president of both the American Psychosocial Oncology Society and the Society for Liaison Psychiatry. Dr. Levenson is also interested in the training of medical students, residents, as well as other health professionals in the psychiatric aspects of medicine.
Congratulations!
APOS Fellows class of 2021

**Dr. Elyse Park** is a clinical health psychologist and health services researcher who focuses on improving health-related behaviors among populations at risk for cancer and survivors. Her research is conducted at the MGH Mongan Institute for Health Policy and she co-directs the cancer survivorship program at the MGH Cancer Center. Additionally, she is director of Behavioral Research at the Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine at MGH and the MGH Tobacco Research and Treatment Center.

Her research focuses on developing and implementing behavioral interventions to enhance resiliency, decrease tobacco use, and improve access to healthcare. She founded the MGH Qualitative Mixed Methods Research Unit. She has been funded by the American Cancer Society (ACS), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJ), and the Livestrong Foundation to support her survivorship and cancer prevention research. Her contributions are reflected in 250 peer-reviewed publications. Clinically, she treats cancer survivors. She founded two hospital-based clinical services: the MGH Cancer Center’s Smokefree Support Service and the MGH Cancer Center Resiliency Survivorship Group Program.

As recipient an NCI K24 mentoring award recipient to promote patient-oriented research, she conducts her research, and mentors junior Medicine trainees and faculty, on the integration of behavioral interventions into cancer clinical care. She is currently conducting two NCI-funded R01 effectiveness-implementation trials integrating telehealth-delivered tobacco treatments into patients’ care during cancer screening and at the time of a cancer diagnosis. These trials are available to English and Spanish speaking patients and utilize novel health information technology (IT) platforms to promote patient outreach and access, including patient portals, informational clinician videos, and video-conferencing software. She is also conducting an American Cancer Society-funded trial to assess a health insurance navigation for childhood cancer survivors. Dr. Park has utilized national cohorts to examine survivors’ quality of life, specifically, the Childhood Cancer Survivor Study (CCSS), Cancer Care Outcomes Research and Surveillance (CanCORS) Consortium, and the National Lung Screening (NLST) Trial cohort.

Dr. Park was the standing Chair of the American Cancer Society’s national peer review Psychosocial and Behavioral research committee and has served as an ad hoc reviewer for NIH review committees as well as for various foundations. She is a member of the NCCN’s Guidelines for Smoking Cessation for cancer patients and the American Society of Clinical Oncology’s Tobacco Taskforce. She serves on the American Cancer Society’s National Lung Cancer Round Table as a Task Group member of the Provider Outreach and Tobacco Task Groups. She co-chairs the ECOG-ACRIN Health Promotion Subcommittee within the Cancer Control and Survivorship Committee, to advance a program of health promotion research within the community-based oncology clinics in the National Clinical Trials Network.
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