

# Department of Radiation Oncology

## Monthly Research Update: April 2025

### APRIL AT A GLANCE TOTALS

#### Clinical trials

Total enrolled	39
GCC, other	12
NRG, co-ops	3
PCG, other registries	24

#### Grants and contracts

New awards	0
Submitted	2

Articles published	3
--------------------	---

Information for this monthly update should be provided no later than the second Wednesday of each month to Miek Segers at [msegers@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:msegers@som.umaryland.edu). The update will be published on the second Friday of each month.

Have questions about identifying a funding source? Finding research partners across the UMB/UM campuses or at another university? Defining future research strategies? Or organizing your thoughts on (virtual) paper? Contact Nancy Knight, PhD, Director of Academic and Professional Development for the department, at [nknight@umm.edu](mailto:nknight@umm.edu)

## NIH Reminder on International Collaborations

On April 23 the National Institutes of Health (NIH) issued a [reminder notice](#) about application requirements for projects involving activities outside of the U.S. or partnerships with international collaborators. Although this reinforces longstanding requirements, it is clear that such collaborations will now be under additional scrutiny, and researchers should carefully follow the guidelines for all applications and compliance reports. According to NIH, international collaborations “must present special opportunities for furthering research programs through the use of unusual talents, resources, populations, or environmental conditions in other countries which are not readily available in the U.S., or which provide augmentation of existing U.S. resources.”

Funding applicants must report such collaborations on the SF-424 R&R Other Project Information Form and must include a Foreign Justification attachment, including the reasons why the facilities or other aspects of the proposed project are more appropriate than U.S. sources. This attachment is required for all applications with international collaborators, even if the foreign component will not receive funds.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke has posted detailed [additional information](#) and examples for fulfilling these requirements. Researchers should also review the [new NIH policy on foreign subawards](#).

## Clinical Trial Enrollment

- 20 patients at MPTC on the **Proton Collaborative Group Registry**
- 4 patients at MPTC on the **Deep Thermal Therapy HUD**
- 1 patient at UMMC on **GCC 2384**: Evaluation of improved onboard patient imaging with the HyperSight platform on TrueBeam 4.1
- 1 patient at UCH on **GCC 1944**: A randomized phase III trial of two standard dose fractionation regimens for adjuvant vaginal brachytherapy in early-stage endometrial cancer
- 5 patients at UMMC on **GCC 2380**: A single arm phase I-II trial evaluating selective adjuvant therapy for HPV mediated oropharynx SCCs based on residual circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) levels (SAVAL)
- 2 patients at UMMC on **GCC 2422**: Phase I feasibility and pilot RCT of serious illness conversation guide in patient and intimate partner dyads living with advanced lung cancer
- 1 patient at UMMC on **NRG BN013**: Phase III trial of single fraction stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) versus fractionated SRS (FSRS) for intact brain metastases
- 1 patient at MPTC on **GCC 2431**: A pilot study of chemioimmunotherapy combined with hyperthermia and spatially fractionated radiotherapy in advanced biliary tract cancer
- 1 patient at MPTC on **GCC 19140**: Pilot study of laser interstitial thermal therapy followed by hypofractionated radiation therapy for recurrent high-grade gliomas
- 1 patient at MPTC on **GCC 2242**: Hybrid virtual MRI/CBCT for image guidance in liver radiation therapy
- 1 patient at BWMC on **S1827**: MRI brain surveillance alone versus MRI surveillance and prophylactic cranial irradiation (PCI): A randomized phase III trial in small cell lung cancer (MAVERICK)
- 1 patient at BWMC on **NRG BN011**: A phase III trial of lomustine temozolomide combination therapy versus standard temozolomide in patients with methylated MGMT promoter glioblastoma

## Grants and Contracts

### Submitted

- **Dario Rodrigues, PhD**, multi-PI/PD, for a Vetenskapsrådets network grant for collaboration in cancer research between Sweden and the U.S. for “Development of quality assurance guidelines for hyperthermia systems targeting brain cancer” (\$20,833)
- **Mishra, Mark, MD**, Multi PI/PD (GCCC) to NIH RFA-CA-24-033, NCI National Clinical Trials Network Network Lead Academic Participating Sites (UG1) for “Expanding access and engagement: Bridging diverse communities to NCTN trials” (\$6,311,184).

## Articles Published

Entered into PubMed April 9–May 8. Titles link to PubMed abstracts.

1. Armstrong AJ, Liu VYT, Selvaraju RR, Chen E, Simko JP, DeVries S, Sartor O, Sandler HM, Mohamad O, Huang HC, Griffin J, Yamashita R, Esteva A, **Tran PT**, Spratt DE, Carson JH, Peters C, Gore E, Lee SP, Monson JM, Augspurger ME, El-Gayed A, Rodgers JP, McKay R, Morgan T, Feng FY, Nguyen PL. [Development and validation of an artificial intelligence digital pathology biomarker to predict benefit of long-term hormonal therapy and radiotherapy in men with high-risk prostate cancer across multiple phase III trials.](#) *J Clin Oncol.* 2025 Apr 16:JCO2400365. Online ahead of print.
2. Cai L, Wu F, Zhou Q, Gao Y, Yao B, DeBerardinis RJ, Acquaah-Mensah GK, Aidinis V, Beane JE, Biswal S, Chen T, Concepcion-Crisol CP, Grüner BM, Jia D, Jones RA, Kurie JM, Lee MG, Lindahl P, Lissanu Y, Lorz C, MacPherson D, Martinelli R, Mazur PK, Mazzilli SA, Mii S, Moll HP, Moorehead RA, Morrissey EE, Ng SR, Oser MG, Pandiri AR, Powell CA, Ramadori G, Santos M, Snyder EL, Sotillo R, Su KY, Taki T, Taparra K, **Tran PT**, Xia Y, van Veen JE, Winslow MM, Xiao G, Rudin CM, Oliver TG, Xie Y, Minna JD. [The Lung Cancer Autochthonous Model Gene Expression Database enables cross-study comparisons of the transcriptomic landscapes across mouse models.](#) *Cancer Res.* 2025 Apr 29:OF1-OF15. Online ahead of print.
3. **Cao Y, Cherg HR, Kunaprayoon D, Mishra MV, Ren L.** [Interpretable AI-assisted clinical decision making for treatment selection for brain metastases in radiation therapy.](#) *Med Phys.* 2025 Apr 21. Online ahead of print.

## Important Dates for Upcoming Funding Submissions

Below is an updated calendar for **Cycle II NIH Submission Deadlines for 2025** with firm due dates for major standard NIH deadlines (RFA/PA dates may differ). Contact the Department Office of Research Administration ([msegers@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:msegers@som.umaryland.edu)) ASAP if you plan to submit any funding proposal, regardless of funder.

NIH deadline <sup>4</sup>	DORA deadline <sup>1</sup>	ORA deadline <sup>2</sup>	SPA deadline <sup>3</sup>
R01/U01 June 5 (New)	05/23/2025	05/27/2025	05/29/2025
R21(*) June 16 (New)	06/03/2025	06/05/2025	06/09/2025
R01/U01 July 5 (renewal, resubmission, revision)	06/23/2025	06/27/2025	06/30/2025
R21(*) July 16 (renewal, resubmission, revision)	07/03/2025	07/07/2025	07/09/2025

<sup>1</sup>**DORA deadline:** All forms to be included in proposal, known or in draft, budget final, subcontractor budgets and information final in final form, 9 business days prior to NIH deadline.

<sup>2</sup>**ORA deadline:** Personnel, effort, budget materials, performance site, and compliance forms routed in final form, 7 business days prior to NIH deadline.

<sup>3</sup>**SPA deadline:** All proposal materials routed in FINAL form by 5 pm, 5 business days prior to NIH deadline. No more corrections allowed, unless indicated (after review) by SPA.

<sup>4</sup>**NIH deadlines in bold** fall on a weekend or federal holiday and will be shifted to the next business day, per NIH policy. Internal deadlines are calculated according to the shifted NIH deadline.

(\*)The R21 deadline is also for R03, R33, R21/R33, R34, R36, U34, UH2, UH3, and UH2/UH3 submissions.