



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

Award ID:
RP160157

Project Title:
Cancer Intervention and Prevention Discoveries Program

Award Mechanism:
Research Training

Principal Investigator:
White, Michael A

Entity:
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Lay Summary:

The CIPD program intends to train exceptional scientists capable of conducting independent cancer research with a deep understanding of the science, public health, and clinical problems of human cancer. More specifically, we aim to develop a cadre of scientists who can formulate clinically important questions from a basic science perspective, who understand how to interface and collaborate with clinical and translational researchers, and who have the skill set to target their research programs to address unmet therapeutic and diagnostic needs. The interaction between the lab and the clinic is key to a translational approach in the treatment of cancer. To capitalize upon the advances in cancer biology, teams of basic, translational, and clinical researchers must work together to successfully translate laboratory observations to the clinic, and clinical observations back to the laboratory. Basic, translational, and clinical researchers must understand each other's vocabulary, goals, objectives, research directions, problems, and importantly, their limitations. To that end, the CIPD program integrates training and participation in the leading-edge science of cancer discovery with structured exposure to clinical practice and the translation of scientific discovery into patient treatments. Our trainees should move on to lead independent research programs in basic or clinical science departments, partner with physicians in team-based clinical translational research programs, or lead multidisciplinary teams in the pharma/biotech sector. To date, the CIPD program has trained 48 graduate students, 24 postdocs, and 55 summer undergraduate fellows. These trainees have produced 80 cancer-focused publications in high-impact journals, a clinical trial for KRAS cancer therapy, and presented 75 advances at international scientific meetings.