Sonali M. Smith, MD

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Dr. Sonali Smith is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Director of the Lymphoma Program at the University of Chicago Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Smith is an expert in the care and treatment of adults with all types of Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphoma. She has a special interest in new agents for lymphoma, as well as stem cell transplantation and its role in improving the survival of patients with recurrent lymphomas.

An active researcher, Dr. Smith is involved in the development of promising agents for patients with both newly diagnosed and relapsed/refractory non-Hodgkin and Hodgkin lymphoma. She is principal investigator on a number of innovative clinical trials. Many of the trials incorporate the collection of tumor and blood samples to study the effects of treatment on cancer cells through collaborative laboratories. In particular, she is interested in inhibition of the PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway, which appears to be a promising target across several lymphoma subtypes. She has also authored several clinical trials through the National Cancer Institute?s Phase II CTEP program as well as through CALGB/ALLIANCE.

Dr. Smith is a core member of the Lymphoma Committee for CALGB since 2006 and is also active in several national cancer organizations, including ASH, CIBMTR and ASCO, where she has held past and present positions on various committees. Dr. Smith also frequently performs peer reviews of research being considered for publication in major medical journals. She has won several teaching awards at the University of Chicago.

Her work with ASCO includes serving as the Specialty Editor for Lymphoma/Leukemia/Transplantation for the CancerProgress.Net website, serving on the Cancer Communication Committee, serving ASCO University, and a recently completed term on the Conquer Cancer Foundation grants review committee.

Dr. Smith is particularly dedicated to the Lymphoma Research Foundation (LRF), and has given patient education lectures in San Francisco, Omaha, New York City and Chicago. She co-chaired the Chicago Patient Education Forum from May 2010-2014 and is part of the steering committee for the LRF Chicago Lymphoma Rounds. In May 2011, she was elected to the Scientific Advisory Board of the LRF. Her overall goal is to improve the lives of patients with lymphomas.

Disclosure: In the past two years, Dr. Smith has served as a consultant/advisor to Astellas, Celgene, Genentech, Micromet, Seattle Genetics, Spectrum, TG Therapeutics, Onyx, Gilead and has served on speakers? bureaus for Seattle Genetics and Janssen (both speakers? bureaus are now terminated). She has also served on Data Safety Monitoring Board for Genentech.