

Rita Assi

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Date of birth 21-07-1985

Place of birth Akkar, Lebanon

Citizenship Lebanese

Marital status Married

Current Position

03-2019 - present

Assistant Professor of Hematology-Oncology at the Lebanese American University-
Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine and Lebanese American
University Medical Center-Rizk Hospital

Following three years of training in hematology and oncology and 2 years in Leukemia at MD Anderson Cancer Center, I have pursued an academic and clinical research career in general hematology and oncology with major focus hematological, gastrointestinal and genitourinary malignancies,

During my training, I have developed a particular interest in clinical investigation and I have been a collaborator on many clinical trials at MDACC. One of these protocols is a phase I/II study evaluating the combination of a novel agent Selinexor with the FLT3-tyrosine kinase inhibitor sorafenib in patients with relapsed/refractory FLT3-mutated AML (NCT02530476). The other protocol is a phase II study of Alemtuzumab or Tocilizumab in combination with Etoposide and Dexamethasone for the treatment of adult patients with hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH) (NCT02385110). Through these novel combinations, I hope to improve upon the historically poor outcomes of patients with relapsed/refractory FLT3-mutated AML and a rare fatal inflammatory disease.

I have also been responsible of building the MDACC HLH database and coordinated with Novimmune to conduct an observational study in adults (NI-0501-07); we also collected cytokines samples on HLH patients and controls for correlation and translational studies. This work will be reported soon.

Additionally, I have been working on prospective collection of plasma samples from AML patients to conduct cell-free DNA sequencing (liquid biopsy). This is a novel concept in leukemia. This work has been partially completed and results will be reported soon. I am also conducting a systematic review and built a large database on the role of next generation sequencing in AML at MD Anderson over the last 5 years, with focus on how understanding genetic diversity and uncovering actionable mutations have dictated targeted therapy and enrollment in clinical trials at our institution. This project was accepted as a major oral presentation at ASCO 2018, as part of clinical science symposium, and was granted the Sherwin Family Endowed award for the first three best abstracts of ASCO.

I have also developed a special interest in immunology and immunotherapy over the course of my training. I have been fortunate to work with Nobel Prize Laureate Dr Jim Allison on his platform and presented an oral abstract at the American Society of Hematology meeting on the frontline use of immunotherapy in AML. Furthermore, I have authored and co-authored a number of publications including original articles in the field of hematology and medical oncology.

Education

09-2004 - 07-2010	Lebanese University, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Beirut, Lebanon MD, Clinical Medicine
07-2010 - 06-2013	Lebanese University, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Beirut, Lebanon Residency in Internal Medicine
06-2013 - 06-2016	American University of Beirut Medical Center, Beirut, Lebanon Hematology and Oncology Fellowship
07-2016 - 07-2018	The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX Leukemia Fellowship

Honors and Awards

2018	The Kimberley Patterson Endowed Fellowship in Leukemia Research, UT MDACC
2018	Best Leukemia Fellow at MD Anderson Cancer Center
2018	Abstract Achievement Award, American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
2018	Sherwin Family Endowed Award of ASCO (given to the three highest ranking abstracts)
2017	Abstract Achievement Award, American Society of Hematology
2017	Abstract Achievement Award, American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
2014	Award to attend the GAP-International MD Anderson meeting in Seoul- Oral presentation

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

2013 - present	Member, American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
2013 - present	Member, American Society of Hematology (ASH)
2013 - present	Member, Society of Hematological Oncology (SOHO)
2016 - 2018	Member, Medication Safety Committee at MD Anderson Cancer Center
03-2019 - present	Member of the Internal Medicine university and hospital committees for curriculum review and accreditation
11-2019 - present	Oncology Drug development and Innovative Strategies in Clinical Trials "OncoDISTinCT" Research Network Member and Middle East representative

Publications

1. **Rita Assi**, Anwar Shayya, Wassim Mchayleh , Houssein Abdul-Sater. *Epigenetic control of immune check points (ICP): An opportunity to repeal inherent tumor resistance. Accepted in **Seminars in Cancer Biology**.*
2. Farhad Ravandi*, **Rita Assi***, Naval Daver, Christopher B Benton, Tapan Kadia, Philip A Thompson, Gautam Borthakur, Yesid Alvarado, Elias J. Jabbour, Marina Konopleva, Koichi Takahashi, Steven Kornblau, Courtney D. DiNardo, Zeev Estrov, Wilmer Flores, Sreyashi Basu, James Allison, Padmanee Sharma, Sherry Pierce, Allison Pike, Jorge E. Cortes, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, and Hagop M. Kantarjian. *Phase II Trial of Idarubicin, Cytarabine and Nivolumab in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Acute Myeloid Leukaemia and High-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome. (*Equal contribution).* August 2019 DOI: 10.1016/S2352-3026(19)30114-0
3. **Rita Assi**, Nicholas Short. *Blast Crisis of Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML): A Digest for Intensivists.* January 2019 DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-74698-2_93-1 *In book: Oncologic Critical Care.*
4. Kiran Naqvi, Koji Sasaki, Guillermo Montalban-Bravo, Ana Alfonso Pierola, Musa Yilmaz, Nicholas Short, **Rita Assi**, Elias Jabbur, Farhad Ravandi, Tapan Kadia, Sherry Pierce, Koichi Takahashi, Graciela

- Nogueras-Gonzalez, Rashmi Kanagal-Shamanna, Keyur Patel, Hagop Kantarjian, Guillermo Garcia-Manero. *Clonal hematopoiesis of indeterminate potential associated mutations and risk of comorbidities in patients with myelodysplastic syndrome*. March 2019. Cancer DOI: 10.1002/cncr.32056
5. Christopher Benton, Prajwal Boddu, Courtney DiNardo, Prithviraj Bose, Wang F, **Rita Assi**, Naveen Pemmaraju, Devendra KC, Sherry Pierce, Keyur Patel, Marina Konopleva, Farhad Ravandi, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Tapan Kadia, Jorge Cortes, Hagop Kantarjian, Michael Andreeff, Srdan Verstovsek. *Janus kinase 2 variants associated with the transformation of myeloproliferative neoplasms into acute myeloid leukemia*. Cancer. 2019 Feb 27. doi: 10.1002/cncr.31986. [Epub ahead of print]
6. **Rita Assi**, Rami Mahfouz, Renius Owen, Martha Gunthorpe, Farid F. Chehab, Ali Bazarbachi. *PAX5, NOTCH3, CFBF and ACD Drive an Activated RAS Pathway and Monosomy 7 to B-ALL and AML in Donor Cell Leukemia*. Bone Marrow Transplant. 2018 Dec 10. doi: 10.1038/s41409-018-0419-7. [Epub ahead of print]
7. Charbel Saade, Jad Chokr, Lena Naffaa L, Walid Faraj, Ali Shamseddine, Deborah Mukherji, Skye Sayegh, **Rita Assi**, Ali Haydar. *Reduced Contrast Volume and Radiation Dose During Computed Tomography of the Pancreas: Timing-Specific Contrast Media Protocol*. Acad Radiol. 2018 Aug 16. pii: S1076-6332(18)30312-X. doi: 10.1016/j.acra.2018.05.027. [Epub ahead of print]
8. **Rita Assi**, Hatice D. Gur, Sanam Loghavi, Sergej N. Konoplev, Marina Konopleva, Naval Daver, Mehrnoosh Tashakori, Tapan Kadia, Mark Routbort, Alireza Salem, Rashmi Kanagal-Shamanna, Andres Quesada, Elias J. Jabbour, Steven M. Kornblau, L. Jeffrey Medeiros, Hagop Kantarjian, Joseph D. Khoury. *P53 protein overexpression in de novo acute myeloid leukemia patients with normal diploid karyotype correlates with FLT3 internal tandem duplication and worse relapse-free survival*. Am J Hematol. 2018 Nov;93(11):1376-1383. doi: 10.1002/ajh.25255. Epub 2018 Sep 23.
9. **Rita Assi**, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Farhad Ravandi, Gautam Borthakur, Naval Daver, Elias Jabbour, Jan Burger, Zeev Estrov, Courtney Dinardo, Yesid Alvarado, Stephany Hendrickson, Alessandra Ferrajoli, William Wierda, Jorge Cortes, Hagop Kantarjian, and Tapan Kadia. *Addition of Eltrombopag to Immunosuppressive Therapy in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Aplastic Anemia*. Cancer. 2018 Oct 11. doi: 10.1002/cncr.31658. [Epub ahead of print]. PMID: 30117185
10. **Rita Assi**, Hagop Kantarjian, Tapan Kadia, Naveen Pemmaraju, Elias Jabbour, Nitin Jain, Naval Daver, Zeev Estrov, Taisuke Uehara, Takashi Owa, Jorge Cortes, Gautam Borthakur: *Final results of a phase 2, open-label study of indisulam, idarubicin, and cytarabine in patients with relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukemia and high-risk myelodysplastic syndrome*. Cancer. 2018 Apr 16. doi: 10.1002/cncr.31398. [Epub ahead of print]. PMID: 30307606
11. **Rita Assi**, Farhad Ravandi: *FLT3 Inhibitors in Acute Myeloid Leukemia: Choosing the Best when the Optimal Does Not Exist*. American Journal of Hematology 12/2017; DOI:10.1002/ajh.25027. PMID: 29285788
12. **Rita Assi**, Hagop Kantarjian, Farhad Ravandi, Naval Daver: *Immune therapies in acute myeloid leukemia: a focus on monoclonal antibodies and immune checkpoint inhibitors*. Current Opinion in Hematology 12/2017; 25(2):1., DOI:10.1097/MOH.0000000000000401. PMID: 29206680
13. **Rita Assi**, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Jorge E. Cortes, Naveen Pemmaraju, Xuemei Wang, Graciela Nogueras-Gonzalez, Elias Jabbour, Prithviraj Bose, Tapan Kadia, Courtney D. Dinardo, Keyur Patel, Carlos Bueso-Ramos, Lingsha Zhou, Sherry Pierce, Romany Gergis, Carla Tuttle, Gautam Borthakur, Zeev Estrov, Rajyalakshmi Luthra, Juliana Hidalgo-Lopez, Srdan Verstovsek, Naval Daver: *A Phase II Trial of Ruxolitinib in Combination with Azacytidine in Myelodysplastic Syndrome/Myeloproliferative Neoplasms*. American Journal of Hematology 11/2017; 93(5)., DOI:10.1002/ajh.24972. PMID: 29134664
14. Radwan Massoud, **Rita Assi**, Elie Fares, Basel Haffar, Maya Charafeddine, Nabila Kreidieh, Rami Mahfouz, Souha S. Kanj, Aline El Zakhem, Mohamed Kharfan-Dabaja, Ali Bazarbachi, Jean El Cheikh: *Cytomegalovirus Reactivation in Lymphoma and Myeloma Patients undergoing Autologous Peripheral Blood Stem Cell transplantation*. Journal of Clinical Virology 08/2017;, DOI:10.1016/j.jcv.2017.08.006. PMID: 28843110
15. **Rita Assi**, Hagop Kantarjian, Nicholas J. Short, Naval Daver, Koichi Takahashi, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Courtney DiNardo, Jan Burger, Jorge Cortes, Nitin Jain, William Wierda, Salim Chamoun, Marina Konopleva, Elias Jabbour: *Safety and Efficacy of Blinatumomab in Combination with a Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor for the*

Treatment of Relapsed Philadelphia Chromosome-Positive Leukemia. DOI:10.1016/j.clml.2017.08.101. PMID: 28927784

16. Walid L Shaib, **Rita Assi**, Ali Shamseddine, Olatunji B Alese, Charles Staley, Bahar Memis, Volkan Adsay, Tonios Bekaii-Saab, Bassel F El-Rayes: *Appendiceal Mucinous Neoplasms: Diagnosis and Management*. *The Oncologist* 06/2017; DOI:10.1634/theoncologist.2017-0081. PMID: 28663356

17. Rana Salem, Charbel Matar, **Rita Assi**, Raafat Alameddine, Sally Temraz, Ali Shamseddine, Deborah Mukherji: *Perceptions and Attitudes of Cancer Patients and Caregivers Towards Enrollment in Clinical Trials in Lebanon*. *Journal of Cancer Education* 12/2017; DOI:10.1007/s13187-017-1307-3. PMID: 29196906

18. Neil Vasan, Maria Ignez Braghiroli, Alexander N. Shoushtari, Richard Kinh Gian Do, Marcia Edelweiss, Ali Shamseddine, Walid Faraj, Deborah Mukherji, Ali Haydar, Ashwaq Olayan, Fouad Sabatin, **Rita Assi**, Imane El Dika, Leonard B. Saltz, Ghassan K. Abou-Alfa, Eileen M. O'Reilly: *An elderly man with remote history of metastatic melanoma now with localized pancreas cancer and new liver masses*. *Journal of gastrointestinal oncology* 06/2017; 8(3):596-602., DOI:10.21037/jgo.2017.01.21. PMID: 28736647

19. Abdul Rashid Shah, Tariq Muzzafar, **Rita Assi**, Dawid Schellingerhout, Zeev Estrov, Gevorg Tamamyan, Hagop Kantarjian, Naval Daver: *Hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis in adults: An under recognized entity*. *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta - Clinical* 06/2017; 7(C):36-40., DOI:10.1016/j.bbacli.2016.12.002. PMID: 28070498

20. **Rita Assi**, Srđan Verstovsek, Naval Daver: *'JAK-ing' up the treatment of primary myelofibrosis: building better combination strategies*. *Current Opinion in Hematology* 01/2017; 24(2):1., DOI:10.1097/MOH.0000000000000320. PMID: 28072602

21. Mohamad Haidar, Ali Shamseddine, Emmanouil Panagiotidis, Mario Jreige, Deborah Mukherji, **Rita Assi**, Rayan Abousaid, Toni Ibrahim, Marwan M. Haddad, Sobhan Vinjamuri: *The role of 68Ga-DOTA-NOC PET/CT in evaluating neuroendocrine tumors: real-world experience from two large neuroendocrine tumor centers*. *Nuclear Medicine Communications* 12/2016; DOI:10.1097/MNM.0000000000000623. PMID: 27922538

22. **Rita Assi**, Hazem Ihsan Assi: *Recent Progress in Mutation-driven Therapy, Immunotherapy and Combination Therapy for the Treatment of Melanoma*. *Current Cancer Drug Targets* 09/2016; 16(2)., DOI:10.2174/1568009616666160719120053. PMID: 27628745

23. Hazem I. Assi, **Rita E. Assi**, Nagi S. El Saghir: *Emerging Biomarkers of the Future: Changing Clinical Practice for 2020*. *Current Breast Cancer Reports* 04/2016; 8(2)., DOI:10.1007/s12609-016-0214-7

24. **Rita Assi**, Naval Daver: *An Exciting New Era in the Treatment of Myeloproliferative Neoplasms*. 01/2016; 12(02):71., DOI:10.17925/OHR.2016.12.02.71

25. **Rita Assi**, Lana Hamieh, Deborah Mukherji, Ali Haydar, Sally Temraz, Imane El-Dika, Ali Shamseddine: *Leptomeningeal metastasis as initial manifestation of signet ring colorectal adenocarcinoma: A case report with review of literature*. *Journal of gastrointestinal oncology* 12/2015; 6(6):E89-E101., DOI:10.3978/j.issn.2078-6891.2015.087. PMID: 26697206

26. Deborah Mukherji, Mark N. Jabbour, Maya Saroufim, Sally Temraz, Rami Nasr, Maya Charafeddine, **Rita Assi**, Ali Shamseddine, Ayman N. Tawil: *Programmed Death-Ligand 1 Expression in Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer Cystectomy Specimens and Lymph Node Metastasis: A Reliable Treatment Selection Biomarker?*. *Clinical Genitourinary Cancer* 12/2015; 14(2)., DOI:10.1016/j.clgc.2015.12.002. PMID: 26775720

27. **Rita Assi**, Deborah Mukherji, Ali Haydar, Maya Saroufim, Sally Temraz, Ali Shamseddine: *Metastatic colorectal cancer presenting with bone marrow metastasis: A case series and review of literature*. *Journal of gastrointestinal oncology* 12/2015; 7(2)., DOI:10.3978/j.issn.2078-6891.2015.092. PMID: 27034798

28. **Rita Assi**, Sally Temraz, Ali Shamseddine, Deborah Mukherji: *New Compounds Targeting the Androgen Receptor for Treatment of Advanced Prostate Cancer*. *Current drug targets* 09/2015; 17(3)., DOI:10.2174/1389450116666150907101044. PMID: 26343110

29. Imane El Dika, Deborah Mukherji, Sally Temraz, **Rita Assi**, Ali Shamseddine: *Sunitinib Induced Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura in addition to Severe Hypothyroidism: A Case Report and Review of the Literature*. *Case Reports in Medicine* 10/2014; 2014:958414., DOI:10.1155/2014/958414. PMID: 25349620.

Rita Assi, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Naval G. Daver, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Christopher B. Benton, Philip A. Thompson, Gautam Borthakur, Tapan M. Kadia, Yesid Alvarado, Elias J. Jabbour, Marina Y. Konopleva, Koichi Takahashi, Steven M. Kornblau, Courtney D. DiNardo, Zeev E. Estrov, Wilmer Flores, Sreyashi Basu, James P Allison, Padmanee Sharma, Sherry A. Pierce, Allison Pike, Jorge E. Cortes, and Farhad Ravandi. *Results of a Phase 2, Open-Label Study of Idarubicin (I), Cytarabine (A) and Nivolumab (Nivo) in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) and High-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS)*. **(Oral presentation at ASH 2018)**

Naval G. Daver, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Sreyashi Basu, Jorge E. Cortes, Farhad Ravandi, Tapan M. Kadia, Marina Y. Konopleva, Elias J. Jabbour, Courtney D. DiNardo, **Rita Assi**, Sherry A. Pierce, Yesid Alvarado, Zeev E. Estrov, Naveen Pemmaraju, Koichi Takahashi, Jing Ning, Graciela M. Nogueras González, Steven M. Kornblau, Mansour Alfayez, Jairo Matthews, Wilmer Flores, Jorge Blando, James P Allison, Padmanee Sharma and Hagop M. Kantarjian. *Safety, Efficacy, and Biomarkers of Response to Azacitidine (AZA) with Nivolumab (Nivo) and AZA with Nivo and Ipilimumab (Ipi) in Relapsed/Refractory Acute Myeloid Leukemia: A Non-Randomized, Phase 2 Study*. **(Oral presentation at ASH 2018)**

Mansour Alfayez, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Farhad Ravandi, Marina Y. Konopleva, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Tapan M. Kadia, Elias J. Jabbour, Gautam Borthakur, Courtney D. DiNardo, Zeev E. Estrov, Naveen Pemmaraju, Sherry A. Pierce, Musa E. Yilmaz, Nicholas J Short, Koichi Takahashi, **Rita Assi**, Michael Andreeff, Jorge E. Cortes, and Naval G. Daver, *Outcomes with Subsequent FLT3-Inhibitor (FLT3i) Based Therapies in FLT3-Mutated (mu) Patients (pts) Refractory/Relapsed (R/R) to One or More Prior FLT3 Inhibitor Based Therapies: A Single Center Experience*. **(Oral presentation at ASH 2018)**

Naval G. Daver, **Rita Assi**, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Jorge E. Cortes, Farhad Ravandi, Marina Y. Konopleva, Tapan M. Kadia, Gautam Borthakur, Elias J. Jabbour, Courtney D. DiNardo, Michelle Velasquez, Mary Kelly, Jing Ning, Graciela M. Nogueras González, Sherry A. Pierce, Dan Gombos, Zeev E. Estrov, Steven M. Kornblau, Weiguo Zhang, and Michael Andreeff. *Final Results of Phase I/II Study of Selinexor (SEL) with Sorafenib in Patients (pts) with Relapsed and/or Refractory (R/R) FLT3 Mutated Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)*. **ASH 2018**

Eran Tallis, Christopher B. Benton, Abir Khan, **Rita Assi**, Courtney D. DiNardo, Marisa J Hornbaker, Catherine Kendall Major, Prajwal Boddu, Rashmi Kanagal-Shamanna, Keyur P. Patel, =Naval G. Daver, Koichi Takahashi, Guillermo Montalban-Bravo, Tapan M. Kadia, Marina Y. Konopleva, Michael Andreeff, Hagop M. Kantarjian, and Guillermo Garcia-Manero. *Diverse Landscape of TET2 Variants in MDS and AML*. **ASH 2018**

Mansour Alfayez, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Nicholas J Short, **Rita Assi**, Maria Khouri, Farhad Ravandi, Shilpa Paul, Caitlin R. Rausch, Patrice Nasnas, Gautam Borthakur, Courtney D. DiNardo, Tapan M. Kadia, Naval G. Daver, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Kiran Naqvi, Prithviraj Bose, Susan M. O'Brien, Jorge E. Cortes, and Elias J. Jabbour. *Safety and Efficacy of Blinatumomab in Patients with Central Nervous System (CNS) Disease: A Single Institution Experience*. **ASH 2018**

Koji Sasaki, Rashmi Kanagal-Shamanna, Guillermo Montalban-Bravo, **Rita Assi**, Kiran Naqvi, Ana Alfonso Pierola, Musa Yilmaz, Nicholas J Short, Elias J. Jabbour, Farhad Ravandi, Tapan M. Kadia, Sherry A. Pierce, Koichi Takahashi, Courtney D. DiNardo, Graciela M. Nogueras González, Yasmin Abaza, KC Devendra, Kamal Chamoun, Kenichi Sakurai, Keyur P. Patel, Jorge E. Cortes, Hagop M. Kantarjian, and Guillermo Garcia-Manero. *The Impact of Clonal Hematopoiesis of Indeterminate Potential on Survival in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Acute Myeloid Leukemia*. **ASH 2018**

Guillermo Montalban-Bravo, Christopher B. Benton, Rashmi Kanagal-Shamanna, MD2, Koji Sasaki, **Rita Assi**, Tapan M. Kadia, Farhad Ravandi, Irene Ganan-Gomez, Jorge E. Cortes, Naval G. Daver, Koichi Takahashi, Courtney D. DiNardo, Elias J. Jabbour, Gautam Borthakur, Naveen Pemmaraju, Marina Y. Konopleva, Sherry A. Pierce, Carlos E. Bueso-Ramos, Steven M. Kornblau, Keyur Patel, Simona Colla, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Michael Andreeff, and Guillermo Garcia-Manero. *Landscape of TP53 Abnormalities and Their Clinical Relevance in Patients with Myelodysplastic Syndromes and Acute Myeloid Leukemia*. **ASH 2018**

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DiNardo, Gautam Borthakur, Nitin Jain, Naveen Pemmaraju, Musa E. Yilmaz, Nicholas J Short, Jing Ning, Sherry A. Pierce, William G. Wierda, Jorge E. Cortes, Hagop M. Kantarjian, and Naval G. Daver. *Characteristics and Outcomes of Patients (pts) with Malignancy-Associated Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (M-HLH) in Adults: A Single-Center, Prospective Analysis of 36 Pts.* **ASH 2018**

Kiran Naqvi, Koji Sasaki, Guillermo Montalban-Bravo, Ana Alfonso, Musa Yilmaz, Nicholas J Short, **Rita Assi**, Elias J. Jabbour, Farhad Ravandi, Tapan M. Kadia, Sherry A. Pierce, Koichi Takahashi, Graciela M. Nogueras González, Rashmi Kanagal-Shamanna, Keyur P. Patel, Hagop M. Kantarjian, and Guillermo Garcia-Manero. *Impact of Clonal Hematopoiesis of Indeterminate Potential (CHIP) Associated Mutations and Risk of Comorbidities in Patients with Myelodysplastic Syndrome.* **ASH 2018**

Rita Elias Assi, Ana Alfonso Pierola, Devendra KC, Yasmin Mohammed Abaza, Abdallah Abou Zahr, Kamal Chamoun, Guillermo Montalban-Bravo, Koichi Takahashi, Elias Jabbour, Tapan M. Kadia, Farhad Ravandi, Jorge E. Cortes, Courtney Denton Dinardo, Naval Guastad Daver, Gautam Borthakur, Naveen Pemmaraju, Marina Konopleva, Andrew Futreal, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Guillermo Garcia-Manero. *Impact of next-generation sequencing (NGS) on treatment selection in acute myeloid leukemia (AML).* DOI: 10.1200/JCO.2018.36.15_suppl.103 Journal of Clinical Oncology 36, no. 15_suppl (May 20 2018) 103-103. **(Oral presentation at ASCO 2018)**

Rita Elias Assi, Maher Albitar, Wanlong Ma, Keyur Patel, Koichi Takahashi, Musa Yilmaz, Nicholas James Short, Elias Jabbour, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Zeev Estrov, Farhad Ravandi. *Comparison of somatic mutations profiles from next-generation sequencing (NGS) of cell-free DNA (cfDNA) versus bone marrow (BM) in acute myeloid leukemia (AML).* *J Clin Oncol* 36, 2018 (suppl; abstr 7051)

Rita Assi, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Michael J. Keating, Naveen Pemmaraju, Srdan Verstovsek, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Farhad Ravandi, Gautam Borthakur, Jenny Dahl, Elias J. Jabbour and Jorge E. Cortes: *Management of Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML) during Pregnancy Among Patients (pts) Treated with a Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor (TKI): A Single-Center Experience.* *Blood* 2017 130:2881

Mansour Alfayez, **Rita Elias Assi**, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Elias Jabbour, Farhad Ravandi, Courtney Denton Dinardo, Gautam Borthakur, Koichi Takahashi, Jorge E. Cortes, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Tapan M. Kadia. *Characteristics and outcomes of myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) with chromosome (chr)3q abnormalities.* *J Clin Oncol* 36, 2018 (suppl; abstr 7069)

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Rita Assi, Christopher B Benton, Ahmed Al Rawi, Kamal Chamoun, Feng Wang, Sherry Pierce, Keyur P. Patel, Betty K. Hamilton, Courtney D. DiNardo, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Tapan Kadia, Srdan Verstovsek and Michael Andreeff: *JAK3 Variants in Adults with Myeloid Malignancies and Potential for Response to JAK3 Inhibition.* *Blood* 2017 130:1381

Kamal Chamoun, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Mary Abisola Akosile, **Rita Assi**, Farhad Ravandi, Gautam Borthakur, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Tapan Kadia, Marina Konopleva, Zeev Estrov, Courtney D. DiNardo, Naval Daver, Naveen Pemmaraju, Alessandra Ferrajoli, Jan A. Burger, William Wierda, Elias J. Jabbour and Jorge E. Cortes: *Long-Term Outcome of CML Patients Treated with Second-Generation Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors in the Second Line: A Single Center Experience.* *Blood* 2017 130:1594

Mahesh Swaminathan, Elias Jabbour, Farhad Ravandi, Tapan M. Kadia, Gautam Borthakur, Marina Konopleva, Courtney Denton Dinardo, Sherry Pierce, Yesid Alvarado, **Rita Elias Assi**, Iman Adib Abou Dalle, Eran Tallis, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Guillermo Garcia-Manero. *Outcomes of patients with nucleoplasmin 1 (NPM1) mutated acute myeloid leukemia (AML) treated with hypomethylating agents (HMAs).* *J Clin Oncol* 36, 2018 (suppl; abstr 7054)

Rita Assi, Hagop M. Kantarjian, Nicholas J Short, Naval Daver, Koichi Takahashi, Guillermo Garcia-Manero, Courtney D. DiNardo, Maria Khouri, Jan A. Burger, Jorge E. Cortes, Nitin Jain, William G Wierda, Salim Chamoun, Marina Konopleva and Elias J. Jabbour: *Safety and Efficacy of Blinatumomab in Combination with a*

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Languages

Arabic	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	Fluent in speaking, reading and writing
English	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	Fluent in speaking, reading and writing
French	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	Fluent in speaking, reading and writing
Spanish	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	

Skills

Computer Skills: Advanced knowledge of MS Excel (macros, pivot tables, data visualization); Proficient in MS Access (creating and modifying databases, tables, queries and forms; reports); MS Word and Powerpoint (styles, templates, version control); Referencing in Endnote	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Statistics	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Time Management	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Teamwork	■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Ability to Work Under Pressure and Adaptability	■ ■ ■ ■ ■