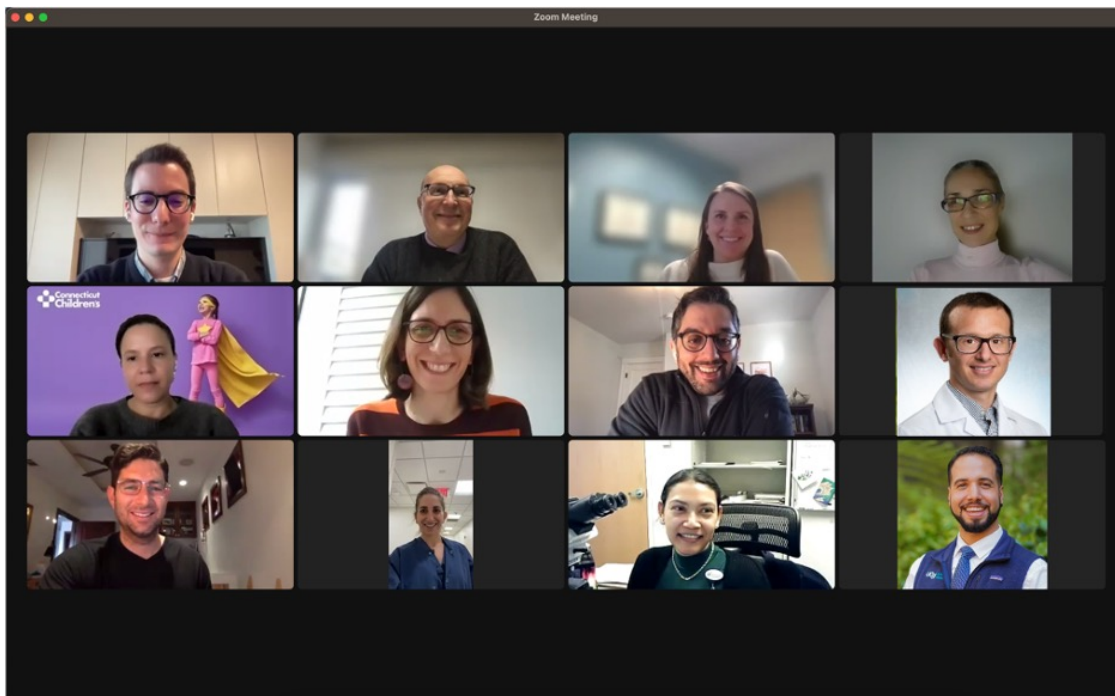




MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER



MaGIC Young Investigator Committee: MaGIC's ambitious group of young investigators meeting at the end of January for their quarterly call.

Top row: João Lobo, Robert Huddart (committee co-chair), Claire Stokes, Katarina Rejlekov

Middle row: Joanna Gell, Teresa Mele, Alok Tewari, Andres Acosta

Bottom row: Alexander Chehrazi-Raffle, Barrie Rich, Sonja Chen, Ernesto Rojas

MaGIC Member Spotlight



Name: Tatsuo Kuroda

Affiliation: Department of Pediatric Surgery, Keio University, Tokyo

Number of years involved in MaGIC: 6 years

Role within MaGIC: AGCT1531 Principal Investigator for Japan

Tell us a fun fact about yourself: hopefully a descendant of Samurai!

Pictured left: MaGIC's very own Tatsuo Kuroda wearing the replica armor of Lord Kuroda, a famous 16th century samurai, at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science reception

News and Announcements

New Arrivals: on January 30, Priya Mahajan and husband welcomed a new baby girl into the world, Kaia Anouk Hanson!

The home of the Pediatric Cancer Data Commons has a new name, [Data for the Common Good \(D4CG\)](#), which reflects their widened scope, as they grow and expand their efforts into other rare diseases.

The First GRACE (GCT Research Acceleration Through Collaboration of Experts) Virtual Tumor Board was held on January 18 - thank you to all those who participated. The next Tumor Board will take place on Wednesday, April 19.

Zoom Meeting ID: [997 1438 5985](#)

Passcode: [gctvtb](#)

GU ASCO MaGIC Member Highlights:

Talks:

Practice-Changing Guideline Updates: Germ Cell Guideline Updates

- Samuel A. Funt, MD

Abstracts:

Dr. Gabriela Quiroga-Garza, GU Pathologist, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, US
Prognostic value of circulating cellfree DNA in association with choriocarcinoma syndrome development in patients with germ cell tumors.

- Katarina Rejlekova, MD PhD

Refining the serum miR-371a-3p test for viable germ cell tumor detection: Identification and definition of an indeterminate range.

- Aditya Bagrodia, MD

Comparison of serum miR-371a-3p assay performance by digital droplet PCR and reverse transcriptase quantitative PCR in patients with malignant germ cell tumor. First Author:

- Michelle Nuno, PhD

Upcoming Events

Children's Oncology Group Spring Meeting: March 14-17, Chicago, IL

MaGIC Save-the-Date: Please save the date for the 2023 MaGIC Annual Meeting scheduled for October 1-4! Mark Brougham and the CCLG will be hosting us in lovely Edinburgh! More details on accommodation and agenda to follow, but for now please mark your calendars!

Welcome to MaGIC

New Members

Dr. Peter Bode, GU Pathologist, Cantonal Hospital Winterthur, CH

Dr. Nicola MacDonald, GYN Oncologist, University College Hospital London, UK

Dr. Gabriela Quiroga-Garza, GU Pathologist, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, US

A note from MaGIC patient advocate and donor, Jeanna Francis



My name is Jeanna Francis, mom of Brantley. Brantley was born August 11th, 2014. It was a high risk pregnancy, so he was delivered via c-section. Brantley was born with 5 different abnormalities, collectively called Currarino Syndrome. One of which was a tumor at the end of his tail bone. The tumor, along with his tail bone were removed when he was two days old. At that time it was classified as a benign Germ Cell Tumor. Even though the tumor was removed, it grew back. When it came back, it grew back as a malignant Yolk Sac Tumor.

Brantley did multiple rounds of chemo, and had multiple surgeries throughout his short life. He had multiple other surgeries as well, for other birth defects. The chemo was not working and his cancer kept coming back. He also had exhausted all options for surgery. My husband and I made the difficult decision to discontinue treatment. His cancer had also spread to his liver and lungs. We brought his home on hospice. He was with us for two more weeks, and passed December 16th, 2017.

Even though Brantley was only 3 years old, he impacted so many with his bravery, strength, compassion, silly personality and most of all his beautiful smile. Not to mention his love for "guys" aka Marvel Avengers and Ninja Turtles! Through the years we received so much support from friends, families, and foundations/organizations. We always knew we wanted to give back to others, but never thought it would be without Brantley.

In his memory my husband, Matt, and I started the Brantley Francis Foundation - a 501(c)(3) pediatric cancer foundation with a mission to positively influence pediatric cancer patients and their families.

As part of our mission we give to research. During Brantley's treatment, we had gotten a third opinion online from Dr. Lindsay Frazier. We knew we wanted some of the money we raise to go directly to Germ Cell Tumor research. Dr. Frazier and everyone involved with MaGIC are doing such incredible work, that we decided to name a fund at Dana Farber in memory of Brantley, that would specifically go towards MaGIC. We are so honored to have the Brantley Francis Foundation Fund at Dana Farber. I look forward to seeing what is to come with MaGIC.



Committee Updates

Clinical Research Updates

Upcoming webinars ([zoom link](#); Meeting ID: 995 9024 8695; Passcode: 832190) **April 13** - GCT Mental Health Outcomes (*Rod Rassekh and Aditya Bagrodia*)

Pathology Sub-Committee

Committee continues to grow, with 20 active members, including representation from pediatric/developmental, genitourinary and gynecologic pathology groups **Survivorship Sub-Committee** Continuing work to compile survivorship data and cohorts currently available, and actively working on a number of important projects assessing both mental and physical long term toxicities

Clinical Trial Design & Development Updates

Relapse/Refractory Sub-Committee

The next GRACE virtual tumor board will be held on Wednesday, April 19th at 4 pm ET (*Zoom Meeting ID: 997 1438 5985; Passcode: gctvtb*)

Poor risk Sub-Committee

The committee has responded to comments on trial concept from Alliance statistician; will now move on to Alliance Steering Committee for review

Dysgerminoma Sub-Committee

Working to develop potential "proof of principle" study, integrating dysgerminoma into proposed seminoma trial design; focusing on the debated questions as to whether dysgerminoma and seminoma can be treated biologically the same

Immature Teratoma Sub-Committee

- "How Treat Immature Teratoma" manuscript is currently in draft.
- Upcoming amendment for protocol AGCT1531 will allow for enrollment of all grades, all stages of immature teratoma
- Continued discussion on importance, need and possibility of creating a immature teratoma registry

Data Commons Updates

The Pediatric Cancer Data Commons has formally been renamed the Data for the Common Good (D4CG).

Biology Updates

Upcoming webinars ([zoom link](#); Meeting ID: 983 5222 8826; Passcode: 169775) **March 21 - to be confirmed**

April 18 - Hirokazu Takami, MD PhD, Department of Neurosurgery, Tokyo University Hospital

Patient Advocate Updates

Actively working on white paper outlining patient advocate, survivors and caregivers priorities for GCT research, including a literature review on advocacy that already exists within large professional research bodies (where it is successful and what areas remain challenging).

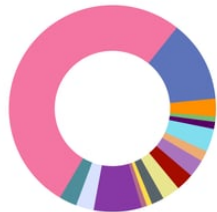
Young Investigators Updates

Next meeting scheduled for late April. Katarina Rejlekova will be presenting updates from GU ASCO.

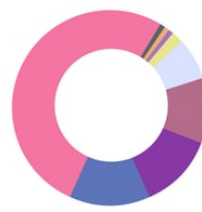
MaGIC At A Glance

A brief overview of the current breakdown of MaGIC Membership

MEMBERS BY COUNTRY



MEMBERS BY SUBSPECIALTY



A heartfelt thanks to our wonderful Donors and Supporters ...



... and to our Data Contributors!



Newsletter feedback and suggestions? Please reach out to magic@dfci.harvard.edu!

Send in your pictures to be featured!

Malignant Germ Cell International Consortium, 450 Brookline Avenue DA3141A, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA 02215

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