



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

Award ID:
RP170067

Project Title:
The Future of Cancer Research: Training Program for Basic and
Translational Scientists

Award Mechanism:
Research Training

Principal Investigator:
Keyomarsi, Khandan

Entity:
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

Lay Summary:

As an international leader in clinical cancer care, translational cancer research and basic studies of cancer mechanisms, the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center is uniquely poised to train the next generation of cancer researchers. We propose an innovative training program to educate exceptional undergraduate, predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows through an integrated, multidisciplinary approach that only MD Anderson can offer. This is reflected in the curriculum, leadership, trainees and faculty from over 35 departments spanning clinical, translational, quantitative and basic sciences. The MD Anderson CPRIT training program will instruct postdoctoral fellows through a pioneering method that trains outstanding basic scientists at the PhD or MD/PhD level for careers in translational cancer research. This aspect of the program is one of its kind in the country, comprising a rigorous, 3 year program that combines relevant didactic coursework, clinical rotations, and translational research under the guidance of a mentor in a translational research laboratory. Moreover, the MD Anderson CPRIT training program educates exceptional predoctoral students in fundamental cancer mechanisms, research relevance to clinical cancer problems and the skills needed for successful career progression. Lastly, the program recruits highly talented undergraduates to a summer research program that includes hands on lab research and curriculum events to educate undergraduates in cancer biology and related careers. This three tiered program benefits from our many talented faculty members with demonstrated excellence in education and mentoring and capitalizes on the unique environment at MD Anderson. This program provides a comprehensive learning environment focused solely on cancer, to position trainees for successful careers in cancer research.