



# DRIVING SARCOMA RESEARCH TO ACHIEVE A CURE A CASE STATEMENT FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT



# Together We Can Change **Patient Outcomes**

SARC's mission is to connect individuals and organizations from around the world committed to discovering, developing, and delivering the latest and most promising treatments for Sarcoma.

The Sarcoma research, clinical, and patient communities are geographically scattered and under-resourced. It is essential to share scientific knowledge and advance research for improved treatments to defeat Sarcoma.

Simply put, SARC drives high-impact, centrallysupported collaborations among the Sarcoma research community.

The Sarcoma field is small, and the need for fostered collaborations is critical. We can help improve patient outcomes and ultimately achieve a cure with your support.



PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER STEVEN W. YOUNG





# What are Sarcomas?

Sarcomas are a heterogeneous group of cancers that arise anywhere in the body in the connective and musculoskeletal tissues.

Sarcomas are uncommon and there are many different types — experts have identified more than 80 different forms — leading to significant diagnostic and therapeutic challenges.

Sarcomas represent 15 to 20% of childhood cancers and 1% of adult cancers.

Sarcomas are more prevalent in young individuals — 15% to 20% of childhood cancers



# About SARC



SARC is dedicated to fostering progress in the treatment of Sarcoma to improve patient outcomes and ultimately find a cure.

SARC is one of the few organizations focusing on all types of Sarcoma.

SARC was formed in 2003 by the Sarcoma research community to bring together the best cancer centers and researchers in the world.

Among other accomplishments, SARC has completed 21 innovative clinical trials, with 6 more underway.

SARC's unique ability to promote collaboration and unity among the leading Sarcoma researchers ensures that "things get done."

The only non-profit solely focused on achieving scientific breakthroughs in the treatment of Sarcoma, and ultimately finding a cure





# **Our Mission**

To provide a collaborative infrastructure facilitating and accelerating progress in the diagnosis and treatment of Sarcoma to improve outcomes for affected patients.

# **Our Strategy**

Build upon strengths of centers with Sarcoma expertise. Bring together researchers, patients, data, biospecimens, and knowledge to overcome barriers to meaningful scientific progress. Support laboratory research and clinical trials in both pediatric and adult Sarcomas.





# **SARC** Organizational

# Milestones

2003 Founded by Sarcoma researchers Launched first clinical trial

2009 Launched Career Development Program

> · Recruiting scientific talent needed to achieve/accelerate high-impact advances

### SARC011

1st international clinical trial

2012 Awarded five-year Sarcoma SPORE by National Institutes of Health

> · 1st such award in any cancer type that connected multiple cancer centers to work collaboratively

2014 SARC021

• 1st Phase III trial (more than 100 centers)

### SARC024

• 1st active systemic therapy in metastatic Osteosarcoma in 30 years

2017 SARC028

> • 1st study to test immune checkpoint inhibitors in advanced Sarcoma

2018 Helped Establish Sarcoma Coalition

> Sarcoma patient advocacy foundations working together

2020 Formed SARC Research Advocacy Council

2021 Chief Scientific Officer position established Launched three new clinical trials Launched Animated Patient educational series

2022 EORTC (pan-European group) analysis of multiple SARC trials to understand chemotherapy response in more common Sarcomas

SARC042

· Selecting for patients most likely to respond based on their immune signatures

Catalyzing Scientific and Clinical Progress





Jonathan Fletcher, MD SARC Chief Scientific Officer

Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center

# A Scientist's Perspective: Why is SARC Needed?

Given the rarity of Sarcoma and the many subtypes, no single institution has sufficient patient resources for timely accrual and adequate statistical power to complete trials that will yield meaningful results for a variety of Sarcomas.

SARC fosters collaborations among the best minds in the Sarcoma field, drawing upon resources at different research institutions in the U.S. and globally. SARC is committed to:

- recruiting, supporting, and mentoring tomorrow's Sarcoma leaders,
- understanding why new therapies help some people and not others, thereby reducing needless treatment toxicity, and
- identifying and evaluating drugs that target essential biologic functions in Sarcoma.

These and other ground-breaking SARC programs are needed to develop effective therapies for Sarcoma patients.

Thank you for your investment driving science to patients!

Progress against Sarcoma demands a "team science" approach





# **Bridging Sarcoma Research Centers**





Facilitating translational research that otherwise would be unfeasible



# How Can You Best Help?

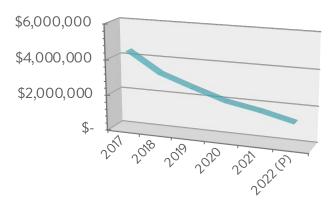
### **Operating Funds Needed**

SARC has been the fortunate recipient of program-related restricted funding, but our ability to continue to operate requires general operating support in the future.

The lessons of the ongoing pandemic have shown that a solid infrastructure is necessary to weather current challenges so we can succeed in the face of future disruptors and plan for a sustainable future.

SARC incurs expenses that are not covered by grants and contracts.

### **Unrestricted Funds Balance**







### **PROGRAM 1**

SARC CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS (CDA) -RECRUITING & MENTORING RESEARCHERS

Generally acknowledged as among SARC's "Crown Jewels," a core program of SARC has been to foster development of innovative research via the cultivation of the ideas and career paths of early-stage, young physicians /scientists dedicated to defeating Sarcoma.

This program represents an essential and critical investment

in scientific talent to advance research, an especially acute need for an uncommon cancer with limited career paths.

Past SARC award recipients are among today's most productive Sarcoma researchers, driving discoveries and translating innovations to the benefit of patients.

> 2022 Goal \$400,000



Achieving meaningful progress against an uncommon cancer depends on investing in young talent today to cultivate tomorrow's leaders



# **PROGRAM 1** CAREER DEVELOPMENT **AWARDEES**

The program identifies, recruits, and fosters promising investigators from diverse scientific backgrounds to become translational researchers in Sarcoma. Without such support, uncommon cancers would struggle to attract the talent to make scientific and clinical progress.

Here's just a sampling of unsolicited testimonials from past awardees:

"The SARC CDA supported my early interest in Sarcoma research, giving me the flexibility to develop and investigate new Sarcoma treatment options. SARC has been instrumental in my enduring dedication to advancing Sarcoma research."



Lara Davis, MD Associate Professor of Medicine, Sarcoma Program Director, Co-Leader, Knight Cancer Institute Translational Oncology Program, Oregon Health & Sciences University

"If I had to pick a single event that has enabled my dedication to Sarcoma research, that would be obtaining the SARC CDA award."



Adrian Marino-Enriquez, MD, PhD Scientist, Brigham and Women's Hospital; Assistant Professor of Pathology, Harvard Medical School

"I owe everything to SARC for early support."



Brian Van Tine, MD, PhD Professor of Medicine, Sarcoma Program Director, Department of Pediatrics, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis

YEAR	SUPPORTED RESEARCHER	CURRENT INSTITUTION (2022)
2009	Sandra Strauss MD, PhD	University College Hospital, London
2009	Joseph Ludwig MD	MD Anderson Cancer Center
2010	Joshua Schiffman MD	University of Utah
2010	Patrick Grohar MD, PhD	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
2011	Keila Torres MD, PhD	MD Anderson Cancer Center
2011	Seth Pollack MD, PhD	Northwestern University
2012	Brian Van Tine MD, PhD	Washington University School of Medicine
2012	Adrian Marino- Enriquez MD, PhD	Brigham and Women's Hospital; Harvard Medical School
2013	Cigall Kadoch PhD	Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Broad Institute of Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2013	John Shern MD	National Cancer Institute
2013	Simone Hettmer MD	University Medical Center, Germany
2014	James Chen MD	The Ohio State University
2014	David Liebner MD	The Ohio State University
2014	Armelle Dufresne MD, PhD	Centre Leon Berard, France
2014	Cesar Serrano- Garcia MD	Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology, Spain
2015	David Van Mater MD, PhD	Duke University Medical Center
2015	Masanori Hayashi MD	Colorado University School of Medicine
2016	Lara Davis MD	Oregon Heath & Science University
2016	Angela Hirbe MD, PhD	Washington University School of Medicine
2017	Robbie Majzner MD	Stanford University School of Medicine
2018	Anusha Kalbasi MD	University of California, Los Angeles
2019	Inga-Marie Schaefer MD	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School

### **PROGRAM 2**

INNOVATIVE CLINICAL TRIALS — LINKING TISSUE & BLOOD "BIOMARKER" RESEARCH TO PATIENT OUTCOMES

SARC has sponsored and launched 27 clinical trials since our founding.

Many of SARC's more recent trials have included "correlative sciences," which illuminates the relationship between the patients' cancer cell biology (biomarkers) to disease progression or clinical responses. This is the promise of precision (or personalized) medicine. Unfortunately, limited trial budgets can curtail these highly informative, predictive studies.

2022 Goal \$200,000



Biomarkers: used to see how well the body responds to a treatment for a disease or condition Correlative Science: helps identify which patients are most likely to benefit from specific treatments



#### **PROGRAM 3**

SARC & SARCOMA PATIENT ADVOCACY -ENGAGING PATIENTS, FAMILIES & CAREGIVERS

Sarcoma advocacy is integral to the mission of SARC and to our community, building awareness of Sarcoma treatments, clinical trials, and resources that are available to help patients and families.

SARC's Research Advocacy Council is an evolving, specially trained group of Sarcoma survivors and caregivers. Our goal for 2022 and beyond is to assign a Research Advocate to each SARC clinical trial and so work side-by-side with the physicians adding the patient

voice into study ideation and design—enabling more patientcentric studies, increased enrollment, and greater impact.

Further, SARC intends to send Research Advocates to the major oncology/ Sarcoma conferences. They will capture and then communicate (in lay language) promising scientific advances via SARC's social media platforms thus bringing hope and knowledge home to patients and their families.



Communicate scientific and clinical advances to bring hope home to the patient and caregiver communities



### **PROGRAM 4**

### SARC EDUCATION AND CONFERENCES — **BUILDING BRIDGES / CONNECTING SILOS**

One of the most effective ways to advance knowledge is to bring scientists together to share their work and findings.

SARC's scientific/membership meetings have long provided forums for Sarcoma collaborators to gather, present and discuss research, share insights and discoveries, spark ideas, and so inspire new directions for SARC and our collaborators to pursue.

- June: American Society of Clinical Oncology
- November: Connective Tissue Oncology Society

Convening hundreds of the leading Sarcoma experts is essential in advancing SARC's goals to better understand Sarcoma and improve patient outcomes.



Advancing knowledge by bringing scientists together to **share** their findings



### **PROGRAM 5**

UNIFIED DATA SYSTEM - RESEARCH TISSUE, **BLOOD IMAGING & DATA REPOSITORIES** 







2022 Goal \$110,000

2022 Goal \$75,000

2022 Goal \$35,000

#### **BIOSPECIMEN BANK**

Our Biospecimen Bank is a "library" of Sarcoma tissue and blood collected to explore biomarkers, identify novel therapeutic targets, and make other translational discoveries.

Currently, there are 20,000+ cancer tissue and blood samples available in "the library" used by Sarcoma researchers to develop, test and validate concepts.

### CLINICAL DATA **REPOSITORY**

SARC has established a vast repository of Sarcoma research data sets which includes essential clinical trial data acquired over the years from SARC studies, contributed by thousands of patients.

This data is used by Sarcoma researchers to develop new studies.

### IMAGING REPOSITORY

SARC has compiled all radiographic imaging studies from our clinical trials into a data imaging repository. This bank of images is linked to clinical data and available to all Sarcoma investigators for further exploration and the generation of new ideas for Sarcoma research.

SARC is motivated to have our collection of tissues, blood, images, and data utilized to further research and understanding of Sarcoma



# **SARC Scientific Steering Committee**



Karla Ballman, PhD SARC Statistician Professor of Biostatistics, Chief of Biostatistics and Epidemiology Weill Cornell Medical College



Scott Okuno, MD SARC Medical Officer Professor of Oncology Mayo Clinic



Sandra D'Angelo, MD Associate Attending Physician Member, Immunotherapeutics Clinic Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



Shreyaskumar Patel, MD Professor of Medicine Medical Director. Sarcoma Medical Oncology The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



Lara Davis, MD Associate Professor of Medicine, Sarcoma Program Director Co-Leader, Knight Cancer Institute Translational Oncology Program Oregon Health & Sciences University



Andrew Wagner, MD, PhD Associate Professor of Medicine Harvard Medical School Associate Chief Medical Officer Medical Director, Adult Ambulatory Oncology Senior Physician, Center for Sarcoma and Bone Oncology Dana-Farber Cancer Institute



Jonathan Fletcher, MD SARC Chief Scientific Officer Associate Professor of Pathology, Associate Professor of Pediatrics Harvard Medical School



Steven Young SARC President and CEO, SARC Board of Directors

# SARC Discovery/Translation Committee



Ping Chi, MD, PhD Medical Oncologist Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



Seth Pollack, MD Associate Professor; Director, Sarcoma Program Lurie Cancer Center Northwestern University



Liz Demicco, MD, PhD Associate Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology University of Toronto



Christine Pratalis, MD Associate Professor of Oncology, Pediatrics & Cellular and Molecular Medicine Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine



Jonathan Fletcher, MD SARC Chief Scientific Officer Associate Professor of Pathology, Associate Professor of Pediatrics Harvard Medical School



Andrew Wagner, MD, PhD Associate Professor of Medicine Harvard Medical School; Associate Chief Medical Officer Medical Director, Adult Ambulatory Oncology Senior Physician, Center for Sarcoma and Bone Oncology Dana-Farber Cancer Institute



Kevin Jones, MD, PhD Leader, Sarcoma Disease Center; Division Chief, Sarcoma, Department of Orthopaedics; Professor, Department of Orthopaedics Huntsman Cancer Center



Brigitte Widemann, MD Senior Investigator Chief, Pediatric Oncology Branch National Cancer Institute National Institutes of Health



Troy McEachron, PhD Investigator Pediatric Oncology Branch, National Cancer Institute National Institutes of Health





# In Summary

SARC's unique ability to promote collaboration and unity among the Sarcoma research community through scientific rigor, credibility and efficiency ensures that things get done.

#### SARC is:

- an open, "one-stop" collaborative model connecting and coordinating the best scientific minds in Sarcoma against all types of this deadly cancer
- training the cadres of researchers needed today and tomorrow to achieve high-impact advances
- highly regarded for its track record of innovative clinical trials and operational excellence, and
- the steward and distributor of uniquely valuable Sarcoma research data, clinical images, and biospecimens

**SARC** is a one-stop resource for Sarcoma expertise and facilitated collaborations





# Thank You

We greatly appreciate the time you spent reading about SARC and exploring how you can partner with us to further our mission to achieve a cure for individuals impacted by Sarcoma.

Together, we can change the future through effective research and clinical trials, and ultimately improve the quality of life for those patients diagnosed with Sarcoma.

appreciate your support!

#### SARC Board of Directors

### Ernest Conrad III, MD SARC Chair Professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery McGovern Medical School

### Marlene Portnoy Founder and Executive Director, Desmoid Tumor Research Foundation

### Jonathan Fletcher, MD SARC Chief Scientific Officer Assoc. Professor of Pathology Assoc. Professor of Pediatrics

Harvard Medical School

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### Andrew Wagner, MD, PhD

Assoc. Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School Assoc. Chief Medical Officer Director, Adult Ambulatory Oncology Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

#### Ann Graham

Founder and Executive Director, MIB Agents Osteosarcoma Alliance

### Steven Young

SARC President and CEO



#### Steven Young

President & Chief Executive Officer syoung@sarctrials.org • (734) 930-7600 www.sarctrials.org