Deputy Physician-in-Chief Clinical Research, Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute

Background

Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute (HHC CI) oversees the delivery of cancer services at Hartford HealthCare (HHC), a healthcare system serving half of the Connecticut population with seven thousand analytic cancer cases per year across seven acute care hospitals and multiple ambulatory sites. The HHC Medical Group employs forty medical and gynecologic oncologists who oversee chemotherapy, immunotherapy and molecular treatments of cancer.

The vision of the Cancer Institute is a hybrid academic-community based model of cancer care that will speed the dissemination of knowledge from an academic cancer center into the community, and expand the clinical trials research base at a time when advances in precision medicine and immunotherapy have vastly increased the number and variety of new therapeutics under investigation in clinical trials. These two objectives are in high alignment with National Academy of Medicine (IOM) directives to re-engineer both cancer care in America and the clinical trials enterprise.

The Cancer Institute clinical trial portfolio is sourced from industry, NCI cooperative groups and ASCO TAPUR. In addition the Cancer Institute has a strategic partnership with Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) which provides access to the MSK clinical trial portfolio of over 800 studies. A 6 chair Innovation Unit at Hartford Hospital is dedicated to Phase 1 clinical trials. The clinical research effort is supported by the HHC CI Clinical Research Office with a staff of 30 nurses, clinical research associates and administrative personnel.
Position

HHC seeks an experienced clinical trialist with a record of scholarly achievement to oversee the clinical trial research operations of the HHC CI in a dyad partnership with the Administrative Director of the Cancer Institute Clinical Research Office. This position will report to the Cancer Institute Physician-In-Chief. Academic appointments at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University Frank H. Netter School of Medicine are available commensurate with qualifications.

Responsibilities of the Deputy Physician-in-Chief Clinical Research include:

1. Strategic planning for the clinical trial portfolio. Monitoring and assessment of the MSK pipeline of clinical trials and ongoing review of the existing portfolio of actively accruing trials. Developing industry relationships for phase 1 & 2 and adoptive clinical trial designs. Selecting NCI sponsored trials through our membership in NRG.

2. Developing with the clinical Disease Management Teams (DMTs) a trial selection strategy that optimally matches the HHC CI patient population, the research interests of HHC CI and its business strategy for growth. The DMTs are tumor focused interdisciplinary teams and currently include: Breast, Thoracic, Hematology, Urology, Gastrointestinal, Melanoma and Gynecologic Oncology.

3. Liaison with the MSK Deputy Physician-in-Chief Clinical Research to coordinate clinical research activities.

4. Supervise and mentor the Medical Director of Phase 1 Clinical Trials.

5. Support the HHC CI Clinical Research Office to assure operational efficiency and maximize the number of active trials and patients accrued to studies.

6. Mentor young clinical investigators

7. Initiate or support investigator initiated trials and grants
8. Support investigators leading radiation and surgical clinical studies

Qualifications

Physicians interested in this positions will have demonstrated leadership within a matrixed organization which may be academic, community healthcare system or industry-based. Sub-specialization in medical oncology and greater than 5 years’ accumulated experience as a principal investigator is expected. The successful candidate will have knowledge of clinical research operations such as quality improvement & audits, research budgets, CRO relationships, and FDA policy in order to be an effective partner with the Administrative Director of the Cancer Institute Research Office.