

the NIDCD Head and Neck Surgery Branch. “These findings provide us with important insights into these cancers and some squamous cell cancers in other areas of the body that will help us target pathways for prevention and treatment.”

For the current study, the researchers used new analytic tools to explore the similarities and differences among SCCs in the head and neck, lung, esophagus, cervix, and bladder. Using the PanCancer Atlas, the researchers combined multiple platforms of genomic data from 1,400 SCC samples into integrated analyses, which created visual clusters of tumors based on their genomic characteristics. The researchers found that SCCs in the 5 areas studied have certain characteristic genomic features, the most common being shared alterations in sections of certain chromosomes, which make it likely that these regions harbor genes important in the development of SCCs. These changes affect the expression of many more genes than previously believed, enabling new avenues for research.

The researchers also found that the subsets of SCCs associated with smoking and HPV have distinct genomic signatures. SCCs associated with HPV tend to have fewer

of the gains or losses in sections of chromosomes; instead, HPV-associated tumors have mutations in the DNA or other chemical (epigenetic) modifications in certain genes.

“Analyses on this scale are only possible with a large dataset such as the PanCancer Atlas and the tireless efforts of more than 50 researchers involved in looking at squamous cell cancers,” added Chen.

Learning More About the PanCancer Atlas

The entire collection of papers comprising the PanCancer Atlas is available at: <http://www.cell.com/pb-assets/consortium/pancanceratlas/pancani3/index.html>.

A 3-day symposium, TCGA Legacy: Multi-Omic Studies in Cancer (<http://www.cell-symposia.com/tcga-2018>), will be held in Washington, DC, September 27–29, and will discuss the future of large-scale cancer studies, with a session focusing on the PanCancer Atlas. The meeting will feature the latest advances in the genomic architecture of cancer and showcase recent progress toward therapeutic targeting.

National Institutes of Health

Outstanding *JNMT* Articles for 2017

Kathy S. Thomas, MHA, CNMT, PET, editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology* (*JNMT*), and members of the journal’s board of editors announced in April the winners of annual awards for outstanding articles. The awards will be presented on June 26 at the annual business meeting of the SNMMI Technologist Section in Philadelphia, PA.



Robert A. Pagnanelli

The Editors’ Choice Awards for the 3 best *JNMT* articles in 2017 will go to: Robert A. Pagnanelli and Heidi L. Camposano from Duke University (Durham, NC) for “Pharmacologic stress testing with myocardial perfusion imaging” (*J Nucl Med Technol.* 2017;45:249–252);

Kyle Bauer, Alaina Lathrum, Osama Raslan, Patrick V. Kelly, Yihua Zhou, Debra Hewing, Crystal Botkin, James A. Turner, and Medhat Osman from Saint Louis University (St. Louis, MO) for “Do gadolinium-based contrast agents affect ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT uptake in the dentate nucleus and the globus

pallidus? A pilot study” (*J Nucl Med Technol.* 2017;45:30–33); and Koji Nakaya, Masahisa Onoguchi, Yoshihiro Nishimura, Keisuke Kiso, Hideki Otsuka, Yoshifumi Nouno, Takayuki Shibutani, and Eisuke Yasuda from Kanazawa University (Ishikawa, Japan) for “Comparison between prone and upright imaging of the inferior wall using ²⁰¹TlCl myocardial perfusion SPECT” (*J Nucl Med Technol.* 2017;45:304–308).

“These articles represent the broad range of investigation and practice that characterizes the rapidly changing world of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging technologies,” said Thomas. “We congratulate this year’s awardees and all those whose contributions continue to make *JNMT* a vital resource for a diverse and growing community.”



Kyle Bauer



Koji Nakaya