



## Hope Funds for Cancer Research

Press Release

### Announces Newly Published Research from Postdoctoral Fellow

For Immediate Release  
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**Newport, RI - December 9, 2011** - Newly published research, in the journal *Analytical Chemistry*, from one of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research postdoctoral fellows, Dr. Jurre Kamphorst in Dr. Joshua Rabinowitz laboratory at Princeton University, identifies a new method for fatty acid analysis that has implications in cancer metabolism research.

"Dr. Kamphorst's work has focused on the Ras mutation in pancreatic cancer", says Charles V. Baltic III, a Hope Funds for Cancer Research Trustee. "We are excited to be supporting work in this understudied area."

The new research published online on December 1, 2011 in the journal *Analytical Chemistry*, showed an analytical method that has broad applications in studying fatty acid metabolism. [Click here to view Analytical Chemistry](#)

#### **About Jurre Kamphorst, Ph.D.**

Jurre is at Princeton University, in the laboratory of Joshua Rabinowitz, Ph.D. Tumor cells make specific metabolic adaptations to supply the energy and building blocks for their rapid growth. Research in recent years established that one function of oncogenes is to induce these metabolic adaptations. Interfering with cancer cell metabolism is one of the oldest pharmacological approaches to cancer therapy, but is currently limited to the areas of folate and nucleic acid metabolism (e.g., methotrexate and 5-fluorouracil). Recently, Drs. Jurre Kamphorst and Joshua Rabinowitz found, using state-of-the-art mass spectrometry, that the Ras oncogene reprograms fatty acid metabolism. They will now have the opportunity to further investigate the nature and ramifications of this reprogramming, aiming towards finding novel therapeutic approaches that selectively inhibit Ras-driven tumor growth. A particular focus will be on the devastating Ras-driven disease, pancreatic cancer.

#### **About Hope Funds for Cancer Research**

The Hope Funds for Cancer Research was formed in 2006 by a group of concerned individuals who have experience in oncology, intellectual property law, investment banking, philanthropy, sociology, and the arts to establish a funding vehicle that would take a rational scientific, medical, and investment approach to granting money to the most interesting and promising research efforts to address the most difficult-to-treat cancers, including pancreatic, lung, liver, sarcomas, esophageal, brain, gastric, and ovarian cancers. These cancers are insidiously aggressive illnesses that kill most of their victims within months, even with aggressive chemotherapy. The Trustees of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research believe that funding research that could lead to breakthroughs in these areas and increase life expectancy in these types of cancers is at the core of our mission. The Hope Funds for Cancer Research is a 509 (a)(1) charity under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service's code. For additional information about the organization, please visit <http://www.hope-funds.org> or call 401-847-3286.

*Hope Funds for Cancer Research: Advancing Innovative Research in Understudied Cancers*

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