2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

SITC 2019–21

STRATEGIC GOALS

• CULTIVATE THE NEXT GENERATION
• BE THE LEADING RESOURCE
• SET INDUSTRY STANDARDS
• CHALLENGE THE THINKING
• INFORM & INFLUENCE REGULATION
• ADVANCE CANCER I-O WORLDWIDE

Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer
The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) is the world’s leading member-driven organization specifically dedicated to improving cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science and application of cancer immunotherapy. Established in 1984, SITC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

**Mission Statement**

It is the mission of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer to improve cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science, development and application of cancer immunology and immunotherapy through our core values of interaction/integration, innovation, translation and leadership in the field.

**Vision Statement**

SITC aims to make cancer immunotherapy a standard of care and the word “CURE” a reality for cancer patients everywhere.

**Core Values**

- Interaction/Integration: Facilitate the exchange of information and education among basic and translational researchers, clinicians, young investigators, societies and groups sharing the mission of SITC
- Innovation: Challenge the thinking and seek the best research in the development of cancer immunotherapy
- Translation: Facilitate the transfer of cancer immunology and immunotherapy research from the bench to the clinic and back
- Leadership: Define what is new and important and effectively communicate it to all relevant Stakeholders
Letter from the President

Since 1984, the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) and its members have worked together to achieve considerable improvement in cancer patient outcomes through the use of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy. This dedication and continuous effort toward making “cure” a reality has prompted never-before-seen success at the bench and the bedside. Positive patient responses continue to trigger new treatment approvals from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and other global governing bodies, providing increased hope for even greater achievements in the not-so-distant future.

SITC is the leading member-driven organization focused solely on cancer immunotherapy. It is through our society’s vast member network of over 2,800 accomplished research scientists, physician scientists, clinicians, patients, patient advocates, government representatives and industry leaders that SITC is able to achieve new heights. This past year, SITC embarked on a new three-year strategic plan that focuses on six key areas:

- Education and Scientific Exchange
- Professional Standards
- Global Access and Impact
- Policy and Advocacy
- Science and Research
- Leadership Development

In this 2019 Year in Review, you’ll see many of the ways in which SITC and its members have collaborated to achieve progress for both our society and the field this year, including:

- The launch of two new, groundbreaking programs carefully designed to fill needs within our field: our Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School, a five-day educational program for early- to mid-career scientists; and the Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Network Leadership Institute, a multi-day program to further develop emerging female leaders in the field.
- Addressing key scientific questions by bringing leading investigators in the field together for a pair of back-to-back workshops on cancer immune responsiveness and adoptive cellular therapies.
- The Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer, which improved its impact factor to 8.676 in 2019 and has become a destination journal for research articles, case reports, reviews and more.
- The seventh year of our Advances in Cancer Immunotherapy™ program, an in-person education series helping clinicians, industry members and others stay current with FDA-approved Immunotherapy treatment, which expanded its reach in 2019, hosting its first program in Canada.
- An increased presence in advocacy on behalf of our members as we seek to improve legislators’ understanding of cancer immunotherapy, and positively influence key issues affecting policy, patient access to therapy and other areas central to the continued growth of our field.

I am proud to be a member of the SITC family, and I appreciate and thank the countless individuals who have volunteered their time and expertise to improve cancer patient outcomes by advancing the science, development and application of immunology and immunotherapy. I hope you enjoy this 2019 Year in Review which highlights how SITC and its members are helping to achieve our mission.

Sincerely,

Mario Sznol, MD
SITC President
34TH ANNUAL MEETING & PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMS
The 34th Annual Meeting & Pre-Conference Programs continues to be the leading destination for scientific exchange, education and networking in the cancer immunotherapy field.

950 abstracts submitted
Over 80 oral abstract presentations and
865 poster abstract presentations
34 Young Investigator Travel Awards

New at the 34th Annual Meeting, SITC hosted a collaborative program with the American Society for Hematology (ASH).

Lessons and Challenges from the Immunotherapy of Hematologic Malignancies: Informing the Next Generation of Cancer Immunotherapies
UTILIZING CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY
SITC connectED, the society’s online learning portal, provides free and easy access to accredited online courses.

- 75+ free online courses
- 6 dedicated patient resource guides
- Nearly 20,000 registered users
- 2,700 online resources
- Nearly 2,000 online learners

Innovative webinars and interactive courses include:
- Advances in Cancer Immunotherapy™ Webinar Series
- Cancer Immunotherapy Guidelines Webinars
- Meet-the-Expert Webinar Series

EMPOWERING PATIENTS
SITC published three patient guides in 2019 paired with a self-paced, interactive online activity for patients to learn about:
1. Immunotherapy as a cancer treatment option
2. Importance of reporting and monitoring side effects
3. Financial and reimbursement resources
4. Resources and support for patients and caregivers

Over 80,000 resource guides distributed to patients
THE JOURNAL FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY OF CANCER (JITC) IS THE SOCIETY’S OPEN ACCESS, PEER-REVIEWED ONLINE JOURNAL

**Impact Factor**

8.676 Impact Factor

**Top 8 percent** of all journals published in the categories of oncology and immunology in the 2018 Journal Citation Reports

**SITC’S GUIDE TO MANAGING IMMUNOTHERAPY TOXICITY**

Doody’s Medical Review Score: **100, 5 Stars**

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**PUBLISHING STANDARD-SETTING RESOURCES**

The Cancer Immunotherapy Guidelines program provides guidance to the oncology community through published collections of consensus-based clinical recommendations, auxiliary review articles, easy-to-use pocket guides, on-demand webinars, and integration of the recommendations into the popular Advances in Cancer Immunotherapy™ regional programs.

**Published in 2019:**
Squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (HNSCC)

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**LEADING CONSENSUS BUILDING**

SITC’s Immunotherapy Resistance Taskforce convened stakeholders to develop a unified definition of checkpoint inhibitor resistance. The unified definition will be presented at the SITC 34th Annual Meeting and published in a whitepaper.

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**SET INDUSTRY STANDARDS** for the field of cancer immunotherapy in order to position SITC as the authority on immunotherapy of cancer
IMPROVING PATIENT ACCESS GLOBALLY

In 2019, SITC established a Global Access and Impact Committee charged with the development strategies to overcome the challenges of science, education, policy, and infrastructure within Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) to promote immunotherapy utilization and access across the world.

COLLABORATING IN GLOBAL SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE

SITC and the World Immunotherapy Council (WIC) are dedicated to advancing cancer immunotherapy and, likewise, the future leaders of the field. In 2019, the World Immunotherapy Council’s 3rd Young Investigator Symposium featured 21 of the top young investigators from around the world.

SITC MEMBERSHIP

2019 marked a membership milestone with 2,800+ members, representing 40 countries, for the first time in the society’s history.

2,800+ member milestone
Policy and Advocacy

INFORM AND INFLUENCE the science and research, regulation, as well as quality of care and quality of access impacted by public policy, ensuring the patient voice is heard and recognized.

ADVOCATING FOR INCREASED FUNDING FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY RESEARCH

The SITC Policy & Advocacy Committee and its respective subcommittees successfully incorporated language into congressional appropriations bills to advocate for the advancement of immunotherapy through funding support of the U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health (NCI/NIH) for both FY19 and FY20 appropriations bills.

SITC leadership visited with congressional staffers and members multiple times in 2019 to help advance policy and funding in support of the field of immunotherapy.

IMPROVING PATIENT ACCESS

SITC convened stakeholders for a summit to draft and prioritize novel IO-specific quality measure concepts. Outcomes from this quality summit will be published in a white paper for field-wide dissemination, and development of prioritized quality measure concepts is being planned for 2020.

Published on May 17, 2019, in the Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (JITC), “The promise of Immuno-oncology: implications for defining the value of cancer treatment” seeks to characterize the differences in value between immunotherapies and other treatment modalities, as well as propose key aspects and attributes that should be considered in any assessment of their value.

This year, SITC has responded to proposed rules and actions from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that could affect immunotherapy reimbursement.

COLLABORATING TO GUIDE THE FIELD

SITC partnered with the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) to prioritize and define I-O related issues specifically for policy makers, including care coordination and workforce issues, CAR T policy and reimbursement implications, as well as telehealth.
**ADDRESSING CHALLENGES IN THE FIELD**

In 2019, SITC led the field in addressing challenges and responding to key scientific questions.

**Adoptive Cellular Therapies Workshop:** The two-day workshop brought together cancer immunotherapy experts to discuss challenges concerning the use and development of adoptive cellular therapies for the treatment of cancer patients, fueling innovative collaborative efforts.

**Cancer Immune Responsiveness Workshop:** Building off the Cancer Immune Responsiveness Workshop in 2018, SITC continued to lead the discussion on the interactions between the immune system and cancer. This workshop defined pivotal questions concerning mechanisms of cancer immune responsiveness and resistance.
ADVANCING THE CAREERS OF ALL MEMBERS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMING AND FUNDING

SITC held its inaugural Cancer Immunotherapy Winter School designed to provide a deep understanding of the core principles of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy and examine developing areas in the field.

111 attendees
100% Net Promoter Score

New in 2019, SITC hosted the only-of-its-kind Women in Cancer Immunotherapy Network (WIN) Leadership Institute, designed to provide female professionals the tools they need to succeed as emerging leaders in the field of cancer immunotherapy.

203 applicants
100% Net Promoter Score
The SITC Sparkathon program brings together investigators early in their careers with various backgrounds, degrees and professional experiences to collaboratively address obstacles the field of cancer immunotherapy faces. A panel of SITC leaders awarded the most promising project $200,000 to implement the proposed project.

28 Sparkies working on the selected project: SITCure: When is it safe to stop immunotherapy?

The Forward Fund seeks to stimulate the future of science, development and application of cancer immunology and immunotherapy through education and research and has provided millions of dollars in Fellowship awards since 2014.

ENGAGING MEMBERS TO CREATE A VIBRANT COMMUNITY AND FAMILY

SITC launched its all new Career Connections initiative, which connects job seekers with talent seekers in the cancer immunotherapy field through an enhanced year-round online platform and in-person networking at the society’s 34th Annual Meeting, Career Connections serves as the go-to resource for employment opportunities in the field.

Professional Interest Communities (PICs) offer SITC members of similar professional disciplines and experience the opportunity to discuss current and future research, scientific applications and career development needs, help colleagues address professional hurdles and build new relationships.

More than 150 members in 5 active communities

91 members of the Women in SITC Community

The SITC Volunteer Portal offers direct access to a multitude of opportunities for shaping the direction of both the society and the field.

145 SITC volunteers were matched into 35 volunteer opportunities
STRATEGIC GOALS

• Cultivate the Next Generation  • Be The Leading Resource  • Set Industry Standards  • Challenge the Thinking  • Inform & Influence Regulation  • Advance Cancer to Worldwide