

# 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium in Translational Research in Pathology

A Complimentary Symposium Honoring  
William Gerald, MD, PhD

Thursday, April 16, 2026, 1:00—7:00 p.m.

In-Person and Virtual

*Complimentary Registration*



Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center



# Overview

This symposium features the **William L. Gerald Award Lecture**, along with a series of research presentations and a poster session highlighting work from members of the MSK Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.



The **William L. Gerald Award** of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK) is presented to a pathologist whose recent innovative research has advanced our understanding of cancer biology and whose career trajectory demonstrates exceptional promise for future contributions. We are pleased to announce that this year's recipient is **Laura Wood, MD, PhD**, Associate Professor of Pathology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

This symposium is designed for practicing pathologists and research scientists in both academic and private practice settings, as well as pathology residents and fellows seeking to broaden their understanding of neoplastic diseases, and offers the flexibility to attend either in person or virtually.

This symposium is complimentary for all participants.  
For full details and to register, visit:

**[msk.org/strp2026](https://msk.org/strp2026)**

# William L. Gerald Awardee and Lecturer

We are pleased to welcome **Laura Wood, MD, PhD** as this year's William L. Gerald Awardee and Lecturer.



**Laura Wood, MD, PhD**  
*Associate Professor of Pathology  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

Dr. Wood is a nationally recognized physician-scientist whose work has advanced the molecular understanding of pancreatic and gastrointestinal cancers. She was among the first to apply whole-exome sequencing to human cancers, contributing to the foundational “mountains and hills” genomic framework (*Science*, 2007).

Her research has provided key insights into intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma (*Nature Genetics*, 2013) and pancreatic tumorigenesis, including defining single-cell genomic heterogeneity in IPMNs and advancing 3D spatial genomic mapping of pancreatic precancers—highlighting their multifocal origin and clonal diversity.

Dr. Wood has published extensively in high-impact journals and has received numerous honors, including the AGA-Schwartz Pancreatic Cancer Research Scholar award, Kimmel Scholar designation, the AACR-Incyte Career Development Award, and recent funding from the Lustgarten Foundation.

## About the William L. Gerald Award

This award honors **William L. Gerald, MD**, an Attending Pathologist at MSK (1992–2008), whose pioneering work integrated molecular pathology into cancer diagnosis and classification. He played a key role in defining the molecular basis of multiple malignancies, including the characterization of desmoplastic small round cell tumor, contributions to neuroblastoma classification, and advancements in prostate cancer prognostication.

Widely respected for his diagnostic expertise and commitment to mentorship, Dr. Gerald's legacy reflects both scientific innovation and a collaborative, thoughtful approach to advancing the field.

# MSK Faculty



## Symposium Director

**Hikmat A. Al-Ahmadie, MD**

*Attending, Genitourinary Pathology*



## Symposium Director

**Lora Hedrick Ellenson, MD**

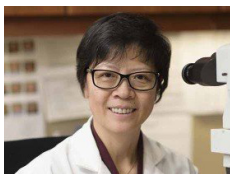
*Director, Gynecologic Pathology*



## Symposium Director

**Fresia Pareja, MD, PhD**

*Assistant Attending, Breast Pathology*



## Symposium Director

**Hong (Amy) Zhang, MD, PhD**

*Attending, Breast Pathology*



## Leadership Welcome

**Kojo S.J. Elenitoba-Johnson, MD**

*Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
James Ewing Alumni Chair of Pathology*

## MSK Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Faculty

**Olca Basturk, MD**

**Higinio Dopeso, PhD**

**Raymond Isidro Vega, MD, PhD**

**Luisa Ricaurte Archila, MD**

**Carlos Munoz Zuluaga, MD**

**Britta Weigelt, PhD**

**Laura Wood, MD, PhD**

**Cansu Yol, MD**

# Schedule

Thursday, April 16, 2026, 1:00—7:00 p.m. (EDT)

Zuckerman Research Center (ZRC) Auditorium

TIME	SESSIONS
12:45 p.m.	Onsite Check-In (ZRC Lobby)
12:55 p.m.	Virtual Login and Check-In (Zoom)
1:00 p.m.	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> Kojo S. J. Elenitoba-Johnson, MD
<b>Research Presentations</b>	
MODERATORS	Hikmat A. Al-Ahmadie, MD; Fresia Pareja, MD, PhD; Hong (Amy) Zhang, MD, PhD
1:05 p.m.	<b>Molecular Subtype Assignment in Endometrial Carcinoma: Challenging Cases and the Role of Panel Sequencing</b> Britta Weigelt, PhD
1:20 p.m.	<b>Distinct Mutational Signatures Differentiating Metaplastic Breast Carcinomas with Squamous Differentiation and Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinomas</b> Carlos Munoz Zuluaga, MD
1:35 p.m.	<b>Morphological Spectrum and Prognostic Significance of SMARCA4/SMARCB1-Mutant Esophageal and GE Junction Adenocarcinomas</b> Raymond Isidro Vega, MD, PhD
1:50 p.m.	<b>HPV-Associated Sarcomas of the Cervix and Vagina: Detection of Common (16, 51) and Rare (30, 90, 114) HPV Types, Recurrent ATRX Alterations, and Wild-Type TP53/RB1 by Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS)</b> Luisa Ricaurte Archila, MD
2:05 p.m.	<b>HER2 Expression Heterogeneity and ERBB2 Alterations in Urothelial Carcinoma: Implications for HER2-Targeted Therapy</b> Cansu Yol, MD
2:20 p.m.	<b>Context-Dependent Tumor Suppressor Role of RHOA in Breast Cancer Through Cooperation With CDH1 Loss</b> Higinio Dopeso, PhD
2:35 p.m.	<b>Break and Poster Session</b> ZRC Lobby

## William L. Gerald Award and Lecture

4:00 p.m.

### Introduction of Awardee

Olca Basturk, MD

4:05 p.m.

### Award Presentation

Kojo S. J. Elenitoba-Johnson, MD

4:10 p.m.



### Awardee's Presentation

#### Genomic and Spatial Analysis of Human Pancreatic Precancers

Laura Wood, MD, PhD

5:00 p.m.

### Networking Reception

ZRC Lobby

*Refreshments served*

7:00 p.m.

Adjourn

## Accreditation

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

## AMA Credit Designation Statement

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center designates this live activity for a maximum of **2.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## ABPath CC Recognition Statement

This activity will offer **2.50 Lifelong Learning (CME)** credit towards the American Board of Pathology's Continuing Certification program.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center adheres to the ACCME's Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. Any individuals in a position to control the content of a CE activity, including faculty, planners, reviewers, or others are required to disclose all relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies (commercial interests). All relevant financial relationships are mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.



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## Continuing Medical Education

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