

NIKKI K. LYTLE, PhD

Assistant Professor

Department of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology

Co-Director, MCW Surgical Oncology Tissue Bank

Co-Leader, Cancer Disparities Program for Research & Community Scholars

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center

LaBahn Pancreatic Cancer Program

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences.

University of California, San Diego, CA. September, 2018

G.P.A.: **3.98**

Bachelor of Arts. Willamette University, Salem, OR. May 2010

Majors: **Biology** and **Religious Studies**

Minors: **Chemistry** and **Classical Studies**

G.P.A.: **3.86** (Magna Cum-Laude)

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 Oct – Current: **Medical College of Wisconsin**, Milwaukee WI

Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology

Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center

2018 Nov – 2022 Oct: **Salk Institute for Biological Studies**, La Jolla CA

Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Geoffrey Wahl Laboratory

2012 Sep – 2018 Oct: **University of California San Diego**, La Jolla CA

PhD, Biomedical Sciences Doctoral Program, Dr. Tannishtha Reya Laboratory

2010 May – 2012 Sep: **Legacy Research Institute**, Portland OR

Research Assistant, Robert S. Dow Neurobiology Laboratories, Dr. Detlev Boison Laboratory

2008 Sep – 2010 May: **Willamette University**, Salem OR

Science Collaborate Research Program, Dr. Jason Duncan Laboratory

2008 Fall: **Nunhems USA** Research Technologist, Salem OR

2008 Summer: **Oregon State University Central Oregon Agriculture Research Center** Intern, Madras OR

RESEARCH GRANTS, AWARDS, AND CONTRACTS

Active

1. American Gastroenterological Association (AGA)-Bern Schwarz Family Fund Research Scholar Award in Pancreatic Cancer
Lytle (PI); \$300,000 in direct costs
“Intercepting metastasis through disruption of the pro-metastatic niche”
07/2025 – 06/2028
2. Vince Lombardi Cancer Foundation
Lytle (PI); \$85,000 in direct funds
“Therapeutic opportunities for preventing metastasis by harnessing Kupffer cells”

01/2026 – 12/2026

3. Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin
Lytle (MCW PI); 20% effort supported
“Cancer disparities curriculum for Research & Community Scholars”
06/2025 – 09/2026
4. Rolfe Foundation
Lytle (PI); \$48,000 in direct funds
“Pancreatic cancer metastasis prevention through precision medicine-based immune modulation”
04/2026 – 03/2027
5. NIH National Cancer Institute R01
Todd Miller (PI) and Lytle (Co-I)
“Uncovering the basis and implications of lineage plasticity in breast cancer”
01/2025 – 12/2026
6. NIH National Cancer Institute R01
Thomas McFall (PI) and Lytle (Co-I)
“Overcoming intrinsic resistance to targeted therapies in colorectal cancer”
09/2024 – 08/2029

Under Review

1. NIH National Cancer Institute R01
“Timp1 regulation of pancreatic cancer liver metastasis”
Lytle (PI)
2. NIH National Cancer Institute R01
“Regulation of cell state plasticity in breast tumorigenesis”
Lytle (PI)

Completed

1. Cumberland Pharmaceuticals (industry collaboration)
Lytle (PI); \$24,500 in direct funds
06/2025 – 06/2026
2. American Cancer Society – MCW Cancer Center Institutional Research Grant (ACS-IRG)
Lytle (PI); \$60,000 in direct funds
“The role of chemotherapy-induced cell plasticity in second primary breast cancers”
01/2024 – 05/2026
3. Vince Lombardi Cancer Foundation
Lytle (PI); \$80,000 in direct costs
“Disabling metastasis through blockade of desmoplastic stroma formation”
01/2025 – 12/2025
4. Research Affairs Committee New Faculty Pilot Grant, MCW
Lytle (PI); \$35,000 in direct costs
“The role of chemotherapy-induced liver damage in pancreatic cancer liver metastasis”
01/2025 – 12/2025
5. We Care Fund for Medical Innovation and Research, MCW, Department of Surgery
Lytle (PI); \$50,000 in direct costs
“Systematic targeting of Midkine as a novel approach for preventing pancreatic cancer liver metastasis”
09/2024 – 08/2025
6. Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF)
Geoffrey Wahl (PI) and Lytle (Co-I); \$60,000 in direct funds to Lytle lab
10/2023 – 09/2024
“Molecular developmental approach to classifying and treating breast cancer”

7. Centene Charitable Foundation
Lytle (PI); \$50,000 in direct funds
09/2023 – 08/2024
“Elucidating the Liver Metastatic Niche: the Evolving Microenvironment Throughout Pancreatic Cancer Metastasis”
8. Sky Foundation Seed Grant
Lytle (PI); \$100,000 in direct funds
05/2020 – 12/2023
“Interception of pancreatic cancer metastasis by targeting tissue wound repair”
9. Salk Innovation Grant
MPI: Nikki Lytle and Geoffrey Wahl; \$95,000 in direct funds
01/2021 – 01/2022
“Contact tracing: A tool for tracking cell-cell contact dependent phenotype alterations”
10. Hope Funds for Cancer Research (HFCR) Fellowship
Lytle (PI)
11/2020 – 10/2022
“Interception of pancreatic cancer metastasis by targeting tissue wound repair”
11. NIH/NCI T32 Salk Institute Cancer Training Grant
11/2018 – 10/2020
“The role of obesity in mammary epithelium cell state and breast cancer initiation”
12. Salk Women & Science Special Awards Initiative Recipient
Lytle (PI); \$25,000 in direct funds
03/2019 – 02/2020
“Tracking cellular plasticity during tumorigenesis by intravital imaging”
13. NIH/NCI Ruth L. Kirschstein F31 Predoctoral Individual NRSA Fellowship
Lytle (PI)
04/2016 – 03/2018
“Stem cell signals in pancreatic adenocarcinoma metastasis and therapy resistance”
14. NIH/NCI T32 UCSD Pharmacological Sciences Training Grant
08/2013 – 07/2015
15. Howard Hughes Medical Institute Med-into-Grad Initiative
09/2013 – 03/2014

PROGRAMMATIC LEADERSHIP

- 07/2025 – current: Co-Leader, Cancer Disparities Program for Research & Community Scholars
A multidisciplinary, collaborative program aimed to embed policy/practice to foster trust and understanding between science & community, and deconstruct hierarchies that sustain oppressive models impacting cancer health disparities
- 08/2023 – current: Co-Director, Surgical Oncology Tissue Bank, Medical College of Wisconsin
Longitudinal, annotated biorepository which collects blood and tissue samples for generating patient-derived organoids and banking fixed, frozen, and viable specimens
- 08/2023 – current: Organizer, MCW Pancreas Disease Oriented Team monthly seminar series
- 09/2023 – 06/2024: Co-organizer, MCW Breast Disease Oriented Team monthly seminar series

HONORS AND AWARDS

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

- 04/2023 – Current: American Gastroenterological Association (AGA)
- 06/2017 – Current: American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)

AWARDS

10/2024 Mellowes Center – Oxford Nanopore Technologies Discovery and Innovation Pilot Award, MCW
 05/2023 Rising Star Award, Midwest Tumor Microenvironment Meeting, Purdue University
 11/2021 American Pancreatic Association 2021 Young Investigator Award, Miami FL
 09/2019 2019 Outstanding Dissertation Award, Biomedical Sciences, University of California San Diego
 06/2017 Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities Region 3 Travel Funds Award
 06/2017 Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Workshop Travel Award, Cold Spring Harbor NY
 02/2017 Gordon Research Seminar Individual Travel Award, Barga-Gallicano Italy
 2016 Featured Alumni, Willamette University Biology Department, Salem OR
 09/2015 Best Poster, UCSD Biomedical Sciences Annual Retreat, Palm Springs CA
 2006 – 2010 Willamette University Honors/Scholarships

Magna Cum-Laude	Phi Beta Kappa Biological Honor Society
Department of Biology Honors	Department of Religious Studies Honors
Mortar Board	Dean's List, 5 semesters
College Honors	Tri Beta Biological Honor Society
Willamette Compass Scholarship	Martha Springer Biology Scholarship
Department of Biology Travel Award	Class of 1933 Scholarship
Collins Scholarship	Lilly Personal Development Grant
T. Kay Yeoman Scholarship	Vera M. Armstrong Scholarship
Morton and Jessie Peck Scholarship	Leupold & Stevens Foundation Scholarship
Elmer and Grace Goudy Scholarship	Ernst and Selma Thoman Scholarship

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

CURRENT TRAINEES

Postdoctoral Fellows

Priyanga Jayakrishnan, Postdoctoral Fellow, 08/2023 – Current
Selected speaker: **Mechanisms & Models of Cancer**, CSHL NY, 08/2026
Selected speaker: Midwest Tumor Microenvironment Meeting, Milwaukee WI, 05/2026
Recipient, MCW Cancer Center Postdoctoral Fellowship, 07/2025 – 06/2027
Recipient, Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Postdoctoral Seed Grant, 01/2025 – 12/2026
Voted best poster presentation: MCW Annual Research Poster Session, Milwaukee WI, 11/2024
Voted best oral presentation: MCW Annual Postdoc Research Symposium, Milwaukee WI, 09/2024

Graduate Students

Isabella Facchine, Interdisciplinary Program (PhD), MCW, 01/2024 – Current
Selected speaker: 15th Annual Immunology Scientific Retreat, MCW Center for Immunology, 05/2026
Selected speaker: MCW Cancer Center Trainee Symposium, MCW 05/2026
Selected speaker: Graduate Student Association Research Symposium, MCW, 03/2026
Invited speaker: Student presenter for IDP Program Interview Day, MCW, 01/2026
Selected speaker: WiSER conference, La Crosse WI, 11/2025
Selected speaker: PancMidwest Research Symposium, Ann Arbor MI, 10/2025
Recipient, MCW Cancer Center Travel Award, 08/2025
Recipient, MCW Graduate Student Association Travel Award, 08/2025
Voted best poster presentation: 7th Annual Graduate Student Symposium, Milwaukee WI, 03/2025
 Alexander Eng, Medical Science Training Program (MD/PhD), MCW, 01/2026 – current
 MCW Medical Student (volunteering in Lytle lab) 12/2024 – 12/2025, accepted into MSTP 01/2026
Voted best poster presentation: Medical Student Summer Research Day Poster Session, 09/2025
Recipient, SAMS/MSSRP competitive research summer fellowship, 06/2025 – 08/2025
 Anna Bauer, Interdisciplinary Program (PhD), MCW, 02/2026 – Current

Undergraduate Students

Summer, medical school, and part-time students

Tiffany Andohkrow, MCW Medical School student, 06/2026 – current
Recipient, SAMS/MSSRP competitive research summer fellowship, 06/2026 – 08/2026

Andrew Lavin, MCW Medical School student, 10/2025 – current
Recipient, SAMS/MSSRP competitive research summer fellowship, 06/2026 – 08/2026
Miriam Budithi, Volunteer trainee, 12/2025 – current

Research Technicians

Cole Peters, Research Technician, 05/2025 – Current

GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEES

Current

Nasya Miller, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Antje Schaefer Laboratory, 07/2026 – Current
Payton Klosa, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Chun Liu Laboratory, 06/2026 – Current
Shelby Hadar, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Andreas Beyer and Chun Liu Laboratories, 06/2026 – Current
Fangfei Zhang, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Gustavo Leone Laboratory, 01/2026 – Current
Juliannie Herrera, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Thomas McFall Laboratory, 08/2025 – Current
Malone Friedman, Medical Scientist Training Program, MCW, Todd Miller Lab, 07/2025 – Current
Selected as Committee Chair
Mohamed Gadelkarim, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Gustavo Leone Laboratory, 10/2024 – Current
Elisabeth Solis, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Michael Dwinell Laboratory, 04/2024 – Current
Daniel Dorbin, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Thomas McFall Laboratory, 8/2023 – Current

Successfully Defended

Donovan Drouillard, Medical Scientist Training Program, MCW, Michael Dwinell Lab, 09/2023 – 03/2026
Maria Poimenidou, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Michael Dwinell Laboratory, 10/2023 – 04/2026
Aigbe Ohihoin, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, Victor Jin Laboratory, 08/2023 – 04/2026

PAST TRAINEES

Medical College of Wisconsin

Masters Students

Omar Cortez-Toledo, Masters Student, Interdisciplinary Program, MCW, 02/2023 – 08/2025
Recipient, MCW Cancer Center Graduate Student Fellowship, 11/2023 – 07/2025

Undergraduate Students

Parnian Vakili, MCW-University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Joint Cancer Research Program, 10/2023 – 05/2026
Entered UW Milwaukee's accelerated Master's Program in Biomedical Sciences 06/2026
Voted best poster presentation: MCW Cancer Center Trainee Symposium, MCW, 05/2026
Selected speaker: MCW Cancer Center Trainee Symposium, MCW, 05/2026
Selected presenter: Wisconsin State Capital "Research in the Rotunda: Showcasing the Work of UW Undergraduates," Madison WI, 03/2026
Recipient, Senior Excellence in Research Fellowship, 09/2025 – 05/2026
Voted best poster presentation: National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Pittsburgh PA, 04/2025
Recipient, MCWCC-UWM Undergraduate Research Grant, 06/2024 – 12/2024

Summer, medical school, and part-time students

Myra Haider, Trinity University undergraduate student, Summer 2026
Troy Biermann, MCW Medical School student, 11/2024 – 09/2025
Voted best poster presentation: Medical Student Summer Research Day Poster Session, 09/2025
Recipient, SAMS/MSSRP competitive research summer fellowship, 06/2025 – 08/2025
Zaynab Iqbal, UW Madison undergraduate student, Summer 2025
Krisha Pakala, SUPREMES Brookfield Central High School program, Summer 2024, Spring 2025
Mariah Williams, Student-Centered Pipeline to Advance Research in Cancer Centers (SPARCC), Summer 2023
Brett Mueller, MCW Medical School student, Winter 2023

Technicians

Kai Liptow, Research Technician, 06/2023 – 05/2025
Entered MCW M.D./Ph.D. Medical Scientist Training Program 06/2025

Salk Institute for Biological Studies/University of California San Diego

Liliana Zamora, Research Assistant, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, 03/2022 – 10/2022

Nick Enriquez, Westview High School Summer Student, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, Summer 2020

Tammy Gilderman, Undergraduate Student, University of California San Diego, 01/2017 – 09/2019

TEACHING

- 2026 **Course Director:** Current Concepts in Cancer Biology (Fall), Pharmacology & Toxicology curriculum, MCW
- 2026 Lecturer: Omics Technology in Precision Medicine (Spring), MCW
"Gene Editing Technologies"
- 2025 Lecturer: Techniques in Molecular and Cell Biology (Fall), IDP PhD program curriculum, MCW
"Introduction to flow cytometry and cell sorting"
- 2025 Lecturer: Current Concepts in Cardiovascular Biology (Spring), IDP PhD program, Physiology curriculum
"The contribution of the vascular system to cancer drug deliver and cancer metastasis"
- 2024 Lecturer: Foundations in Biomedical Sciences II (Fall), IDP PhD program curriculum, MCW
"Paper Discussion: Developmental Biology Gene Transcription"
- 2024 Lecturer: Current Topics in Cancer Biology lecturer (Fall), IDP PhD program, Pharmacology & Toxicology Curriculum, MCW
"Invasion and Metastasis"
- 2024 Lecturer: Current Topics in Cancer Biology lecturer (Fall), IDP PhD program, Pharmacology & Toxicology curriculum, MCW
"Cancer Stem Cells"
- 2024 Lecturer: MCW Postdoc lecture series (Spring), Office of Postdoctoral Education, MCW
"How to write a research statement"
- 2023 Lecturer: Research Deconstruction, Beloit College
"Tumor evolution as a hurdle for cancer treatment: How do we study it and outsmart it?"
- 2016 Lead Instructional Assistant (Spring), University of California San Diego: *The Cell*
- 2010 Tutor (Fall), Willamette University: *Cell Biology and Genetics*
- 2009 – 2010 Laboratory Assistant, Willamette University: *Gene Structure and Function* (2 semesters)
- 2009 – 2010 Laboratory Assistant, Willamette University: *Molecular Genetics* (2 semesters)
- 2008 Laboratory Assistant (Fall), Willamette University: *Animal Physiology*

MENTORING TRAINING

- 2025 MCW Graduate School Mentoring Academy, 4-part series (spring)
- 2020 Salk Institute Mentoring Training, 7-part series

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Institutional Committees

Current (Medical College of Wisconsin)

- 03/2026 – current Search committee member for Cancer Center Cancer Biology Research Program Co-Leader
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology and MCW Cancer Center, MCW
- 04/2025 – current Faculty advisor, Interdisciplinary Program Student Ambassador Committee, MCW
- 05/2024 – current Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) appointed member, MCW, 3-year term
- 09/2023 – current Geospatial Epidemiology & Outcomes Advisory Committee, MCW

Past (Medical College of Wisconsin)

- 07/2023 – 06/2026 Elected member, Graduate Studies Council Awards Committee, MCW, 3-year term
- 06/2024 – 05/2026 Organizing committee for the Midwest Tumor Microenvironment meeting, MCW
- 09/2025 – 12/2025 Committee for Trainee Recruitment in the Graduate School, MCW
- 11/2023 – 04/2024 Search committee member for Cancer Biologist
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, MCW
- 11/2023 – 04/2024 Search committee member for Pancreas Cancer Surgeon Scientist
Department of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology, MCW

Past (previous institutions)

12/2019 – 10/2022 Organizer, monthly Salk Featured Fellows Series, Salk Institute Society of Research Fellows
10/2021 Organizer, Salk Science at the Seaside annual symposium
12/2014 – 04/2015 Selected student representative, UCSD Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program admissions
09/2013 – 05/2015 Welcome committee organizer, UCSD Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program
09/2012 – 05/2013 Elected student council, first-year graduate students, UCSD Biomedical Sciences
08/2009 – 11/2009 Selected student representative, hiring committee for microbiology, Willamette University
03/2009 – 05/2009 Selected student representative, hiring committee for physiology, Willamette University

Ad-hoc Reviewer

Cancer Research	
Signal Transduction and Targeted Therapy	Gut
NPJ Precision Oncology	Cancers

COMMUNITY OUTREACH, PUBLIC SERVICE, AND PRESS

Promoting Biomedical Research through Podcasts/Radio/TV

12/2025 Guest scientist, WTMJ radio station, Milwaukee WI
How can the Milwaukee Community support cancer research, with Vince Lombardi Cancer Foundation
<https://youtu.be/VOGHsWsFBMk>

09/2025 Guest scientist, WTMJ radio station, Milwaukee WI
Opportunities for the Milwaukee Community to tackle cancer disparities

08/2025 Guest scientist, WTMJ radio station, Milwaukee WI
How can the Milwaukee Community support cancer research, with Vince Lombardi Cancer Foundation

12/2024 Guest scientist with Vince Lombardi Cancer Foundation, WTMJ radio station, Milwaukee WI

11/2024 *The Word on Medicine* Podcast, guest scientist
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/pancreatic-cancer-update/id1342298832?i=1000678659216>

03/2024 Stars in Our Sky: Sky Foundation Lecture Series
“The unintended consequences of treating pancreatic cancer: Can you protect your liver?”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Ycd2leuhTc>

11/2023 *Pancreas School* presented by the MCW LaBahn Pancreatic Cancer Program
“Tour a pancreatic cancer research lab with Nikki Lytle”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=feb_ZiYy0iQ

02/2023 *The Voice of Pancreatic Cancer* Senna Magowitz Foundation Podcast, guest scientist
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQWxXbBGnCE&t=115s>

11/2022 *The Word on Medicine* Podcast, guest scientist
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/pancreatic-cancer-awareness/id1342298832?i=1000586816365>

04/2021 Sky Foundation 13th Annual Women’s Event, invited speaker:
“Can we prevent pancreatic cancer metastasis? *Lessons from a mediocre gardener*”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyTE-vnT9tY>

02/2021 *Where Cures Begin* Salk Podcast, guest scientist
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tf2-sF5SiT8>

Cancer Patient/Survivor Events

04/2026 Lab tour host, Care for the Cancer Caregiver 2026

11/2025 Presenter, Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month Patient Lecture Series:
“Pancreatic cancer metastasis and biomedical research”

08/2025 Lab tour host for Pancreatic Cancer Survivors, Power of Us event, Seena Magowitz Foundation

08/2024 Lab tour host for Pancreatic Cancer Survivors, Power of Us event, Seena Magowitz Foundation

08/2023 Lab tour volunteer for Pancreatic Cancer Survivors, Power of Us event, Seena Magowitz Foundation

11/2022 Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month Patient Lecture Series:
“Pancreatic Cancer: Of Mice and Men”

07/2021 Scientist, Project LEAD Institute, Breast Cancer Advocacy Training

07/2019 Scientist, Project LEAD Institute, Breast Cancer Advocacy Training
03/2019 Fast Pitch at Komen San Diego's Annual Metastatic Breast Cancer Conference, San Diego, CA
"Spying on the Terrorist Within: New Insights into Cancer Metastasis Using Intravital Imaging"

Cancer Fundraiser Events

04/2026 Keynote Speaker, PanCan Purple Stride, Milwaukee WI
03/2026 Presenter, Marquette University Lacrosse fundraiser for pancreatic cancer research, Milwaukee WI
03/2026 Keynote speaker, Vince Lombardi Cancer Foundation Award of Excellence Dinner, Milwaukee WI
03/2026 Presenter, Marquette University Lacrosse fundraiser for pancreatic cancer research, Milwaukee WI
11/2025 Presenter, Ignite Hope for Pancreatic Cancer fundraiser for PanCan Action Network, Milwaukee WI
08/2025 Presenter, 2nd annual charity golf outing, Mike Welsch Fund for Pancreatic Cancer Research
03/2025 Presenter, Marquette University Lacrosse fundraiser for pancreatic cancer research, Milwaukee WI
11/2024 Keynote speaker, Sky Foundation Annual Night Sky Gala, Detroit MI
10/2019 Invited speaker, Salk Women & Science donor event
07/2019 Invited speaker, Salk Women & Science donor event
03/2019 Science Advocate, Susan G. Komen San Diego More Than Pink Annual Fundraiser, San Diego CA

Outreach to Underserved/Underrepresented Communities in Biomedical Sciences

06/2026 Presenter and lab tour host for Cancer Center Interns for Underrepresented Populations, MCW
03/2026 Lab tour host for Student Enrichment Program for Underrepresented Populations (StEP-UP), MCW
11/2025 Lab tour host for Ribbons of Faith Ambassadors of Milwaukee WI
11/2025 Presenter, Christ the King Lutheran Church
"The promise ahead: what your community should know about cancer"
10/2025 Presenter, Cancer Disparities Program for Research & Community Scholars, Milwaukee WI
"Biomedical research and the molecular events that cause cancer"
08/2025 Presenter, Cancer 101 for Seventh-day Adventist Hispanic Community Church, Milwaukee WI
"The promise ahead: what the Milwaukee community should know about cancer"
07/2025 Presenter, Cancer 101 for the Milwaukee Interfaith Leadership, Milwaukee WI
"The promise ahead: what faith leaders should know about cancer"
01/2025 Guest scientist, FIRST Tech Challenge Elmbrook High School all-girls robotics team interview series
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wigariXm2Mw>
02/2021 March of Dimes High School Science Week, volunteer science panelist, Salk Institute
02/2021 Monarch High School for underprivileged youth, Speaker:
"Seed and soil: how our body and environment influences cancer"
02/2020 March of Dimes High School Science Week, volunteer science panelist, Salk Institute
11/2019 Salk Scientist representative, Business and Youth Expo, San Diego CA

Lytle Lab Press

04/2026 Community & Cancer Science Network (CCSN) the HUB monthly newsletter spotlight – April 2026
<https://www.ccsnwi.org/newsletter.html>

Lytle Lab Community Volunteering

04/2023 – Current: Lytle lab monthly volunteering
08/2025 – current: Nature preservation with Restoring Lands and/or trash cleanup at local parks
04/2023 – 05/2025: Clothing donation organization for Milwaukee Women's Shelter
07/2021 – 09/2021 Organizer, Salk Research Fellows community cleanup project

PUBLICATIONS

1. Thalji SZ, Aldakkak M, Ramamurthi A, Jaraczewski TJ, Eng M, Belbahri M, SenthilKumar G, Shaik T, Merrill JR, Banerjee A, Taylor BW, Kamgar M, George B, Erickson B, Hall WA, **Lytle NK**, Seo YD, Christians KK, Clarke CN, Evans DB, Tsai S, Kothari AN. AI-derived electronic tumor marker (e19-9) can measure treatment response and outcomes in CA19-9 non-producers with pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. *JAMA Surgery*. Accepted December 2025.
2. Kamgar M, Hobbs GA, Davidson R, Dorbin D, Herrera J, Langenheim J, Burge R, Aldakkak M, Conrardy R,

- Szabo A, Thalji S, Mayer B, Grahl J, Chung B, Phan A, Thomas J, Seo Y, Evans D, Christians K, Erickson B, Hall W, George B, Tsai S, **Lytle NK**, Der C, Kurzrock R, McFall T. Mutant and wild-type RAS crosstalk and stoichiometric deficiencies as determinants of sensitivity to targeted therapies in KRASG12R pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. *Cancer Research*. 2025;doi:10.1158/008-5472.CAN-25-0018.
3. Njoya K, Zayed H, Sun L, Alson D, Aina O, Khan S, Veneklasen X, **Lytle NK**, Chaluvaly-Raghavan P, Sun D. Natural history of SPP1 signaling in NF1 tumors. *NPJ Precision Oncology*. 2025;doi:10.1038/s41698-025-01078-2.
 4. Vallmajo-Martin Q, Ma Z, Srinivasan S, Murali D, Dravis C, Mukund K, Subramaniam S, Wahl GM, **Lytle NK (corresponding)**. The molecular chronology of mammary epithelial cell fate switching. *BioRxiv*. 2024; doi:https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.08.617155.
 5. Rahbhandari N, Hamilton M, Quintero CM, Ferguson LP, Fox R, Schurch CM, Wang J, Nakamura M, **Lytle NK**, McDermott M, Diaz E, Pettit H, Kritzik M, Han H, Cridebring D, Wen KW, Tsai S, Goggins MG, Lowy AM, Wechsler-Reya RJ, Von Hoff DD, Newman AM, Reya T. Single-cell mapping identifies MSI+ cells as a common origin for diverse subtypes of pancreatic cancer. *Cancer Cell*. 2023;S1535-6108(23)00324-0.
 6. Ferguson LP, Gatchalian J, McDermott M, Nakamura M, Chambers K, Rajbhandari N, **Lytle NK**, Rosenthal S, Hamilton M, Albini S, Wartenberg M, Zlobec I, Galvan J, Karamitopoulou E, Vavinskaya V, Wascher A, Lowy A, Schurch C, Puri PL, Bruneau B, Hargreaves D, Reya T. Smarcd3 is an epigenetic modulator of the metabolic landscape in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. *Nature Communications*. 2023;14(1):292.
 7. Ma Z*, **Lytle NK* (co-first author)**, Ramos C, Naeem RF, Wahl GM. Single-cell transcriptomic and epigenetic analyses of mouse mammary development starting with the embryo. *Methods Mol Biol*. 2022;2471:49-82.
 8. Gubbala VB, Jyotsana N, Trinh VQ, Maurer HC, Naeem RF, **Lytle NK**, Ma Z, Zhao S, Lin W, Han H, Shi Y, Hunter T, Singh PK, Olive KP, Tan MCB, Kaech SM, Wahl GM, DelGiorno KE. Eicosanoids in the pancreatic tumor microenvironment – a multicellular, multifaceted progression. *Gastro Hep Advances*. 2022;1(4):682-697.
 9. Ma Z, **Lytle NK**, Chen B, Jyotsana N, Novak SW, Cho CJ, Caplan L, Ben-Levy O, Neining AC, Burnette DT, Trinh VQ, Tan MCB, Patterson EA, Arojo E, Drigo R, Giraddi RR, Ramos C, Means AL, Matsumoto I, Manor U, Mills JC, Goldenring JR, Lau KS, Wahl GM, DelGiorno KE. Single-cell transcriptomics reveals a conserved metaplasia program in pancreatic injury. *Gastroenterology*. 2021;S0016-5085(21)03665-9.
 10. Spinler K, Bajaj J, Ito T, Zimdahl B, Hamilton M, Ahmadi A, Koechlein CS, **Lytle N**, Kwon HY, Anower-E-Khuda F, Sun H, Blevins A, Weeks J, Kritzik M, Karlseder J, Ginsberg MH, Park PW, Esko JD, Reya T. A stem cell reporter based platform to identify and target drug resistant stem cells in myeloid leukemia. *Nature Communications*. 2020;11(1):5998.
 11. DelGiorno KE, Chung C-Y, Vavinskaya V, Maurer CH, Novak SW, **Lytle NK**, Ma Z, Giraddi RR, Wang D, Fang L, Naeem RF, Andrade LR, Ali WH, Tseng H, Tsui C, Gubbala VB, Ridinger-Saison M, Ohmoto M, Erikson GA, O'Connor C, Shokhirev MN, Hah N, Urade Y, Matsumoto I, Kaech SM, Singh PK, Manor U, Olive KP, Wahl GM. Tuft cells inhibit pancreatic tumorigenesis in mice by producing prostaglandin D2. *Gastroenterology*. 2020;S0016-5085(20)34999-4.
 12. Li Y-C, **Lytle NK**, Gammon ST, Wang L, Hayes TK, Sutton MN, Bast RC, Der CJ, Piwnicka-Worms D, McCormick F, Wahl GM. Analysis of RAS protein interactions in living cells reveals a mechanism for pan-RAS depletion by membrane targeted RAS binders. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 2020;117(22):12121-12130.
 13. Lusardi TA, **Lytle NK**, Gebril HM, Boison D. Effects of preinjury and postinjury exposure to caffeine in a rat model of traumatic brain injury. *J Caffeine Adenosine Res*. 2020;10(1):12-24.
 14. Bersini S, **Lytle NK**, Schulte R, Huang L, Wahl GM, Hetzer M. Nup93 regulates breast tumor growth by modulating proliferation and actin cytoskeleton remodeling. *Life Science Alliance*. 2020;3(1):e201900623.
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29. Lusardi TA, **Lytle NK**, Szybala C, Li T, and Boison D. Caffeine prevents acute mortality after TBI in rats without increased morbidity. **Exp Neurol.** 2012;234(1):161-168.
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ORAL PRESENTATIONS

National/International

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|---------|---|
| 02/2026 | <i>Invited speaker</i> , Gordon Research Conference, Plasminogen Activation and Extracellular Proteolysis, Ventura, CA
"Chemotherapy-induced liver Timp1 secretion accelerates pancreatic cancer liver metastasis" |
| 10/2025 | <i>Invited speaker</i> , PancMidwest Meeting, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI
"Chemotherapy disruption of liver homeostasis drives pancreatic cancer liver metastasis" |
| 10/2025 | <i>Selected speaker</i> , AACR Special Conference in Cancer Research: Advances in Pancreatic Cancer Research, Boston, MA
"Chemotherapy-associated liver damage accelerates pancreatic cancer liver metastasis" |
| 05/2025 | <i>Invited speaker</i> , Digestive Disease Week (DDW), San Diego CA
"Cellular crosstalk in the context of pancreatic cancer metastasis" |
| 01/2025 | <i>Invited speaker</i> , Pancreatic Cancer Detection Consortium Virtual Meeting
"Approaches for preventing metastasis in patients with early-stage pancreas cancer" |

- 05/2024 *Invited speaker*, PancMidwest Meeting, University of Chicago, Chicago IL
"Chemotherapy shapes the metastatic liver niche through induction of tissue repair programs"
- 07/2023 *Invited speaker*, Hope Funds for Cancer Research Scientific Meeting, Newport, RI
"Oxaliplatin treatment induces a pre-metastatic liver niche by triggering secretion of Timp1"
- 05/2023 *Selected speaker*, Midwest Tumor Microenvironment Meeting, Purdue University, West Lafayette IN
"Oxaliplatin treatment induces a pre-metastatic liver niche by triggering secretion of Timp1 by liver endothelial cells"
- 08/2022 *Selected speaker*, Mechanisms & Models of Cancer Meeting, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, NY
"Obesity and menopause synergize to reprogram mammary epithelium and enhance breast tumorigenesis"
- 11/2021 *Selected speaker*, American Pancreatic Association Annual Meeting, Miami FL
"Liver damage enhances pancreatic cancer liver metastasis"
- 08/2018 Stand Up To Cancer Pancreatic Cancer Mini-Summit, Philadelphia PA
"Targeting the pancreatic cancer stem cell state: CSF1R and ROR γ "
- 06/2017 Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories Workshop on Pancreatic Cancer, NY
"Tumor Cell Heterogeneity and Chemoresistance: Lessons from Pancreatic Cancer Stem Cells"
- 02/2017 *Selected speaker*, Gordon Research Seminar on Stem Cells and Cancer, Lucca Italy
"Stem Cell Signals Drive Pancreatic Cancer Therapy Resistance"
- 11/2016 *Invited speaker*, Stand Up to Cancer, Pancreatic Cancer Research Dream Team UK, London England
"Targeting Stem Cell Signals in Pancreatic Cancer"

Invited External Institution Presentations

- 04/2026 University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Pancreatic Cancer Program Meeting Seminar Series
"Tissue injury and the pro-metastatic niche"
- 12/2025 Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center, Pancreatic Cancer Working Group, Indianapolis IN
"Chemotherapy-associated liver injury accelerates pancreatic cancer liver metastasis"
- 12/2025 Purdue University, Department of Biological Sciences Lecture Series, West Lafayette IN
"Chemotherapy-associated liver injury accelerates pancreatic cancer liver metastasis"
- 04/2023 Vanderbilt University, Cell and Developmental Biology Seminar Series, Nashville TN
"Tissue injury contributes to cell state instability and tumor progression"
- 10/2018 Legacy Research Institute Seminar Series, Legacy Research Institute, Portland OR
"Therapeutic targeting of stem cell signals blocks pancreatic cancer progression"

Regional

- 04/2022 *Invited speaker*, Cancer Center Council (C3) PCGR monthly lecture series, SBP Institute, La Jolla CA
"Liver damage enhances pancreatic cancer liver metastasis"
- 09/2018 *Invited speaker*, Cancer Center Council (C3) PCRG monthly lecture series, SBP Institute, La Jolla CA
"ROR γ is a novel regulator of stem cell signals in pancreatic cancer"
- 10/2009 MJ Murdock Charitable Trust Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research, Spokane WA
"The Microtubule Regulator Stathmin is Required for Axonal Transport in *Drosophila melanogaster*"

Local

- 02/2026 *Invited speaker*, MCW Cancer Center, Cancer Biology/Discovery & Developmental Therapeutics Joint Annual Retreat, Milwaukee WI
"Microenvironmental reprogramming in tissue injury drives cancer progression"
- 01/2026 *Invited speaker*, 15th Annual LaBahn Pancreatic Cancer Symposium, Milwaukee WI
"Intercepting metastasis by targeting the pro-tumor niche"
- 09/2025 *Invited speaker*, MCW Cancer Center Cancer Research Forum, Milwaukee WI
"Regulation of cell state plasticity in breast tumorigenesis"
- 08/2025 *Invited speaker*, MCW Pancreas Symposium, Milwaukee WI
"Human tissue-based analysis of targeted therapy in PDAC: In silico to bedside"
- 06/2025 MCW Department of Surgery Grand Rounds, Milwaukee WI
"The diverse roles of Midkine in Pancreatic Cancer Progression"

06/2025 *Invited speaker*, Annual Pharmacology & Toxicology Research Retreat, Milwaukee WI
 “Chemotherapy disruption of tissue homeostasis drives cancer progression”

01/2025 *Invited speaker*, 14th Annual LaBahn Pancreatic Cancer Symposium, Milwaukee WI
 “Preventing disease progression through dismantling pro-metastatic inflammatory processes”

01/2025 *Invited speaker*, Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology seminar series, MCW
 Approaches for understanding chemotherapy-associated cancer driving processes”

05/2024 *Invited speaker*, MCW Breast Cancer Disease Oriented Team lecture series, Milwaukee WI
 “Investigating the impact of therapy-induced mammary epithelial cell fate switching in tumorigenesis”

01/2024 *Invited speaker*, 13th Annual LaBahn Pancreatic Cancer Symposium, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 “Targeting the pro-metastatic liver niche”

11/2023 *Invited speaker*, MCW Cancer Center Cancer Research Forum, Milwaukee WI
 “Defining and targeting the pro-metastatic liver niche”

10/2023 *Invited speaker*, MCW Department of Pharmacology Seminar Series, Milwaukee WI
 “Mammary epithelial cell reprogramming in injury and tumorigenesis”

10/2023 *Invited speaker*, MCW Department of Biochemistry Seminar Series, Milwaukee WI
 “Mechanisms for defining the pre-metastatic niche”

08/2023 *Invited speaker*, MCW Pancreas Disease Oriented Team lecture series, Milwaukee WI
 “Intercepting pancreatic cancer metastasis by targeting the pre-metastatic niche”

03/2023 *Invited speaker*, MCW Obstetrics & Gynecology Disease Oriented Team lecture series, Milwaukee WI
 “The molecular state of mammary epithelial cells determines breast cancer susceptibility”

02/2023 *Invited speaker*, MCW Breast Cancer Disease Oriented Team lecture series, Milwaukee WI
 “Mammary epithelial cell states in injury and tumor progression”

11/2022 *Invited speaker*, Pancreatic Cancer Scientific Retreat, Milwaukee WI
 “Chemotherapy-associated liver injury enhances pancreatic cancer liver metastasis”

08/2022 *Invited speaker*, Cancer Center Trainee Research Seminar, Salk Institute, La Jolla CA
 “The molecular landscape of mammary epithelial cell fate switching”

10/2021 *Selected speaker*, Salk Science at the Seaside symposium, La Jolla CA
 “Chemotherapy-induced liver damage promotes pancreatic cancer liver metastasis”

08/2020 Cancer Center T32 Trainee Research Seminar, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla CA
 “Mammary epithelial cell states in obesity and menopause”

09/2019 *Invited speaker*, 2019 Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program annual retreat, Palm Springs CA
 “Uncovering the tumor landscape to overcome therapy resistance”

10/2018 *Selected speaker*, Cancer Center T32 Trainee Research Seminar, Salk Institute, La Jolla CA
 “A multiscale map of the stem cell state in pancreatic cancer”

06/2018 Pharmacology Department Seminars in Pharmacology, University of California San Diego, La Jolla CA
 “A Genome-Wide CRISPR Screen Identifies Pancreatic Cancer Stem Cell Vulnerabilities”

05/2018 *Invited speaker*, Pharmacological Sciences Department Retreat, La Jolla CA
 “Identification and Targeting of Pancreatic Cancer Stem Cells”

12/2017 *Invited speaker*, CRISPR Screening Workshop, Sanford Consortium for Regenerative Medicine, La Jolla
 “Identification of Pancreatic Cancer Stem Cell Dependencies Using a Genome-Wide CRISPR Screen”

10/2017 *Invited speaker*, Cancer Genomics Cross Laboratory Meeting, Moores Cancer Center, La Jolla CA
 “Delineation and Targeting of Pancreatic Cancer Stem Cell Networks”

10/2016 Pharmacology Department Seminars in Pharmacology, University of California San Diego, La Jolla CA
 “Pancreatic Cancer Therapy Resistance is Driven by the Stem Cell Determinant Musashi”

09/2015 Pharmacology Department Seminars in Pharmacology, University of California San Diego, La Jolla CA
 “Imaging Stem Cell Signals in Pancreatic Cancer”

09/2015 *Invited speaker*, BMS Graduate Program Pharmacology orientation, UCSD, La Jolla CA
 “Unraveling Heterogeneity of Therapy Resistance in Pancreatic Cancer”

06/2015 *Invited speaker*, Pharmacology Department Annual Retreat, San Diego CA
 “Malignant Progression of Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma is Critically Dependent on Musashi”

06/2014 Pharmacology Department Seminars in Pharmacology, University of California San Diego, La Jolla CA
 “Musashi is Required for the Development and Progression of Pancreatic Cancer”

05/2010 Biology Department Senior Research Presentations, Willamette University, Salem OR

"Investigation the Function of Stathmin in Axonal Transport"

04/2010 *Invited speaker*, 10th Anniversary Student Scholarship Recognition Day, Willamette University, Salem OR

"Investigation the Function of Stathmin in Axonal Transport"

12/2009 Science Collaborative Research Program capstone presentations, Willamette University, Salem OR

"The microtubule regulator Stathmin is required for axonal transport in *Drosophila melanogaster*"