Supervisor/Project Information Form

Due February 14 2018 by email to crems.programs@utoronto.ca

PLEASE SUBMIT IN WORD FORMAT ONLY. PDF will not be accepted

Supervisor Name:
Dr. Marcus Bernardini

Hospital/Research Institution:
University Health Network/Princess Margaret Hospital

Email:
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Field of Research (2 keywords):
Ovarian Cancer

Department:
Gynaecologic Oncology

School of Graduate Studies Appointment (IMS, LMP, IHPME etc)? Yes/No:
NO
If YES, please name:

Project Title:
Creating a Predictive Model for the Extent of Interval Debulking Surgery Following Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy in Advanced Stage Ovarian Cancer.

Brief Project Description (<300 words):

Currently ovarian cancer is treated with upfront primary cytoreduction or neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by interval cytoreduction. The decision is made based on the extent of disease and the likelihood to achieve optimal cytoreduction. Studies have shown that survival outcomes are most reliant on the amount of residual disease. Optimal residual disease is considered less than 1 cm of visible tumor at the time of surgery. When primary cytoreduction is not feasible due to the amount of disease burden, which would lead to extensive and radical procedures, it has been shown that neoadjuvant chemotherapy can help achieve optimal cytoreduction while minimizing the extent of surgery.

The objective of this study is to create a scoring system which can accurately predict patients that will require a total abdominal hysterectomy, bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy and omentectomy versus a more extensive surgery following neoadjuvant chemotherapy.
The project will entail creating a database for all primary Stage III/IV ovarian cancer cases at UHN from 2007-current which received neoadjuvant chemotherapy. Demographics, pre-operative patient and tumor characteristics, and intraoperative findings will be documented. The project involves in-depth data collection through EPR at UHN. You will work closely with a current resident along with the Gynecology Oncology group at UHN. Opportunities will be present to continue with the project, along with other projects, going forward. There will be ample opportunity to be involved in publications.