Women’s History Month: She teaches dedication to science and the pursuit of truth | Opinion

Published: Mar 10, 2022, 9:30 am

Eileen White is Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey deputy director, chief scientific officer, and associate director for basic research. Her studies reveal the roles of certain proteins in promoting cancer and have been the basis for the pharmaceutical industry to develop inhibitors of these cells for cancer treatment. Her notable discoveries to mitigate damage in cancer cells are the basis for a clinical trial in cancer therapy.

By Star-Ledger Guest Columnist

By Jessie Yanxiang Guo

I have known about Dr. White’s research since I was a graduate student at Duke University because of her important contributions to the field of cell death in cancer.

Her discovery leads to the novel concept that evading apoptosis, one kind of programmed cell death – the method the body uses to get rid of unneeded or abnormal cells – was one of the hallmarks of cancer.

Don’t miss the best in editorials, opinion columns and commentary from NJ.com writers. Add your email here: [Subscribe]

Furthermore, Dr. White focuses on the role of cellular metabolism in cancer progression and treatment. She discovered and identified critical metabolic pathways through
which cancer cells survive, reproduce, and evade immune responses, paving new ways to inhibit tumor growth and improve anti-cancer immune responses.

Her studies reveal the roles of certain proteins in promoting cancer and have been the basis for the pharmaceutical industry to develop inhibitors of these cells for cancer treatment. Her notable discoveries to mitigate damage in cancer cells are the basis for a clinical trial in cancer therapy.

I am proud to be involved in this discovery as a postdoc in Dr. White's lab from 2008-2015 and gained extensive training in cancer metabolism and the process the body uses to clean out damaged cells to regenerate healthier cells.

Ever since Dr. White has been my role model in the scientific community. As a mother, I learned from her how to balance life and research; as a woman scientist, she gave me the confidence that I could do as well as a man; as a mentor, I learned from her how to train and support the next generation. Most importantly, I learned from her the dedication to science and the pursuit of truth.

*Jessie Yanxiang Guo is an associate professor, Division of Medical Oncology Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Resident member, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey.*

Our journalism needs your support. Please subscribe today to NJ.com.

*Here’s how to submit an op-ed or Letter to the Editor.*

*Bookmark NJ.com/Opinion, Follow us on Twitter @NJ_Opinion and Facebook at NJ.com Opinion. Get the latest news updates right in your inbox. Subscribe to NJ.com’s newsletters.*

Note to readers: If you purchase something through one of our affiliate links we may earn a commission.
Online music classes for all ages.
Learn Guitar with WhiteHat Jr's online music classes. The instrument is not mandatory for the FREE trial class. Book Now!
WhiteHat Jr | Sponsored

Secure your family at affordable rates with Max Life...
New Max Life Term Plan | Sponsored

Sudoku Online
Sudoku Kingdom Play sudoku puzzles online. Train your brain every day!
sudoku kingdom | Sponsored

I’m Terrified My 1-Year-Old Will Succumb To His Disease
Ketto | Sponsored

Online MBA in Digital Marketing | UGC Entitled | ...
Earn an MBA Degree with Specialisation in Digital Marketing ...
JAIN Online | Sponsored

Bet on your favorite Teams & Players while watching...
Register on Asia’s Biggest Sports Betting Exchange today & start betting.
Betadda | Sponsored

My Son Has Lost His Smile To His Rare & Deadly Blood Disorder
Ketto | Sponsored