

14th Annual Richard T. Silver, MD International Patient Symposium on Myeloproliferative Neoplasms



David Boule, CR&T Treasurer and Patient Committee Chair, welcomes attendees



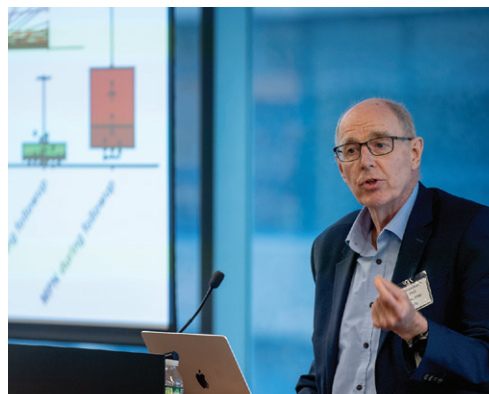
Ruben Mesa, MD, Presenter

The CR&T Richard T. Silver, MD International Patient Symposium on Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPNs) brought together more than 120 patients, caregivers, and clinicians at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York City for a full day of education, connection, and hope. Attendees from across the U.S. and abroad heard leading experts discuss cardiovascular complications in polycythemia vera (PV) and essential thrombocythemia (ET), pulmonary hypertension in MPNs, emerging therapies, and clinical trials, with generous Q&A time that allowed patients to ask personal, practical questions. A special lunchtime session on women and MPNs, led by Dr. Gabriela Hobbs,

addressed pregnancy, hormones, and gender-specific cardiovascular risk, while afternoon breakouts on PV, ET, and myelofibrosis (MF) created smaller, interactive spaces for detailed discussion and shared experience. Sponsors and nonprofit partners, including long-time supporter Incyte, helped keep registration affordable and supported educational materials and a closing reception that encouraged community-building. The symposium reinforced a central message—*that no one has to face an MPN alone*—and recorded sessions are available on CR&T’s YouTube channel so patients and families can revisit the content and share it with those who could not attend in person.



Symposium attendees



Hans Hasselbalch, MD, Presenter



Gabriela Hobbs, MD, Presenter



L-R: Ghaith Abu-Zeinah, MD, Presenter; Nick Napolitano, Honoree; Kasia McCormick, Honoree; Luke McCormick, Presenter, and Tom Silver, CR&T Board President

CR&T Cancer Survivors Hall of Fame Dinner

The Cancer Research & Treatment Fund Hall of Fame Dinner celebrated the leadership, generosity, and vision of honorees Kasia McCormick and Nick Napolitano, whose commitment has strengthened CR&T's ability to advance research and support patients living with myeloproliferative neoplasms. In a particularly meaningful moment, Kasia was recognized as the inaugural recipient of the *Richard T. Silver MD Humanitarian Award*, named in honor of Dr. Silver and his lifelong dedication to patients and scientific discovery. Speakers highlighted Kasia's active philanthropy and Nick shared his

moving personal journey from diagnosis and treatment to survivorship and patient advocacy, underscoring how both honorees have helped sustain innovative science and compassionate care. The evening also featured research updates that reminded guests every contribution of time, expertise, and philanthropy directly accelerates progress in the clinic and the lab. Guests left inspired not only by Kasia and Nick's example, but also by a shared sense of responsibility to carry their legacy forward through continued engagement and support.



17th International Congress on Myeloproliferative Neoplasms

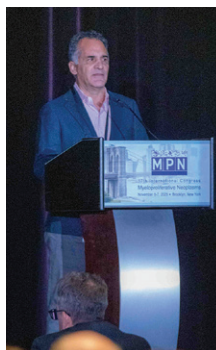
The 17th International Congress on Myeloproliferative Neoplasms, held in Brooklyn, NY, November 6–7, 2025, marked an important milestone for both the global MPN community and Cancer Research & Treatment Fund (CR&T). Founded in 2001 by Dr. Richard T. Silver, and hosted and coordinated by Melton Medical Education LLC, the Congress has become a premier annual CME- and CE-accredited meeting devoted entirely to myeloproliferative neoplasms, featuring world-renowned faculty and an interactive format with Q&A after every talk, debates, and a nurse-led session to encourage rich, multidisciplinary discussion.

As newly named Chair Emeritus, Dr. Silver continues to shape the scientific dialogue and educational agenda of the

meeting, while CR&T's longstanding involvement helps ensure that advances in diagnosis, risk stratification, and therapy reach frontline clinicians quickly. A vibrant poster forum invited abstracts from fellows and faculty, with awards for outstanding work and an oral presentation for the top submission, highlighting the next generation of MPN research. Among this year's honorees, Katie Erdos, a research program assistant working with CR&T's Chief Medical Advisor Dr. Ghaith Abu-Zeinah, earned one of the top abstract awards—her third consecutive year receiving this distinction. Her research, directly funded by CR&T, continues to advance understanding of MPNs and exemplifies the impact of CR&T's sustained investment in emerging scientific talent.



Abstract Award winners with MPN Congress members



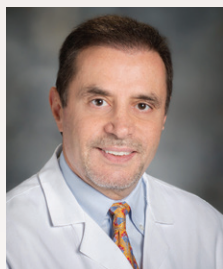
Joseph Scandura, MD



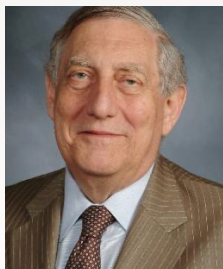
Ghaith Abu-Zeinah, MD



Katie Erdos (R), Outstanding Abstract



Hagop Kantarjian, MD, inaugural Richard Silver Award recipient



Morton Coleman, MD
LLM Congress Chair

The Lymphoma, Leukemia & Myeloma Congress

The Lymphoma, Leukemia & Myeloma Congress was held at the Times Square Sheraton in New York City October 14-17, 2025. This annual event is chaired by Dr. Morton Coleman, Clinical Professor of Medicine, former Director of the Center for Lymphoma & Myeloma, and CR&T's Associate Medical Director. Co-chairs included Gail Roboz MD, Ruben Niesvizky MD, Richard Furman MD, and John P. Leonard MD - CR&T's 2024 Lifetime Achievement Awardee and Medical Advisory Board Member.

Founded by Dr. Coleman in 2000, the LLM Congress convenes a wide range of U.S. and international experts to share evidence-based strategies, new therapeutic data, and practice-enhancing case discussions across leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma to an audience of researchers, practitioners, and students in healthcare. It is one of the largest conferences of its kind in the world. This year a new award was presented in the name of CR&T Founder and Emeritus Medical Director Richard T. Silver MD. The Richard Silver award honors Dr. Silver's pioneering contributions in the field of blood cancers, and recognizes individuals who continue to advance research and treatment in line with Dr. Silver's legacy, improving patient care and furthering the understanding of these diseases. Dr. Hagop Kantarjian of MD Anderson Cancer Center was the inaugural Richard Silver award recipient, reflecting Dr. Kantarjian's groundbreaking research and leadership in chronic myeloid leukemia.

The 2026 Lymphoma, Leukemia & Myeloma Congress will be held on October 13-16, 2026 in New York City.



Cancer Research & Treatment Fund (CR&T) is pleased to welcome Michael Gurtowski as our new Vice President of Administration and Development. Michael brings a rare blend of scientific, operational, and fundraising experience that will help CR&T grow thoughtfully while remaining firmly anchored in its mission to advance innovative cancer research and bring lifesaving therapies to patients diagnosed with myeloproliferative neoplasms and other blood cancers. Previously, as the first Executive Director of the Caumsett Foundation, Michael built the organization's operations from the ground up, establishing the systems, processes, and partnerships needed for long-term sustainability. In this role, he thoughtfully guided the Foundation through a successful capital campaign and secured an additional \$894,000 in first-time organizational grant funding.

Prior to Caumsett, Michael held leadership positions at The Business Incubator Association and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, where he played an instrumental role in securing major infrastructure grants while advocating for policies to bolster New York's biomedical research institutions. His ability

to identify strategic opportunities, cultivate funder relationships, and align complex proposals with institutional priorities led to transformational awards that expanded capacity for cutting-edge science.



Michael also brings deep nonprofit operations experience, high-quality marketing and communications expertise, and a strong background in planning large conferences and scientific convenings, along with substantive government relations and policy work. These strengths will enhance how CR&T tells the story of its science, engages donors and partners, and stewards resources to maximize impact for patients and families facing cancer.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, CR&T warmly welcomes Michael Gurtowski and looks forward to the vision, energy, and expertise he will bring to this next chapter of the organization's growth.

Sincerely,

Tom Silver, President

The Heart-Blood Connection: Managing Thrombotic Risk in 2026



February is American Heart Month, and for patients living with MPNs understanding the connection between blood cancers and cardiovascular health is critical. At the Richard T. Silver MPN Center at Weill Cornell Medicine, Dr. Joseph Scandura and Dr. Stephanie Feldman are helping patients navigate this complex relationship. Dr. Scandura is a physician-scientist and the Center's Scientific Director, and Dr. Feldman is a cardio-oncologist specializing in prevention and management of cardiovascular disease in cancer patients. Together, they provide coordinated care that addresses both blood cancer and heart health in one setting.

Patients with MPNs face increased cardiovascular risk for several reasons: they often share common risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and diabetes; the cancer itself creates inflammation affecting the heart and blood vessels; and some treatments may have cardiovascular side effects. Dr. Feldman explains that the heart has three main areas vulnerable to MPN complications: the coronary arteries (plumbing), the heart muscle (pump), and the heart's rhythm system (electricity). Patients with MPNs are at increased risk for atherosclerosis, blood clots, heart muscle weakness, and irregular heart rhythms such as atrial fibrillation. Dr.

Scandura's research has also identified pulmonary hypertension—high blood pressure in the lungs—as a cardiovascular complication, particularly in myelofibrosis patients, which can cause shortness of breath and limit activity.

Protecting your heart: The goal of cardio-oncology is to empower patients to receive excellent MPN treatment while minimizing cardiovascular risk. At the Silver MPN Center, patients benefit from both leading MPN experts and ready access to prominent cardiologists and other specialists in one integrated setting, allowing for continuous, coordinated care rather than referrals to outside institutions. Before stem cell transplant, a cardiac evaluation is standard to ensure the heart can safely handle the procedure, checking for blood clots, fluid accumulation, and overall function. With CR&T support, the Center maintains a sophisticated clinical database and biorepository that enable researchers to study MPN complications in depth. This American Heart Month, the message from Drs. Scandura and Feldman is clear: patients with MPNs should be aware of their increased cardiovascular risk, but expert, coordinated care is available to help them protect their hearts and manage both their blood cancer and cardiovascular health effectively.



To learn more about Drs. Scandura and Feldman's research, scan the QR code to watch their presentations from the Richard T. Silver Patient Symposium on MPNs.

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With your support, we can continue to build the world's leading center dedicated to myeloproliferative neoplasm (MPN) research and patient care, fund other cutting-edge research initiatives, and educate patients and their loved ones about the latest treatments and research advances.

CR&T-associated researchers published 23 papers in 2025. To see the complete list of citations, visit the CR&T website: www.crt.org/research-updates

In November, three abstracts were accepted at the 17th International Congress on Myeloproliferative Neoplasms, and twenty-two abstracts were accepted at the American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting in December. Inclusion in these prestigious conferences and selection for publication by respected journals illustrates the high quality accomplishments of the investigators supported by CR&T.

MPN Congress 2025 Abstracts

- Results From VERIFY, a Phase 3, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study of Rusfertide in Patients Receiving Current Standard-of-Care For Polycythemia Vera (PV)
- Rapid Titration of Ropeginterferon Alfa-2b Reduces Phlebotomy Dependence in Polycythemia Vera: A Cross-Study Analysis
- Interferon Alfa Treatment of Early Primary Myelofibrosis is Associated With Improved Overall Survival

ASH 2025 Abstracts

- Interferon alfa treatment of early primary myelofibrosis is associated with improved overall survival
- Functional annotation of MPN clones reveals mutation-specific fitness and fate bias
- Achieving JAK2V617F vaf <20% is associated with prolonged event-free survival in polycythemia vera: A milestone of molecular response
- Real-world temporal evaluation of static risk prediction in polycythemia vera
- Clinical outcomes in patients with accelerated or blast-Phase MPN treated with triplet regimen of hypomethylating agent, JAK inhibitor, and venetoclax (HMA/JAKi/Ven): A multicenter case series
- Rusfertide or placebo plus current standard-of-care therapy for polycythemia vera: Durability of response and safety results through week 52 from the randomized controlled phase 3 VERIFY study
- Comprehensive analyses of patient-reported outcomes from the phase 3 VERIFY study of rusfertide or placebo plus current standard of care for polycythemia vera
- Preliminary data from the Phase I/II study of nuvisertib, an oral investigational selective PIM1 inhibitor, in combination with momelotinib showed clinical responses in patients with relapsed/refractory myelofibrosis
- Nuvisertib, an oral investigational selective PIM1 kinase inhibitor, showed clinical responses strongly correlating with cytokine modulation in patients with relapsed/refractory myelofibrosis in the ongoing global phase I/II study

- Characterization of antecedent clonal hematopoiesis (CH) mutations in lymphoid and plasma cell neoplasms
- Prospective assessment of measurable residual disease kinetics in intensively treated patients with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) - results of the PALG-AML1/2016 study
- Safety and efficacy of bromodomain and extra-terminal protein inhibitor INCB057643 monotherapy in patients with relapsed or refractory myelofibrosis and other advanced myeloid neoplasms: A phase 1 study
- Disease characteristics and outcomes of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) in adults with central nervous system (CNS) involvement
- A compelling case for central pathology review of multiparameter flow cytometry measurable residual disease results in Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) clinical trials: Data from the PALG-AML1/2016 multicenter randomized study
- The activin receptor-like kinase-2 inhibitor zilurgisertib (INCB000928) as monotherapy or with ruxolitinib in patients with anemia due to myelofibrosis: Phase 1/2 study final results
- Long-term rusfertide treatment in polycythemia vera: Initial results from the phase 2 THRIVE extension study
- Transfusion burden during the initial induction Phase in Acute Myeloid Leukemia is tightly associated with treatment intensity
- Identification of biomarkers to predict disease progression via molecular analysis of patients (pts) with low-risk myelofibrosis (MF) enrolled in the MOST study
- INCB057643, a bromodomain and extra-terminal protein inhibitor, in combination with ruxolitinib in patients with myelofibrosis: A phase 1 study of safety and efficacy
- Multicenter assessment of absolute neutrophil counts (ANC) and white blood cell counts (WBC) in healthy participants with the erythrocyte duffy null phenotype or genotype
- Role of primary VTE prophylaxis in pediatric patients in hospitalized and critically ill settings: A systematic review and meta-analysis
- Role of primary VTE prophylaxis in pediatric leukemia, lymphoma, and solid tumors: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

To support the continuing research of CR&T-associated researchers, visit www.crt.org/donate or scan the QR code.





Journey and Legacy of Richard T. Silver, MD

The Accidental Hematologist



View the documentary at www.MPNCongress.com or scan QR code.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

October 13-16, 2026: Lymphoma, Leukemia & Myeloma Congress

October 28, 2026: 15th Annual Richard T. Silver International Patient Symposium

October 29-30, 2026: 18th International Congress on MPNs

November 19, 2026: CR&T Hall of Fame Dinner



Cancer Research & Treatment Fund, Inc.
Established 1968

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ABOUT CR&T

Since 1968, CR&T has funded the world's most promising physician-scientists, equipping them with the resources to advance the treatment of various types of blood cancers, including myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs), leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and multiple myeloma, as well as other common cancers, such as breast and lung cancer.

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Winter 2026

Funding Cancer Research: Innovative. Agile. Experienced.



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