

CSI Investigator Award

Congratulations / Félicitations



Dr. Naoto Hirano, *Senior Scientist and Associate Director, Research of the Tumor Immunotherapy Program, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre; Professor, Department of Immunology, University of Toronto*

Dr. Hirano received his MD and PhD from the University of Tokyo and did his post-doctoral training at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School. Before moving to Toronto in 2011, Dr. Hirano was Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Harvard Medical School. He is currently Senior Scientist at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, and Professor of Medicine in the Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto. He is also Associate Director for Research of the Tumor Immunotherapy Program at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre.

The overarching goal of Dr. Hirano's research is to devise novel anti-tumor immunotherapeutic modalities that can cure cancer. His laboratory is particularly interested in understanding how the interactions between T cells and antigen-presenting cells affect priming, expansion, persistence and differentiation of T cells. He also seeks to clarify how this leads to the subsequent generation and maintenance of T cell memory.

Dr. Hirano has received prestigious awards and honors including the American Society of Hematology Scholar Award and Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR) Investigator Award (renewed). He has been continuously obtaining extramural funding for his research program. He is, or has been, a PI on many grants since 2008, including grants from the NIH, CIHR, OICR, Networks of Centres of Excellence (BioCanRX), Terry Fox Research Institute, Canada First Research Excellence Fund (Medicine by Design), Ira Schneider Memorial Cancer Foundation, and Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation. Dr. Hirano has been Editorial Board Member of the *Cancer Immunology Research* journal since 2013.