Daniel M. Miller, MD, FACS
Distinguished Lecture in Surgical Oncology

8:00 AM, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015, EPPLEY SCIENCE HALL, RM 3010

“Melanoma Surgery, Immunity and Inflammation: Cancer as a Chronic Disease”

Dr. Jeffrey E. Lee, MD

Chair & Professor, Department of Surgical Oncology, Division of Surgery, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Co-Director of the Melanoma & Skin Cancer Research Program

Executive Director of the Cancer Network Division of Surgery

Dr. Lee earned his AB from Dartmouth College and his MD from Stanford University School of Medicine and completed his surgical residency and a fellowship in immunology at Stanford followed by a clinical fellowship in surgical oncology at MD Anderson. He joined MD Anderson in 1993, and his current interests include the surgical management of melanoma, pancreatic cancer, and endocrine tumors. Prior to become Chair, Dr. Lee served for 17 years as Medical Director of the Ben Love/El Paso Corporation Melanoma and Skin Center. He is Co-Director of the Melanoma and Skin Cancer Research Program and recently completed a decade as Co-Director of MD Anderson’s NCI-sponsored Melanoma SPORE grant. A particular focus of his research is the role of genetics in melanoma progression, and the overall goal of his research program is to identify immune and inflammatory mechanisms controlling melanoma progression to help develop improved treatment strategies. His previous research identified specific polymorphisms in HLA class II, as well as blood levels of IL-12, CRP, and IFN-γ independent markers of disease progression and prognosis in melanoma patients. His Melanoma Genetics and Blood Biomarkers Program continues to analyze results related to a genome-wide investigation of more than 800,000 SNPs in over 1800 melanoma patients to identify loci most strongly linked with progression. Dr. Lee plans to use this information to form comprehensive biologic risk models of melanoma progression that incorporate clinical, histopathologic, serologic, and genetic information.

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