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What We Don't Know CAN Hurt Us: Representation in

Dr. Rayne Rouce is a pediatric oncologist and physician scientist whose research and clinical interests focus on refractory hematologic malignancies, specifically how to harness the immune system to recognize and attack cancers. She has spent the past 9 years in the translational research laboratories of the Center for Cell and Gene Therapy (CAGT) at Texas Children's and Baylor College of Medicine, leading a translational and clinical research program creating novel early phase cell and gene therapy products and translating them to first-in-human immunotherapy trials. She has significant experience in every aspect of translation and clinical trial development, from study conception (specifically chimeric antigen receptor and virus-specific modified T cells for leukemia and lymphoma) to preclinical laboratory-based validation and ultimately clinical practice. She has additional experience in the regulatory hurdles associated with these trials, such as submission of protocols and INDs to the IRB and other regulatory agencies, as well as the requirements of clinical trial conduct. She is especially passionate about addressing barriers to access to novel cancer therapies including CAR T-cells and other cellular immunotherapies and is working within society groups to identify and address these barriers. Dr. Rouce also leads the Task Force for Promoting Diversity in Clinical Trials within the Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center and has gained notoriety in her work to enhance diversity in clinical trials leading her to present on this important topic to Cancer Centers, patient advocacy groups, and scientific organizations around the country. She leads the DEI initiatives for ASH, ASGCT and ASTCT, thus integrating her passion for science and advocacy, and is active in national working groups inclusive of multiple stakeholders with a shared goal of enhancing access specifically to cancer cell therapy trials. She also serves as the Director of Community Outreach and Engagement within Baylor College of Medicine's Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the Associate Director of Community Outreach and Engagement for DLDCCC. In these roles, she leads numerous institutional, national and community initiatives within biomedical science. These programs provide a clear pathway for underrepresented minorities to excel in STEM careers as well as clear approaches to community engagement in every aspect of the bench-to-bedside scientific process.

Healthcare Datasets