ASCO Geriatric Oncology fellowship program

• Pilot project funded by Hartford Foundation in 1998
• To create academic leaders skilled in both medical oncology and geriatrics
• Negotiated with the A.B.I.M. for approval of a three year fellowship training program
• Coordinated the 2000 ASCO Clinical Practice Forum that led to the “Cancer Care in the Elderly” Syllabus
• 7 fellows identified with 5 completing the program

• Of 11 institutions that received monies 3 were successful in attracting fellows to complete the program and enter faculty positions
Successor program-2000

- ASCO assumes leadership role in phase 2 (Balch and Bennett as co-PI’s)
- 10 centers funded for 3 years for a total of $1.875 million from the Hartford Foundation. Each program contributes matching funds.
- ASCO provides 2 CDA’s and 5 YIA’s and extensive staff support
- Geriatric Subcommittee established
- Promote expanded content in the Core Curriculum Outline
HARTFORD/ASCO GOALS

• TO PROMOTE COMBINED TRAINING IN ONCOLOGY AND GERIATRICS (partially successful).
• TO PROMOTE COMBINED BOARD CERTIFICATION (A “GERIATRIC CULTURE” WITHIN ONCOLOGY (successful)
• TO PROMOTE CLINICAL AND RESEARCH COOPERATION OF GERIATRIC AND ONCOLOGY (to be assessed)
HARTFORD/ASCO: INSTRUMENTS

• TRAINING IN DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF COMMON GERIATRIC PROBLEMS (GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT, GERIATRIC SYNDROMES, GERIATRIC EMERGENCY, ASSISTED CARE)

• CLINICAL RESEARCH IN OLDER CANCER PATIENTS

• BASIC AND TRANSATIONAL RESEARCH ON INTERACTIONS OF CANCER AND AGING
Scope of Research

- CARCINOGENESIS AND AGE
- TUMOR GROWTH IN THE OLDER HOST
- ASSESSMENT OF THE OLDER PERSON
- APPROPRIATENESS OF PREVENTATIVE AND TREATMENT STRATEGIES
- SHORT AND LONG TERM OUTCOME
- PHARMACOLOGY OF ANTINEOPLASTIC AGENTS IN OLDER INDIVIDUALS