

Nineteen Dana-Farber scientists listed among 'most influential'

Meyerson named #2 most influential in the world in 2012-2013

In an affirmation of worldwide respect for the impact of Dana-Farber research, 19 basic scientists and clinical investigators at the Institute have been listed among “the world’s most influential scientific minds.” The ranking was based on how frequently their research discoveries have been cited by peers in the past decade.

Cancer genomics scientist Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD, of Dana-Farber won special distinction: He was ranked second of 17 “hottest of the hot” scientists who published the most “hot papers” in 2012-2013. Meyerson had 22 hot papers.

Hot papers are those that rank in the top 0.1 percent of research publications in a particular field based on the number of times they have been acknowledged, or “cited,” by other scientists as having inspired or guided their own research.

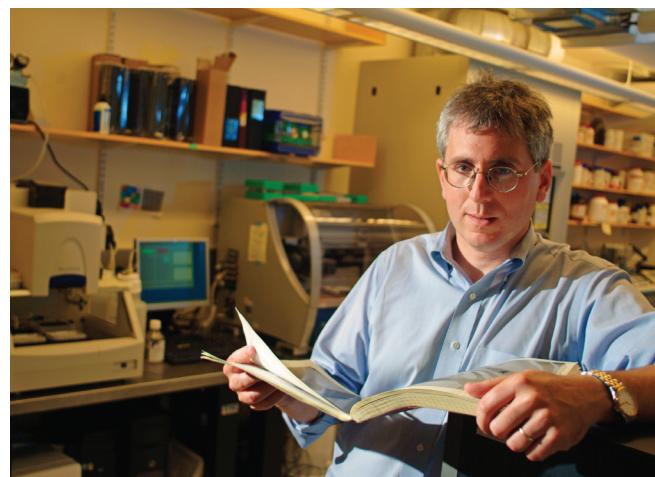
The 19 Dana-Farber investigators placed on a list of 3,200 Highly Cited Researchers in 21 broad fields of science from 2002 to 2012. Individuals on this list published the largest number of “highly cited” papers in their field and in the year the papers were published. “Highly cited” refers to the top one percent of papers based on the number of times they were cited by other scientists in the field. The list was released in June by Thomson Reuters ScienceWatch, a web resource for science metrics and research performance analysis.

“They are performing and publishing work that their peers recognized as vital to the advancement of their science,” Thomson Reuters said in a statement. “These researchers are, undoubtedly, among the most influential scientific minds of our time.”

Being named to the list carries all the more weight because the rankings emerged from quantitative analysis of data, rather than potentially biased metrics or opinions, noted Barrett Rollins, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber’s Chief Scientific Officer.

“This is a wonderful, and objective, acknowledgement of the enormous impact and stature these colleagues have in the world of science,” he said.

A similar list that included 7,000 highly cited researchers was issued in 2001. The new directory covers scientific publications indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection from 2002 to



Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD

2012. The subset of 17 “hottest researchers” who published the greatest number of hot papers during 2012-13 highlights individuals and fields at the cutting edge of science.

Of the 17 “hottest” researchers, 12, including Meyerson, are leaders in genomics — investigating the role of the entire human genome, which contains all the genes, along with the environment in health and disease. The top spot on the list went to Stacey Gabriel, PhD, director of the Genomics Platform at the Broad, who edged out Meyerson with 23 hot papers in 2012-13 to his 22. Meyerson was a co-author with Gabriel on many of the studies, including several that were carried out as part of The Cancer Genome Atlas (TGCA), a federally funded research project that is evaluating the role of gene mutations and other alterations of DNA in the genomes of cancer cells.

“I was really thrilled about this recognition for Dana-Farber,” said Meyerson, of the Department of Medical Oncology and professor of pathology at Harvard Medical School. “Our researchers being selected for the list sends the message that Dana-Farber is absolutely at the forefront of cancer research and in all of science,” he said.

The 2014 list issued by Thomson Reuters included these scientists at Dana-Farber:

Kenneth Anderson, MD
George Demetri, MD
Gordon Freeman, PhD
Levi Garraway, MD, PhD
Todd Golub, MD
Teru Hideshima, MD, PhD
Rafael Irizarry, PhD
Pasi Jänne, MD, PhD
Bruce Johnson, MD
Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD

Constantine Mitsiades, MD, PhD
Shuji Ogino, MD, PhD
Pere Puigserver, PhD
Paul Richardson, MD
Joseph Sodroski, MD
Bruce Spiegelman, PhD
Richard Stone, MD
Marc Vidal, PhD
Eric Winer, MD