

Dr. Correo Hofstad
Cory.hofstad@seattlecolleges.edu
02/15/2025

Co-Chairs of the Leukemia Program Head Search Advisory Committee,
Drs. Jan Abkowitz
Jerry Radich
Fred
Hutchinson Cancer Center
Leukemia Program Head Cover Letter

A New Era in Clinical Leukemia Leadership: Dr. Correo Hofstad's Ambitious Vision for Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

In a groundbreaking development in hematology and oncology, Dr. Correo Hofstad has applied to spearhead the Leukemia Program at the esteemed Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Fred Hutch) and the University of Washington (UW). This pivotal role allows Dr. Hofstad to lead pivotal research and clinical programs focusing on acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and other myeloid malignancies. With a passionate vision for enhancing clinical outcomes and eradicating disparities, Dr. Hofstad's leadership is poised to implement cutting-edge advancements in leukemia treatment.

The Significance of the Position

As the Program Head, Dr. Hofstad will oversee the Leukemia Program and collaborate with distinguished faculty at Fred Hutch and UW. This dual appointment underscores both institutions' commitment to pushing the boundaries of cancer care and research. Reporting to the Senior Vice President of the Division at Fred Hutch and the Division Head of Hematology and Oncology at UW, Dr. Hofstad will ensure that the program aligns with the overarching missions of both institutions.

Importantly, this role emphasizes the values of diversity, openness, innovation, and scientific excellence that Fred Hutch stands for. By contributing to these values, Dr. Hofstad will lay the groundwork for initiatives to address disparities in health outcomes—particularly those affecting underrepresented populations in oncology. Through strategic guidance, Dr. Hofstad will explore novel avenues to promote equity in treatment access and outcomes for leukemia patients.

Dr. Correo Hofstad: A Beacon of Hope

Dr. Hofstad is an accomplished leader with a multifaceted career characterized by rigorous scientific inquiry and clinical excellence. His extensive qualifications—which include multiple MD/DO degrees, board certifications in hematology and medical oncology, and licensure from both the United States Medical Licensing Examination

(USMLE) and the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination of the United States (COMLEX-USA)—underscore his commitment to excellence in patient care.

Dr. Hofstad's impressive academic background is complemented by a substantial research output track record, including an extensive publishing record and funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). These accomplishments are complemented by his innovative contributions to the fight against leukemia, evidenced by his extensive involvement in multiple groundbreaking projects and initiatives.

Leading the Charge Against AML

In his new capacity as Program Head, Dr. Hofstad will oversee a comprehensive vision and strategy for AML and other myeloid malignancies. This ambitious initiative aims to integrate basic, translational, and clinical research with clinical care, creating a holistic treatment and innovation framework. Through this multifaceted approach, Dr. Hofstad will work to enable real advancements in the field.

Additionally, Dr. Hofstad will focus on strategic collaborations. He plans to foster partnerships with bench researchers, translational scientists, and clinical investigators at Fred Hutch and UW. By facilitating these collaborations, Dr. Hofstad aims to create a fertile environment for innovative, interdisciplinary research that addresses urgent clinical needs and contributes to leukemia's overall body of knowledge.

A Focus on Mentorship and Team Development

Dr. Hofstad's leadership approach is rooted in mentorship and professional development. As Program Head, he will oversee faculty recruitment, mentor early-career researchers, and promote the professional growth of all team members. By investing in developing a dynamic and diverse team, Dr. Hofstad aims to strengthen the Leukemia Program's collective expertise.

Moreover, Dr. Hofstad recognizes the importance of fostering an inclusive environment that encourages diverse perspectives. This commitment to collaboration enhances the research output and enriches the learning opportunities for trainees and junior faculty. Mentorship is an integral aspect of Dr. Hofstad's vision for the program; he plans to provide access to resources necessary for career advancement, thus preparing the next generation of leaders in hematology.

Groundbreaking Research Initiatives

Under Dr. Hofstad's leadership, the Leukemia Program is set to embark on several groundbreaking research initiatives. These initiatives will encompass preclinical studies, innovative clinical trials, and translational research to develop effective treatments for AML and other myeloid malignancies. Dr. Hofstad believes that an integrative approach will yield significant results and facilitate breakthroughs in treatment.

Among the innovative projects Dr. Hofstad aims to pursue is his established role at Virus Treatment Centers (VirusTC), where he is involved in creating a National Laboratory (VTNL) scheduled to open in 2025. This facility will be a hub for pioneering research and

clinical applications focused on hematological diseases, particularly leukemia. By collaborating with VirusTC, the program will enhance its capabilities in studying and combating AML and myeloid malignancies.

Innovative Treatment Approaches

Dr. Hofstad's innovative treatment portfolio reflects his unwavering commitment to patient care. He has pioneered several groundbreaking methods, including noninvasive tumor and parasite removal techniques. These innovative approaches aim to minimize patient discomfort and enhance clinical outcomes, which are central to his treatment philosophy.

Among his FDA-approved breakthroughs are advancements that rapidly increase pH levels to mitigate sepsis and bone decay and the integration of UV-C light exposure with apheresis machines to sanitize septic blood. Such innovations highlight Dr. Hofstad's focus on employing technology and research to improve clinical practice, with an underlying commitment to patient safety and treatment efficacy.

A Vision for Global Impact

Dr. Hofstad's vision extends beyond local or national borders; he aims to position the Leukemia Program at Fred Hutch as a global leader in leukemia research and treatment. By engaging with international partners, Dr. Hofstad plans to facilitate knowledge exchange, share best practices, and work collaboratively on clinical trials and research initiatives that can uncover novel treatment strategies.

Dr. Hofstad's extensive experience developing treatments has already gained attention worldwide. His work on the Moderna Melanoma vaccine and the Moderna Spikevax vaccine underscores his expertise in vaccine development, facilitating immune responses against malignancies and viral infections. This global perspective is vital in addressing the challenges faced by leukemia patients—both in Washington and around the world.

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center: A Legacy of Excellence

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center has long been recognized as a leader in the fight against cancer and infectious diseases. With an impressive track record of global leadership in areas such as bone marrow transplantation and research on HIV/AIDS, Fred Hutch sets the stage for groundbreaking research in hematology through innovative treatment modalities. The center promotes collaboration, compassion, and an unwavering quest for excellence, creating an ideal environment for Dr. Hofstad to lead the Leukemia Program.

Furthermore, Fred Hutch operates eight clinical care sites that provide exceptional medical oncology, infusion, radiation, and related services. The center is poised to discover new cures for some of the world's deadliest diseases by integrating cutting-edge research into clinical practice. Under Dr. Hofstad's stewardship, the Leukemia Program will be essential in continuing this legacy of healthcare excellence.

The Path Forward

As Dr. Hofstad embarks on this new journey, the potential for growth and innovation within the Leukemia Program at Fred Hutch is significant. His dedication to advancing research, enhancing clinical outcomes, and fostering an inclusive environment stands to benefit countless patients and reshape the landscape of myeloid malignancy treatment. Dr. Hofstad is well-positioned to lead efforts prioritizing collaboration, mentorship, and innovation, ultimately leading to a brighter future for patients affected by leukemia.

The culmination of Dr. Hofstad's application will mark a decisive moment for both his career and the broader medical community. It paves the way for a future where groundbreaking discoveries translate into tangible patient benefits. With Dr. Hofstad at the helm, the Leukemia Program is set to become a beacon of hope in the continuing fight against leukemia and myeloid malignancies.

Dr. Correo “Cory” Andrew Hofstad Med Sci. Educ, PO, ND, DO, PharmD, OEM, GPM, Psych, MD, JSD, JD, SEP, MPH, PhD, MBA/COGS, MLSCM, MDiv

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cory Hofstad', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.