

UT Southwestern
Harold C. Simmons
Comprehensive Cancer Center

NCI
CCC
A Comprehensive Cancer
Center Designated by the
National Cancer Institute

Director, Precision Oncology

Leadership Profile

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The Opportunity

The Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center (SCCC) at UT Southwestern Medical Center seeks a dynamic, accomplished physician scientist and leader to serve as the inaugural Director of Precision Oncology. This is a unique opportunity at one of the most rapidly growing, forward looking NCI designated cancer centers in the U.S.

Nationally recognized for the quality of clinical care and world renowned for its research, UT Southwestern is an academic medical center regarded among the best in the country. Its mission, "promoting health and a healthy society that enables achievement of full human potential," integrates daily in how UT Southwestern educates, discovers and heals to ensure quality outcomes for its students, faculty and patients.

Embedded within the UT Southwestern Medical Center is the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center, one of only 51 Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the country designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and home to many of the nation's top cancer specialists. Treating over 24,000 patients per year, across four sites, Simmons Cancer Center has 243 members from 34 departments in UT Southwestern. Each year UT Southwestern receives more than \$100 million in cancer research funding with at least 30% coming from the NCI. In March 2020, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network announced the Simmons Cancer Center would join its alliance of 30 distinguished cancer centers throughout the country. In June 2019, the Simmons Cancer Center broke ground on a nine-story tower that will add 300,000 square feet for outpatient services, additional inpatient bed capacity and clinical trials. Construction started on a second three-story radiation oncology building in September 2019. The strategic planning of the SCCC prioritizes translational cancer research, cancer discovery, cancer focused funding, multidisciplinary cancer care and a regional expansion, cancer clinical trials, community outreach & engagement, cancer education and training, and addressing cancer health disparities.

Reporting to the Director of the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center, Dr. Carlos Arteaga, this Director will lead a multidisciplinary program in Precision Oncology with a focus on cancer genomics, biomarker discovery, and/or genotype driven clinical trials. The successful candidate will be a clinically active physician scientist, have experience in an academic medical center or similarly complex environment and a track record of peer-reviewed funding and translational research in precision oncology. The Director will have a collaborative style and be able to effectively manage in a highly matrixed system, and inspire a team.

Organization Overview

Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center

Established in 1991, the Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center (SCCC) is a "matrix" cancer center that builds on the research strengths of UT Southwestern Medical Center and a broad network of scientific and clinical partners to develop new cancer insights and treatments. The SCCC achieved National Cancer Institute designation in 2010 and comprehensive designation in 2015. As the only NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in North Texas, and one of only three such top-tier institutions in the state, the SCCC is an incubator for cancer discovery in the region and a leader in research and patient care nationwide.

The mission of SCCC is to ease the burden of cancer in North Texas – a socioeconomically diverse population of 7.7 million people in 13 of the fastest growing counties in the country – through ground-breaking discovery, transdisciplinary research, impactful community engagement, education, and exceptional patient care.

SCCC is organized as a matrix center that integrates cancer research, clinical cancer care, and cancer control and community outreach across the University of Texas Southwestern (UTSW) Medical Center and its health system affiliates, Parkland Health and Hospital System, and Children's Medical Center of Dallas. SCCC Satellites in Fort Worth (at the Moncrief Cancer Institute) and Richardson/Plano offer their patients cancer services, access to clinical trials, and outreach. Planning is currently underway for the next SCCC satellite facility at Redbird, in South Dallas, scheduled to open in March 2022. A research affiliation with the Dallas Regional Campus of the University of Texas School of Public Health – an M.P.H. and Ph.D. granting program located on the UTSW campus – brings public health expertise and additional training opportunities to the Center. With this robust research legacy at the Cancer Center, it is now positioned to substantially grow its clinical footprint and corresponding clinical and translational research platforms.

Snapshot of the SCCC Team

Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center has more than 240 full members including:

- 1 Nobel Laureate
- 11 members of the National Academy of Sciences
- 5 members of the National Academy of Medicine
- 5 members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- 12 Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigators

The membership comprises basic scientists, physician scientists, clinical scholars and oncology care providers from 34 departments of UT Southwestern and includes 15 department Chairs from basic science and clinical departments, and six center Directors, ensuring close alignment of the Cancer Center with the UT Southwestern scientific community. The pediatric oncology programs at Children's Medical Center Dallas are also integrated into SCCC activities.

SCCC has a broad base of institutional, extramural, philanthropic, community, and government support in addition to its NIH/NCI funding. Cancer Center members currently have more than \$90

million of research funding, with at least 30% coming from the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Other funding sources include other NIH institutes, the American Cancer Society, the Department of Defense, several cancer foundations, and the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT).

Science and Research Highlights

Five highly collaborative, multidisciplinary [research programs](#) form the backbone of SCCC's basic, translational, clinical, and population science research.

- [Cellular Networks in Cancer Program](#) provides an environment that capitalizes on UTSW's long-standing tradition of basic science discoveries, and promotes research to increase understanding of dysregulated molecular mechanisms in tumor cells and their microenvironment that support cancer initiation and metastatic progression.
- [Chemistry and Cancer Program](#) combines the expertise of synthetic and medicinal chemists, molecular and structural biologists, biochemists, chemical biologists, pharmacologists, and clinician scientists to discover drug-like chemicals that affect biological processes causal to the progression of cancer that, in turn, can be developed into new drugs or devices.
- [Development and Cancer Program](#) fosters collaborative research at the intersection of developmental and cancer stem cell biology to discover how aberrant developmental processes contribute to initiation and progression of cancer.
- [Experimental Therapeutics Program](#) promotes, develops, and exploits mechanism-based research for biomarker discovery and improved therapy of human cancer and is the main hub for interventional clinical trials in the Center.
- [Population Science and Cancer Control Program](#) focuses on cancer risk factors, early detection, cancer screening and prevention, cancer health disparities, and health services research in our safety-net systems, recognizing Dallas' great socioeconomic and ethnic diversity.

The Cancer Center's [six shared resources](#) provide researchers with access to state-of-the art research technologies, equipment, and support. These are available to all Cancer Center members and are as follows:

- Biostatistics
- Data Science
- High Throughput Screening
- Live Cell Imaging
- Small Animal Imaging
- Tissue Management

With more than 240 members, the Cancer Center's research programs and [disease-oriented teams](#) (DOTs) work hand in hand to advance cancer research and patient care. Each DOT focuses on a major type or area of cancer and is instrumental in shaping and conveying basic and translational findings for use in the clinic.

A formal research affiliation with the [University of Texas School of Public Health Dallas Regional Campus](#) enhances the Cancer Center's expertise in conducting health care delivery research. [Clinical trials](#), including dozens testing new cancer treatments as well as strategies for screening and prevention, are conducted at UT Southwestern and partner sites across Dallas/Fort Worth. SCCC is

also designated by the NCI as a National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN) Lead Academic Participating Site and is the recipient of an Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trials Network (ETCTN) Award from NCI/CTEP.

Patient Care Enterprise

Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center serves a racially, ethnically, geographically, and socioeconomically diverse population of 7.7 million people in 13 North Texas counties – including four of the 15 fastest-growing counties in the U.S. More than 37,000 new cases of cancer are diagnosed annually in the region.

SCCC's cutting-edge science and exceptional clinical care impact patients throughout North Texas by providing them easy access to:

- Some of the top cancer specialists in the country
- Innovative therapies and a broad array of treatment options
- Multidisciplinary, disease-oriented teams
- Leading-edge clinical trials
- The most advanced technology and equipment
- State-of-the-art clinics and hospitals
- Support services for patients and their loved ones

Patient care is provided at state-of-the-art clinical facilities at UT Southwestern, including:

- The [William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital \(CUH\)](#), and its clinics are the site for cancer care in the UTSW Medical District in Dallas. Opened in 2014, CUH is a 12-floor, 460-bed hospital that includes a 64-bed oncology unit. By October 2020, there will be a total of 96 inpatient beds devoted to cancer care, 32 of them dedicated to bone marrow transplantation and CAR-T cell therapies.
- The 148-bed [Zale Lipshy Pavilion](#) is known as a premier referral center for neurological care, including the treatment of brain and spinal malignancies; it also houses the first Gamma Knife Icon in Texas, which allows UTSW to use radiosurgery to treat patients with inoperable brain tumors or brain metastases.
- The [Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center Clinics](#) are CUH based and provide a central location for oncology services and related outpatient care. These include medical oncology, malignant hematology, bone marrow transplantation, surgical oncology, thoracic surgery, gynecology oncology, genetic counseling, palliative care, a breast imaging center, and an 11-room clinical trials unit for the conduct of clinical trials.
- The three-story [William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital Radiation Oncology Building](#) consolidates a full spectrum of radiation treatment technology at one site on campus; a 71,000-square-foot expansion is currently under construction. The Radiation Oncology Building includes the field's most technologically advanced equipment for treating cancer, including the world's second GammaPod, the next generation CyberKnife, and the most advanced linear accelerators.
- [UTSW Simmons Cancer Center – at the Moncrief Cancer Institute in Fort Worth](#), provides chemotherapy, cancer imaging, and other services, plus access to clinical trials. This SCCC Satellite is also a major hub for early cancer detection and survivorship services in Tarrant and surrounding rural counties.

- [UTSW Simmons Cancer Center Satellite in Richardson/Plano](#) located in North Dallas. This center houses an oncology clinic with 12 private infusion rooms, an infusion pharmacy, and clinical trials support personnel.
- UTSW Simmons Cancer Center Satellite at Redbird, South Dallas. Scheduled to open in March 2022, this center will house an oncology clinic with 18 infusion rooms/chairs, and infusion pharmacy, clinical trials support personnel and full imaging suite to include screening and diagnostic mammography
- A new 300,000 square-foot, nine-story Outpatient Cancer Care Tower of the SCCC is under construction and is scheduled to open in 2022. This facility, designed with a focus on patient-centered care and with input from our Patient and Family Advisory Committee, will double the current space for all existing multidisciplinary clinics, including a floor dedicated to clinical trials, 120 private infusion rooms, an urgent care center, and areas for wellness, survivorship and palliative care, psycho-oncology and a meditation room.

Affiliates include:

- The 862-bed [Parkland Memorial Hospital](#), Dallas County's safety-net hospital and the primary teaching institution for UT Southwestern
- The [Pauline Allen Gill Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders](#) at Children's Medical Center Dallas, UT Southwestern's primary pediatric teaching hospital

Education and Training

UT Southwestern's [Cancer Biology Graduate Program](#), a Ph.D.-granting program that crosses Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center's many interdisciplinary bridges, includes 70 faculty trainers and 28 full-time students. The program provides a broad knowledge base to foster the development and discoveries of tomorrow's cancer scientists. In addition, funding from the Cancer Center and Cancer Biology NCI T32, Physician Scientist Oncology NCI T32, and training grants from the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas provide support for a number of [graduate and postdoctoral positions](#) as well as undergraduate research fellows.

UTSW also supports ACGME-approved training programs in [medical oncology and hematology](#) (five per year), [pediatric hematology/oncology](#) (three per year), and [gynecologic oncology](#) (one per year).

The Division of Surgical Oncology supports two one-year [breast oncology fellowships](#), and the Department of Radiation Oncology offers residencies in radiation oncology and medical physics as well as other [training programs](#).

Community Outreach

SCCC's Office of Community Outreach, Engagement, and Equity (COEE) oversees a broad range of activities, including tobacco cessation and vaccination programs, screening programs, cancer survivorship and young adult support groups, and clinical trial enrollment. In 2019, the SCCC established a Community Advisory Board (CAB) that includes 26 members with representation from local health departments, community health centers, non-profits, educational institutions, and faith-based groups. The CAB provides the forum for bi-directional communication between the SCCC and the broader Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) community. The CAB, together with the SCCC, organize activities to better understand the community's needs as they relate to cancer education and care,

and have formed workgroups to advise on strategies to augment minority trial accrual and communications to improve the reach of SCCC's outreach programs.

Examples of COEE programs aimed at addressing disparities include:

- **BSPAN**, a breast cancer screening program, which provides screening and diagnostic services to more than 9,000 under-or uninsured patients
- **Fit-4-All**, which provides FIT tests to about 3,000 patients
- **Stop HCC**, which screens more than 1,200 patients for hepatitis C at Parkland Memorial Hospital

SCCC also has the largest cancer genetics counseling program for the underserved in the U.S., serving citizens in 84 counties in Texas. The program prioritizes community outreach and education with an average of 100 activities touching at least 5,000 people each year.

The work of our population sciences and COEE groups has resulted in policy-changing studies, which have compared FIT testing with colonoscopy in high-risk patients in safety net settings. These efforts are further enhanced through UTSW Moncrief Cancer Institute (MCI), a nonprofit community-based early detection and support center that represents the SCCC arm in Fort Worth. MCI provides services to rural and underserved populations, including through some of the programs mentioned above.

In February 2020, Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center was awarded more than \$8.5 million in grants from the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT). In all, SCCC has received more than \$500 million in CPRIT research funding since CPRIT was established in 2007.

UT Southwestern Medical Center

UT Southwestern is an academic medical center world renowned for its research and widely respected for its teaching and training as well as for the quality of clinical care its faculty provides to patients at UT Southwestern University Hospitals & Clinics and affiliated hospitals. The Medical Center has three degree-granting institutions: UT Southwestern Medical School, UT Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and UT Southwestern School of Health Professions. The schools train about 3,600 medical, graduate and health profession students, residents and postdoctoral fellows each year.

Ongoing support from the National Institutes of Health along with foundations, individuals and corporations provides approximately \$427.3 million per year to fund more than 5,800 research protocols, many of which involve numerous projects. Faculty and residents provide care to more than 100,000 hospitalized patients, 600,000 emergency room cases and oversee approximately 2.2 million outpatient visits annually. UT Southwestern has more than 16,400 employees and an operating budget of nearly \$2.8 billion.

UT Southwestern, one of the premier academic medical centers in the nation, integrates pioneering biomedical research with exceptional clinical care and education. The institution's faculty includes many distinguished members, including six who have been awarded Nobel Prizes since 1985. In addition, there are 22 members of the National Academy of Sciences, one of the highest honors attainable by an American scientist, and 18 members of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly

the Institute of Medicine). The faculty of almost 2,800 is responsible for groundbreaking medical advances and is committed to translating science-driven research quickly to new clinical treatments. UT Southwestern physicians provide medical care in about 80 specialties.

Position Summary

The Director, Precision Oncology will report into the Director of the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center (SCCC), Dr. Carlos Arteaga. Joining the faculty at UTSW in December 2017, Dr. Arteaga has concentrated on the UTSW cancer activities and formulated a vision for the SCCC that focuses on translation cancer science at the forefront of UTSW's overall mission. The Director of Precision Oncology will play a crucial leadership role in the overall direction of the Cancer Center and will also serve on the SCCC Executive Committee. He/she will be faculty in the Department at UT Southwestern that is aligned with the candidate's training and expertise and will report academically to the respective Department Chair.

The Director must be comfortable operating in a matrixed environment to be an effective leader in the Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center and at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Responsibilities

The successful Director, Precision Oncology candidate will:

- Lead a multidisciplinary program in Precision Oncology in the SCCC with a focus on cancer genomics, biomarker discovery, and/or genotype driven clinical trials
- Identify and foster innovative basic science-based, translational/clinical and population based research focused on somatic and/or germline cancer genomics
- Seek and establish research partnerships with other academic institutions, Pharma and Biotech to enhance the program's translational goals
- Expand peer-reviewed, extramural research funding in precision oncology, including large multi-investigator grants
- Enhance intra- and inter-programmatic interactions at the Simmons Cancer Center
- Sustain and partner with efforts in mentoring, training, advocacy, and community outreach in the area of precision oncology

Goals and Objectives

UT Southwestern Medical Center and Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center strive to be recognized as a local, regional and national leader in cancer research and care, with the goal of being a top tier cancer program with impact in our catchment area and beyond. The following represents areas in which the Director, Precision Oncology is expected to make significant progress within the first 18 to 24 months. They are not listed in order of significance.

- Develop a vision for precision oncology at UTSW, bringing one's own expertise, training and experience.
- Identify and in partnership with UTSW departments, recruit the faculty and research staff necessary to actualize the vision.
- Sustain excellence and promote research collaborations among investigators across the SCCC and UTSW Medical Center.
- Identify external partnerships that will advance the mission of the cancer center.
- Demonstrate depth and breadth of research in genomics and precision oncology.
- Assist faculty in identifying outside funding sources and opportunities for collaboration.

Candidate Qualifications

Education/Certification

- M.D., or M.D./ Ph.D., physician scientist, clinically active, from an accredited institution
- Board certification in any of the oncologic specialties
- Research focused on areas of relevance to precision oncology

Knowledge and Work Experience

- Established physician scientist with distinguished record of scholarly/scientific accomplishments in translational and/or clinical research.
- An academic leader with active cancer focused extramural research funding as a principal investigator.
- An academic leader with experience in developing and growing research programs and attracting peer-reviewed external funding.
- An understanding of the National Cancer Institute with experience in a successful cancer center.
- Keen insights into the future of cancer research and clinical care.

Leadership Skills and Competencies

- This person must be a strong and visionary leader with a style that is participatory, rather than autocratic. Serves as a mentor, coach and sponsor for junior faculty, investing in their personal growth and development.
- Recognizes and supports the need for outstanding world-class translational research; has an ability to communicate with and attract strong scientists and clinician/scientists, and knows how to mentor and assist them in gathering resources and support.
- A strategic thinker with a vision of how to develop cancer research for the future.

The Community

Dallas, Texas

Dallas was founded in 1841 and formally incorporated as a city in February 1856. It is the third-largest city in the state of Texas and the ninth-largest in the United States. The city covers 342.5 square miles, not including water area, and is the county seat of Dallas County. It is the main economic center of the 12-county Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area – at over 7.5 million people; it is the fourth-largest metropolitan area in the United States. The Metroplex also includes areas such as Plano, Grand Prairie, Arlington, Irving, Lewisville, and Flower Mound.

Dallas is the Southwest's leading business and financial center. It boasts the largest wholesale market in the world and lays claim to being one of the top convention cities in the United States and the number one visitor destination in Texas. Dallas is considered to be one of the most livable cities in America. Residents enjoy a flourishing economy, cultural arts, abundant housing options, endless entertainment and activities and a thriving community spirit.

The communities surrounding Dallas/Ft. Worth have experienced unprecedented business growth and population expansion during the last ten years, and that growth continues. Dallas has developed a strong industrial and financial sector, and a major inland port, due largely to the presence of Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport; one of the largest and busiest airports in the world. The city is the corporate headquarters for American Airlines, Texas Instruments, Lockheed Martin Aircraft, Bell Helicopter, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, Radio Shack, Pier One Imports, XTO Energy, AmeriCredit, Alcon Laboratories, and Cash America.

The city is sometimes referred to as the heart of "Silicon Prairie" because of a high concentration of telecommunications companies in the region, the epicenter of which lies along the Telecom Corridor located in Richardson, a northern suburb of Dallas. The Corridor is home to more than 5,700 companies including Texas Instruments (headquartered in Dallas), Nortel Networks, Alcatel Lucent, AT&T, Ericsson, Fujitsu, Nokia, Rockwell Collins, Cisco Systems, Sprint, Verizon Communications, XO Communications and until recently CompUSA (which is now headquartered in Miami, FL). Texas Instruments, a major manufacturer employs 10,400 people at its corporate headquarters and chip plants in Dallas.

Significant national headquarters relocations to the area (as exemplified by Toyota's decision to leave California and establish its new North American headquarters in the Dallas region) coupled with significant expansions of regional offices for a variety of corporations and along with company relocations to downtown Dallas are helping drive the current boom in the Dallas economy. Dallas leads Texas' largest cities in Forbes' 2015 ranking of "The Best Place for Business and Careers."

The Dallas-Fort Worth MSA has one of the largest concentrations of corporate headquarters for publicly traded companies in the United States. Fortune Magazine's 2018 annual list of the Fortune 500 in America indicates the D/FW area has 22 Fortune 500 companies located in the metroplex.

Dallas/Ft. Worth is one of only a few metro areas to have teams in six major professional sports leagues: the Dallas Cowboys of the NFL, the Texas Rangers of the MLB, the Dallas Mavericks of the NBA, the [Dallas Stars](#) of the NHL, and professional soccer's FC Dallas and [Dallas Sidekicks](#). Throw in the [Mesquite Rodeo](#), [Texas Motor Speedway](#), ample numbers of golf courses, and NCAA Division I athletics, and you can see that Dallas/Ft. Worth is a community that likes to play all sports. Ft.

Worth also hosts many national equestrian cutting horse competitions including the [Southwestern Exposition and Stock Show](#).

This rich western agricultural and sports heritage is complemented by a sophisticated dedication to the arts. The Dallas Arts District, located on the north side of downtown and covering 68 acres and 19 contiguous blocks, is the largest such urban district in the United States. The [Dallas Museum of Art](#) and the [Morton H. Myerson Symphony Center](#) are two of the most prominent features on the Dallas Arts scene. Several other museums and concert venues grace the grounds of [Fair Park](#), including The Science Place and the African American Museum.

Ft. Worth's 2,056-seat [Bass Performance Hall](#) is home to the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, the Ft. Worth Symphony, the Ft. Worth Dallas Ballet, the Ft. Worth Opera, and special productions of Casa Manana musicals. Ft. Worth's art museums are nationally respected – the Ft. Worth Museum of Modern Art, the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, the Kimball Art Museum, and the [Ft. Worth Museum of Science and History](#).

Throughout Dallas/Ft. Worth you will find an amazing blend of artistic expressions that reflect the multicultural dynamics of the city's heritage.

Other fun things to do in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area include [historical sites](#) depicting the city's earliest days and most infamous moments, [Ft. Worth Botanic Gardens](#) and [Dallas Arboretum, the Dallas and Ft. Worth Zoo](#), and wildlife centers where you can experience the wonders of nature. [Six Flags Over Texas](#) has the tallest roller coasters and the best shows in the Southwest and plenty of fun places to relax and enjoy the warm Texas climate. Dallas has more shopping centers per capita than any other major U.S. city and four times more restaurants per person than New York City.

Timeline

Search is commencing immediately and will continue until the selected candidate is identified.

Paper presentation of qualified candidates to Search Committee: TBD

Round One interview dates: TBD

Round Two interview dates: TBD

Selected candidates should plan to hold the above dates in the event they are invited by the committee to participate in the interview process.

Procedure for Candidacy

Please direct all nominations and applications, including CV and cover letter, to Kimberly Smith, Walt Ettinger, Morten Nielsen or Ashley Rittgers preferably via e-mail to arittgers@wittkieffer.com.

The Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity for all persons regardless of age, color, disability, ethnicity, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status or any other status protected by law.

The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. This material has been copied, compiled, or quoted in part from Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center documents and personal interviews and is believed to be reliable. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and factual situations govern.

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