



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY
Case Comprehensive
Cancer Center



SEMINAR SERIES

Presented by the Emerging Cancer Scholars Exchange Program



SEPT 25,
2026



12:00
p.m.



Wolstein Research Building
Auditorium (1-413)
2103 Cornell Road
Cleveland, OH 44106



Understanding Mechanisms of Immune Evasion in Brain and Skull Base Tumors

Christina Jackson, MD

Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery
University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine

Christina Jackson, MD is an Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Pennsylvania and a fellowship-trained skull base surgeon whose laboratory studies the immune microenvironment of brain tumors. Dr. Jackson received her MD from Harvard Medical School, where she studied systemic T cell dysfunction in glioblastoma with Dr. Peter Fecci. She completed her neurosurgery residency at Johns Hopkins, where her postdoctoral training with Dr. Drew Pardoll examined myeloid-derived suppressor cells in glioblastoma progression. Her laboratory studies the immunobiology of brain and skull base tumors, with the goal of understanding how these tumors evade immune control and translating those mechanisms into novel immune-based therapies. Using high dimensional single-cell and spatial immune and genomic profiling, her group studies how myeloid cells promote tumor growth and T cell dysfunction, and the mechanisms and clonal lineage of tumor-specific T cell dysfunction within the tumor microenvironment. Integrated with the Penn Brain Tumor Center, the lab also evaluates immune responses in patients undergoing immunotherapy to identify predictors of response and new immune targets. By pairing rigorous tumor immunology with a surgeon-scientist perspective, Dr. Jackson aims to identify shared and tumor-specific vulnerabilities that can be exploited therapeutically across the spectrum of brain tumors.

case.edu/cancer/events/seminar-series

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