

# SAA-NASHVILLE IMPACT REPORT



SWIM ACROSS AMERICA  
2023 GRANT AMOUNT

**\$100,000**

*\*Grant includes matching gift*

OUR LOCAL BENEFICIARY

 VANDERBILT-INGRAM CANCER CENTER

SUPPORTED SINCE 2022

SAA-NASHVILLE HAS  
RAISED NEARLY

**\$160,000**

TO FIGHT CANCER  
SINCE 2022

## 2022 GRANT RECIPIENT

Michael Topf, MD

Dr. Topf developed a protocol to 3D scan and annotate resected cancer specimens and plans to build on this protocol by creating intraoperative, mixed reality holograms. He hypothesizes that the hologram of the virtual 3D resected specimen can be aligned with the surgical resection site to accurately map positive margins. This will allow for a more precise re-resection of any residual disease. The use of this visual aid in oncologic surgery will no doubt greatly improve the standard of care, which currently involves communication of frozen section results via telephone calls between surgeons and pathologists.

The overarching goal of this research is to improve the accuracy of technology, protocols, and quality improvement processes that can be used in other solid tumors and change surgical oncology practice in general, and ultimately improve oncologic outcomes.



## 2023 GRANT RECIPIENT

Jennifer Duke, MD

Patients in this study will undergo a robotic-assisted bronchoscopy to collect samples from a lung nodule. If the nodule is found to be cancerous, the area will then be treated with a cryoprobe that freezes the lesion and causes the cells to die. At a follow-up surgery, the tumor will then be removed and evaluated to determine the impact of the cryotherapy on the tissue. Blood samples will also be taken at the time of the bronchoscopy and at the time of surgery to compare the changes in the immunosystem related to the treatment with the cryoprobe.

The results of the study will help determine if cryotherapy from within the airways on early-stage lung cancer should be used to treat tumors. This could pave the way for a possible future where patients can undergo a biopsy of a lung nodule followed by treatment in a single procedure.



## RESEARCH EMPHASIS



SOLID TUMORS



3D SCANNING



SURGERY



LUNG CANCER

## SAA-NASHVILLE BY THE NUMBERS



**250+**  
TOTAL  
PARTICIPANTS



**20+**  
VOLUNTEERS



**30+**  
TEAMS



**HUNDREDS**  
OF DONATIONS



**1**  
OLYMPIC GOLD  
MEDALIST



**COUNTLESS**  
LIVES SAVED THANKS TO  
SWIM ACROSS AMERICA