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AWARDS RECIPIENTS



M E D I C I N E :

**RESEARCH TEAM OF RENATA PASQUALINI, PH.D.
AND WADIH ARAP, M.D., PH.D.**

Since they discovered that every normal or diseased organ in the human body has a unique address embedded in its vasculature, Drs. Renata Pasqualini and Wadih Arap have creatively exploited that knowledge to pursue targeted therapies and imaging agents for cancer and other diseases.

They are developing delivery systems that “mail” toxic drugs, genes or peptides to a precise “zip code” in the blood vessels of tumors to deliver a more devastating attack on cancer while sparing normal tissues. The effectiveness of this approach has been demonstrated in the treatment of cancer in mice. Drs. Arap and Pasqualini have designed, built, evaluated and validated a delivery system that relies on a hybrid virus equipped with a targeting peptide to find and genetically mark tumors for imaging. They are advancing this combinatorial screening for use in cancer patients.

Renata Pasqualini is the Helen Buchanan & Stanley Seeger Professor of Medicine and Cancer Biology with appointments in the Department of Genitourinary Medical Oncology and the Department of Cancer Biology at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. She received her doctorate in biochemistry from the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, in 1990. She completed post-doctoral research fellowships at Harvard Medical School, Dana Farber Cancer Institute and The Burnham Institute in La Jolla, Calif.

Wadih Arap is the Hubert L. and Olive Stringer Professor for Cancer Treatment and Research and vice chair in the Department of Genitourinary Medical Oncology. He received his medical degree from the University of São Paulo Medical School in Brazil, where he also did a residency in internal medicine. He completed a fellowship in hematology and medical oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York and earned his doctorate in cancer biology from Stanford University.

Both are on the faculty of The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston, a joint program of M. D. Anderson and The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.