

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

Cheryl T. Lee, M.D., Assistant Professor of Urology, Department of Urology, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to Associate Professor of Urology, with tenure, Department of Urology, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

1991	M.D.	Albany Medical College
1987	B.S.	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Professional Record:

2000–Present	Assistant Professor of Urology, University of Michigan
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Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Lee is an excellent teacher and role model for minority students interested in surgical specialties. She is recognized on the national scene as an outstanding teacher and communicator. She has mentored several undergraduate students in urologic oncology research. Her clinical teaching role for the residents is important because she is the person performing the most cystectomies in the department. Most importantly, her teaching expertise has been recognized on the national scene probably more than any other urology faculty member at this stage of their career. She has been an organizer of the oncology program in various capacities at the National Medical Association from 2002 to 2005. She was an invited speaker at several National Medical Association meetings, the Geriatric Urological Society Meeting in Chicago in 2003, the Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society Meeting in Cincinnati in 2003, the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group in Miami in 2004, the Society of Urologic Oncology Meeting in Bethesda in 2004, and the American Urology Association meeting in May 2005. She was a Course Director for a post-graduate course on Superficial Bladder Cancer at the American Urology Association National Meeting in San Antonio in 2005. She also moderated a session at the North Central Section Meeting of the American Urology Association. It is clear from these activities that she is respected on a national level for her teaching capabilities. It is quite unusual for someone at her rank to be assigned as a Course Director at a national American Urology Association meeting.

Research: Dr. Lee fills an important niche in the urologic oncology program in the Department of Urology and in the Comprehensive Cancer Center. She has been an extraordinarily valuable contributor in a wide variety of clinical research projects dealing with bladder cancer. Dr. Lee's research interests stem from two years of basic science work at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center during her fellowship. Her role at the University of Michigan was anticipated to be as a clinical collaborator in translational research without an independent laboratory. She originally started working closely with Dr. Jim Mulè in experimental immunotherapy. These

efforts were progressing well when Dr. Mulé left the institution. It has been difficult for her to maintain the caliber of this research in his absence. There have been a number of delays for her clinical study, due to restrictions on the vaccine placed by the National Cancer Institute, which have been totally beyond her control. Nevertheless, she will very likely complete a pilot project with a dendritic cell vaccine program. She has had to alter her focus and is collaborating with Dr. Jill Macoska on a R21 submission that was not funded. She developed a Bladder Cancer Research Study Group, which includes members of urology, medical oncology, the Cancer Center, and the School of Public Health.

Dr. Lee has 21 peer-reviewed publications but it is important to note that prior to her joining the faculty at the University of Michigan, she only had three publications. She now averages more than three publications per year and is the first author on the majority of all the publications. While the total number of publications is somewhat low, the productivity while she has been at UM has been good.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Newman LA, Lee CT, Parekh LP, et al: Use of the National Cancer Database to Develop Clinical Trials Accrual Targets that are Appropriate for Minority-Ethnicity Patients: A Report from the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group (ACOSOG) Special Populations Committee. *Cancer* 106(1):188-195, 2006.

Lee CT, Hafez K, Sheffield JH, et al: Orthotopic Bladder Substitution in Women: Nontraditional Applications. *J Urol* 171:1585-1588, 2004.

Lee CT, Genega EM, Hutchinson B, et al: Conventional (Clear Cell) Renal Carcinoma Metastases have Greater bcl-2 Expression than High-Risk Primary Tumors. *Urologic Oncology* 21:179-184, 2003.

Lee CT, Smith CA, Hall JM, et al: Bladder Cancer Facts: Accuracy of Information on the Internet. *J Urol* 170:1756-1760, 2003.

Lee CT, Capodiceci P, Osman I, et al: Overexpression of the Cyclin-dependent Kinase Inhibitor p16 is Associated with Tumor Recurrence in Human Prostate Cancer. *Clin Cancer Research* 5:977-983, 1999.

Service: Dr. Lee is completing a term on the Protocol Review Committee for the Cancer Center, as well as the Admissions Committee of the Medical School. She has been a member of the Institutional Leadership Development Program since 2003. She has also served on the Cancer Work Group since 2002. She is the Director of the Bladder Cancer Database, the Bladder Cancer Tumor Bank, and the Coordinator of the Genitourinary Tumor Board. She has been active in the National Medical Association, as well as the American College of Surgeons.

External Review:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Lee has become in a relatively short time one of the true national leaders in bladder cancer clinical care and research. She directs the bladder cancer program at Michigan, one of the premier bladder cancer centers in the country."

Reviewer B: "Cheryl is well known as an excellent educator and a fine surgeon."

Reviewer C: "Dr. Lee has attained an emerging national presence in the area of urologic oncology especially as it applies to health disparities in minority populations and women....Dr. Lee shows great promise not only to impact the field of bladder cancer research but also as an excellent mentor for both minorities and women in healthcare and the elimination of health care disparities."

Reviewer D: "She is a scholar as demonstrated by her academic activities, has clearly demonstrated her teaching and service activities and is building a very solid clinical practice at your institution....I can most assuredly state that Dr. Lee would be appointed to a similar position at this institution for she clearly excels in research, teaching and service which are necessary criteria for promotion to Associate Professor in the tenure track."

Reviewer E: "Dr. Lee is known nationally for her work in urological oncology and on the topic of disparities in health care....Dr. Lee is an outstanding rising star, and I would love to have her as a member of my faculty...She is focused, mature, and reliable, as well as being a fine educator and a gifted clinician and researcher."

Reviewer F: "In urologic oncology circles Dr. Lee is well-known for her quality academic work, excellent technical skills and innovative clinical research....By all accounts she is an outstanding teacher and a rising star as a physician-scientist."

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Lee fulfills the role of enhancing clinical research, providing optimal clinical care, and unique teaching capabilities. Her clinical and teaching contributions are extremely significant and she has garnered recognition on the national scene. This is directly a consequence of her excellent communication skills. She also brings a unique perspective to her position as the only African American female in urologic oncology in the country. I am pleased to support her promotion to Associate Professor, with tenure, in the Department of Urology.



Allen S. Lichter, M.D., Dean
*Newman Family Professor
of Radiation Oncology*

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