

The Sandra J. Schulze Professorship

Evanthia Galanis, M.D., is a consultant in the Department of Oncology and Department of Molecular Medicine. A professor of oncology, Dr. Galanis also serves as chair of the Department of Molecular Medicine, which is involved in gene therapy and using viruses to treat cancer. Dr. Galanis received the M.D. and doctor of science degrees in immunology from Athens University School of Medicine, Greece, and completed internal medicine residency and oncology/hematology training at Mayo Clinic.

Dr. Galanis focuses her clinical and research efforts on developing novel therapeutics for cancer treatment, with special emphasis on targeted treatments based on the molecular characteristics of a patient's tumor. Her laboratory is developing virotherapy and gene transfer strategies for the treatment of solid tumors, especially those associated with brain, breast and prostate cancer. Another active area of laboratory investigation includes combining viral therapeutics with other treatment modalities, such as radiation therapy and small molecule cell cycle inhibitors. She is the principal investigator in multiple Mayo-based and national clinical trials.

While leading the Gene and Virus Therapy Program at the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center, Dr. Galanis has guided an extensive and innovative clinical research portfolio internationally recognized for testing diverse agents that target and kill cancer cells, conducting numerous clinical trials and treating many patients through these trials. In addition, Dr. Galanis led translational efforts that resulted in the first human testing of novel therapeutics developed at Mayo Clinic in ovarian cancer and brain cancer (glioblastoma multiforme) patients and the first human application of stem cells as virus delivery vehicles.

Dr. Galanis has authored or co-authored more than 150 publications and has served as reviewer or editorial board member for numerous journals. Active in the professional community, she has been elected a member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation, holds memberships in the American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy, American Society of Cancer Research and American Society of Neuro-Oncology, and serves as chair of the Neuro-Oncology Committee of the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology. She is also a member of the Brain Tumor Steering Committee of the National Cancer Institute and serves as an adviser to the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research.

