



Using AI to streamline precision oncology: Northeastern collaborates with JAX's Maine Cancer Genomics Initiative

The Maine Cancer
Genomics Initiative



Dear colleague,

I recently had the opportunity to attend the 2026 ASCO Annual Meeting in Chicago, where more than 35,000 oncology professionals from around the world gathered under the theme *The Science and Practice of Translation: Improving Cancer Outcomes Worldwide*. The meeting highlighted the pace of progress in cancer research and reinforced how important it is to translate scientific discoveries into meaningful improvements in patient care.

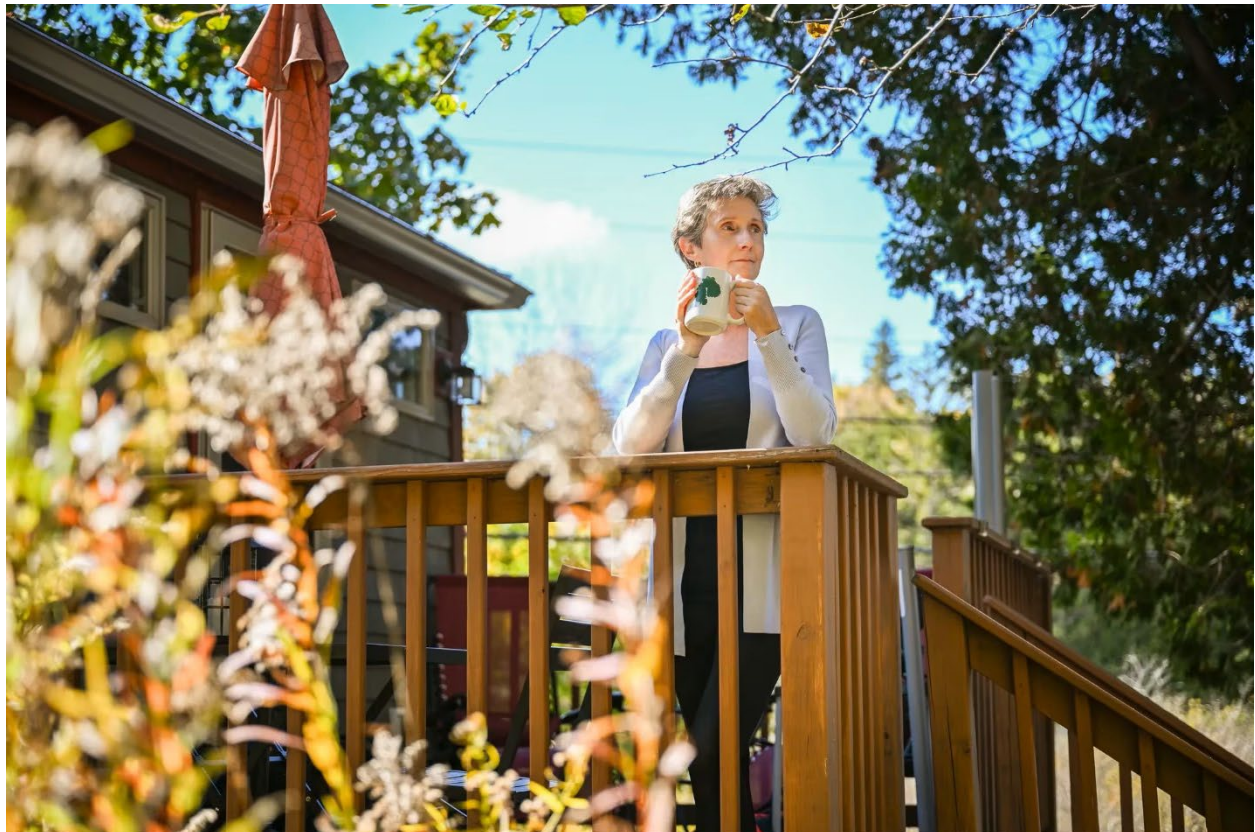
Among the presentations, results from the [Phase III RASolute 302 trial](#) offered encouraging news for patients with metastatic pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma. The study found that daraxonrasib, a multi-selective RAS(ON) inhibitor, nearly doubled overall survival compared with standard chemotherapy for patients whose disease had progressed after first-line treatment. For a disease where second-line options have long been limited, this felt like a real turning point.

At MCGI, we are exploring how emerging technologies can strengthen our Genomic Tumor Boards (GTBs). [Through collaborations with Northeastern University's Institute for Experiential AI and The Roux Institute](#), we are developing tools that automate document processing and transform meeting minutes into searchable knowledge resources. These tools reduce the time spent preparing case materials and documenting discussions, allowing our team to focus more on identifying treatment options for patients. In parallel, we are working with the JAX Data Science team to help our medical oncology advisors more effectively access the evidence and clinical

reasoning behind treatment recommendations, supporting informed discussion during our GTBs.

Sincerely,

Jens Rueter, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer, The Jackson Laboratory
Medical Director, MCGI



Meet Cora

One of the most meaningful parts of our work is hearing directly from the patients we serve. A breast cancer survivor and member of MCGI's Patient Advisory Committee, Cora brings an invaluable perspective that helps shape how we engage with patients and families navigating cancer care.

Her experience reflects the impact that access to genomic testing, precision oncology, and collaborative care can have, not only on treatment, but long after. It also highlights the important role patients themselves can play in improving cancer care, and how an experience as difficult as a cancer diagnosis can become a source of purpose and connection for others facing the same road.

Watch Cora's story and read the full article to learn how getting involved with MCGI inspired her to become an advocate for others and why patient voices continue to guide the future of precision oncology. [Watch here](#) | [Read the full article](#)

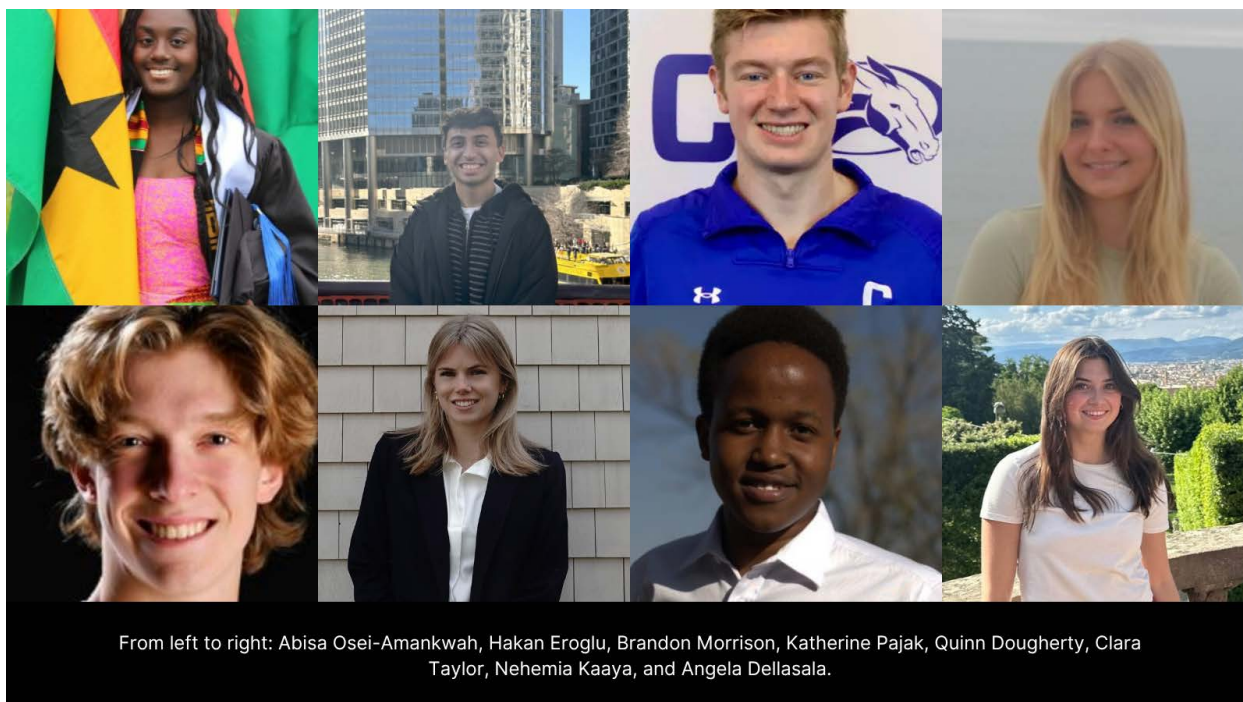


Expanding MCGI's Reach: Partnership with Bayhealth and N-Power Medicine

For the past decade, MCGI has connected community oncologists with expert genomic interpretation to advance precision cancer care in Maine. Through a collaboration with Bayhealth Cancer Institute in Delaware and N-Power Medicine, we are now extending that model to Bayhealth clinicians through our GTBs, where multidisciplinary experts review tumor sequencing results alongside each patient's clinical history to help inform personalized treatment strategies.

By combining MCGI's GTBs with N-Power Medicine's prospective point-of-care data platform, the collaboration supports more informed treatment decisions while expanding opportunities for clinical research and creating new pathways for Bayhealth patients to access clinical trials and emerging therapies.

Since January, we have completed six tumor boards with the Bayhealth team, a meaningful milestone as we bring MCGI's collaborative approach to community oncology practices beyond Maine while continuing to strengthen precision oncology right here where it began. [Read more](#).



MCGI's 2026 Intern Program

MCGI's internship program continues to provide students with hands-on experience at the intersection of genomics, technology, and cancer care. Through partnerships with Colby College and the Hanley Center for Health Leadership and Education, this year's interns have contributed to application development, workflow optimization, and program operations, strengthening the tools and processes that support our GTB program.

Abisa Osei-Amankwah

Abisa graduated from Colby College with a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science and Cinema Studies in May 2026. She began her internship with MCGI in January during her senior year of undergraduate study under the mentorship of JAX IT Manager, Vishal Thummala. During her internship, she worked alongside fellow intern Hakan Eroglu to develop a user-friendly web interface for our Genomic Tumor Board AI (GTBAI) application, allowing users to securely upload patient files through a browser rather than directly through Google Cloud Platform. Together, they created three web forms supporting data upload, institutional organization, and report generation.

Hakan Eroglu

Hakan graduated from Colby College with a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science and Mathematical Science in May 2026. He began his internship with MCGI in January during his senior year of undergraduate study under the mentorship of JAX IT Manager Vishal Thummala. During his internship, he partnered with fellow intern Abisa Osei-Amankwah to enhance the front-end experience for the GTBAI application. Together, they designed and implemented web forms for data upload, institutional organization,

and report generation, helping streamline how genomic data is submitted for analysis while gaining experience working within a Scrum Agile framework.

Brandon Morrison

Brandon is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science and Mathematics from Colby College. He began his internship with MCGI in January during his junior year of undergraduate study. During his internship, Brandon explored how Microsoft Copilot tools within Excel could support trend analysis of GTB workflow data. His investigation identified the current capabilities and limitations of these tools and laid the groundwork for future prototype scripts and macros to support program workflows.

This summer, we welcomed five new interns. **Katherine Pajak** and **Quinn Dougherty**, rising juniors at Colby College pursuing Bachelor of Arts degrees in Economics on the premed track; **Clara Taylor**, a rising junior at Colby College pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science; **Nehemia Kaaya**, a rising sophomore at Colby College pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science; and **Angela Dellasala**, a rising junior at the University of Maine, Orono, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biology. Together, they are contributing across GTB coordination, workflow support, application development, and data management. We look forward to sharing more about their projects and accomplishments in a future update.



Educational resources

Uncertain About Cancer Biomarker Testing? Start Here.

Biomarker testing is a complex process, and each member of the cancer care team can help patients navigate it. [Exploring Biomarker Testing 2.0](#) provides an overview of the patient journey from testing to personalized treatment decisions.

Now also available for physician assistant CME and genetic counselor CEU credit, this course is designed for anyone on the cancer care team who wants to:

- Understand when biomarker testing is appropriate
- Recognize the strengths and limitations of different testing approaches
- See how results inform personalized treatment decisions
- Explain the biomarker testing pathway in a clear, patient-centered way

Course highlights

- Free content - Online and on-demand
- 6 interactive, case-based scenarios
- Earn 0.5 CME, CNE, or CEU credit in 30 minutes

Whether you're new to biomarker testing or looking for a quick refresher, this updated course helps you stay current and confident. [Enroll now!](#)



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[Genomic Tumor Boards](#)



[For Patients](#)

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