



## Professor and Past President

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

## Chair in Cancer Biology

Harry Graves Burkhart III Distinguished University Chair

## Founder and Advisor

Tvardi Therapeutics, Asylya Therapeutics

## LICENSE & CERTIFICATIONS

Board Certified, American Board of Internal Medicine

## EDUCATION

BS Biological Science, Salutatorian & Summa Cum Laude, Fordham University

MD with distinction in Microbiology & Immunology  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

## Honorary Degrees:

MS, Harvard University  
PhD, Hofstra University

## Postgraduate Training:

- Internship & Residency, Internal Medicine, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of Cell Biology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- Member, National Academy of Sciences
- Member, National Academy of Medicine
- Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Recipient of 25 awards spanning academic and professional career
- 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare
- 50 Most Influential Physician Executives and Leaders
- Order of Saint James of the Sword (knighthood), Republic of Portugal
- Ellis Island Medal of Honor
- Scientific Advisor, Vatican
- Foreign Member, Royal Academy of Science, Portugal

## Ron DePinho . . .

is an internationally-known and respected leader recognized for groundbreaking discoveries in cancer, aging, and age-associated disorders such as neurodegeneration. His pioneering work and collaborative initiatives across multiple disciplines has increased the understanding and importance of cancer prevention, improved cancer patient care, and brought forward new cancer drugs to help patients.

Driven by the loss of his father to cancer, Dr. DePinho devoted his life to reducing the burden of cancer, particularly for the underserved. With a medical, clinical and scientific research career spanning decades, Dr. DePinho served with distinction as MD Anderson Cancer Center's fourth president from 2011-2017. During his tenure as MD Anderson President, DePinho dramatically enhanced basic research programs, elevated the graduate program, recruited many world class faculty including its first Nobel Prize, modernized its translational and digital research infrastructure, secured record philanthropy and clinical revenue, and expanded MD Anderson's global network to 34 institutions in 24 countries, enabling knowledge dissemination to one-third of the global population.

He also conceived and launched the MD Anderson Cancer Moon Shots Program designed to more rapidly convert knowledge into reductions in cancer suffering and death. This multi-billion dollar initiative involving nearly 2,000 faculty and staff has yielded practice-changing advances in a number of cancers and new policies to improve public health. This initiative inspired the national moon shot program.

A physician by training, Ron has always felt the best way to solve complex problems in human disease is to conduct penetrating basic science in a way that illuminates a path to new diagnostics or medicines for patients. This translational theme has been foundational to his strategy in every position he has held —as president of the nation's number one cancer center, as head of a research laboratory, as educator of the next generation of physicians and scientists, as promotor of public health through advocacy and policy, as director of an institute, as founder of biotechnology companies, and as an advisor to governments, the Vatican and biopharmaceutical companies.

DePinho's sense of urgency continues today as a faculty member in the Department of Cell Biology at MD Anderson where he leads a large multi-disciplinary research lab focused on cancer, aging and neurodegenerative diseases. His most celebrated discoveries include the elucidation of a core molecular pathway for aging, the determination of why advancing age drives increased cancer incidence, and the demonstration that aging

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association for Cancer Research  
American Society for Clinical Investigation  
American Society of Clinical Oncology

## PRIOR APPOINTMENTS AND SERVICE

### Academic:

- Professor of Medicine/Genetics  
Harvard Medical School
- Assistant, Associate & Full Professor, Departments of Microbiology & Immunology & Medicine  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
- Attending physician  
Jacobi Hospital

### Administrative:

- Director, Belfer Institute for Applied Cancer Science  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard
- Co-Chair, Gastrointestinal Cancer Program  
Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center
- Co-Founder, Director and/or Scientific Advisor for: Karyopharm Therapeutics, Eden Therapeutics, Metamark Genetics, AVEO Pharmaceuticals, Enzon Pharmaceuticals, Epizyme, Agios Pharmaceuticals, GSK and Abbott Pharmaceuticals
- Numerous academic and government advisory boards

## PUBLICATIONS AND SERVICE

- Over 400 peer-reviewed original research articles, invited reviews, editorials, and book chapters
- Serves as a member on editorial boards and numerous scientific journals

## CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

- Organized, hosted and chaired numerous cancer and medical conferences including the 2007 Annual AACR Centennial Meeting
- Invited visiting lecturer and visiting professor, keynote speaker, panelist and presenter at hundreds of international, national, state and local conferences and other medical/research institutions

itself can be reversed. In particular, his work established a central role for telomerase in the preservation of overall health in the aged. Along these lines, using genetically engineered mouse models, he established that the absence of telomerase and resultant telomere dysfunction drives neurodegeneration and that telomerase reactivation can restore normal brain health. His current research is focused on the identification of drugs that reactivate telomerase for the restoration of brain and tissue health. In addition, DePinho's creation and innovative use of mouse models of cancer continues to guide early cancer detection, patient management and cancer drug development.

To complement his scientific research, DePinho has been a serial entrepreneur launching new biotech companies to develop critical drugs for patients in need. He has also launched a new health initiative, Unite to Prevent Cancer, focused on developing a global, systems-level approach to making disease prevention (beginning with cancer) a reality for the next generation by engaging youth, harnessing innovation, helping convene & coordinate, and by providing data-driven, youth-focused health strategies in "last mile" geographies.

Born in the Bronx, New York, DePinho is one of five children of poor immigrant parents who lived the American dream. Dr. DePinho studied biology at Fordham University where he graduated class salutatorian. He received his M.D. degree with distinction in microbiology and immunology from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He performed his residency and postdoctoral training at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center.

DePinho's independent career began at Einstein as the Feinberg Senior Faculty Scholar in Cancer Research and an ACS Research Professor. He then joined the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School in Boston, where he was the founding Director of the Belfer Institute for Applied Cancer Science and a Professor of Medicine and Genetics at Harvard.

For DePinho's fundamental contributions to cancer and aging and to healthcare, he has been recognized with numerous honors and awards. He is a prolific author of over 400 published articles, books and chapters. By those who know him well, DePinho is described as an eternal optimist and a passionate, visionary thinker. "Nothing is impossible if you put your mind to it. Cancer patients and their families are counting on us," DePinho says. "This has become my passion and life's work to take my diverse background and collaborative insights to make a meaningful difference for as many lives as possible."