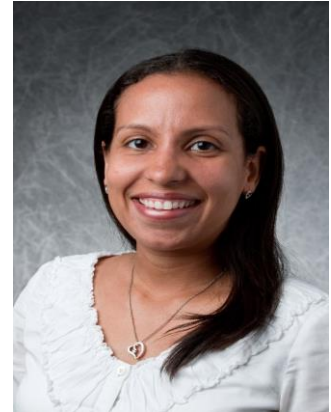




**Nilofer Azad, M.D.**



**Ana De Jesus-Acosta, M.D.**

## **The Cholangiocarcinoma Research and Patient Care Program at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center**

Led by Johns Hopkins Assistant Professors of Oncology Nilofer Azad, M.D. and Ana De Jesus-Acosta, M.D., the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins is committed to providing exceptional clinical care to cholangiocarcinoma patients as well as advancing research in this rare and difficult disease.

Their work starts and finishes with patients. Multidisciplinary care with specialized surgeons, radiation oncologists, and medical oncologists provides an integrated approach where communication is paramount. They also work closely with Johns Hopkins laboratory scientists to bring the most exciting science into clinical utility for patients.

Over the past two years, Azad and De Jesus-Acosta have spearheaded a major clinical trial at Johns Hopkins looking at using molecularly targeted agents in advanced cholangiocarcinoma. The study has promising initial results and they are working on a larger study to confirm these findings. Johns Hopkins is also part of a larger group of major medical centers that is conducting national trials of new drugs for cholangiocarcinoma patients.

Presently, Dr. De Jesus-Acosta is leading an active clinical trial for patients with advanced cholangiocarcinoma using a new drug named RRx-001. This drug has the potential to re-sensitize cancer cells to chemotherapy and revert resistance.

In addition, the Gastrointestinal Oncology group at Johns Hopkins is at the forefront of two promising new therapies, immunotherapy and epigenetics. Two studies are planned for this upcoming year testing immunotherapy agents in patients with cholangiocarcinoma. These agents will be given by itself or in combination with epigenetic therapy. The area of epigenetics is a particular focus and expertise of Dr. Azad.

Our mission is to deliver cutting edge and compassionate care to all of our patients. We thank the Luis M. Khoury Foundation for their partnership in this goal, and to each of you for your support.