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**To:** Broadcast Notifications <[BroadcastNotifications@mountsinai.org](mailto:BroadcastNotifications@mountsinai.org)>

**Subject:** Appointment of Richard Bakst, MD, as Co-Chief of the Head and Neck Institute—Center of Excellence for Head and Neck Cancer



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**TO:** All Faculty, Staff, Trainees, and Students

**FROM:** **Eric M. Genden, MD**  
Isidore Friesner Professor and Chair  
Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery  
Chief, Head and Neck Oncology  
Co-Chief, Head and Neck Institute—Center of Excellence for  
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Mount Sinai Health System

**Kenneth Rosenzweig, MD**  
Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology  
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**May 11, 2022**

**Appointment of Richard Bakst, MD, as Co-Chief of the Head and Neck Institute—Center of Excellence for Head and Neck Cancer**

We are very pleased to announce the appointment of [Richard Bakst, MD](#), as Co-Chief of the [Head and Neck Institute/Center of Excellence for Head and](#)

[Neck Cancer](#) at the Mount Sinai Health System. In this role, he will continue to collaborate with the multidisciplinary team at the Head and Neck Institute—Center of Excellence to advance the highest possible clinical care for patients with head and neck cancers (including cancers of the larynx, tongue, palate, sinuses, and thyroid). Dr. Bakst will also oversee radiation oncology research and related programs at the Institute.



A board certified radiation oncologist whose clinical practice focuses on the personalized treatment of patients with head and neck cancer, Dr. Bakst works closely with his colleagues in surgery, pathology, radiology, and medical oncology to develop treatment plans that minimize both the risk of cancer recurrence and the risk of treatment-associated toxicity. He aims to implement radiation therapy

only when necessary, and to employ advances in technology to target radiation to at-risk areas, while minimizing radiation exposure to nearby normal tissues.

Dr. Bakst completed his residency at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where he served as chief resident. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed papers on a broad range of oncological topics, and served as an associate editor of the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics*. His research interests include investigating mechanisms by which cancer invades and spreads along nerves, elucidating the role of the oral microbiome in head and neck cancer pathogenesis, and developing reduced-dose radiation regimens for patients with head and neck cancers.

Promoting Dr. Bakst to Co-Chief underscores the critical role medical oncology plays in the best possible care for and dedication to our patients. He has demonstrated continued excellence in leadership, patient outcomes, and research since joining Mount Sinai in 2012. Dr. Bakst has set the standard for the highest-quality care for patients with head and neck cancer. His research focus on precision medicine to maximize treatment effect, while minimizing treatment

toxicity through the use of advanced technology, such as proton beam radiation, has improved the lives of countless patients in the New York area and worldwide.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Bakst and wishing him continued success in his new role.

