

# Connect Through Giving

100% OF YOUR GIFT WILL BE USED TO  
BENEFIT KUMC THE LIVER CENTER

I/We make the following gift: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
The initial amount paid herewith is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
I/We will fulfill the remainder of this gift commitment  
with pledge payments of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Which will be contributed:  
 Annually  Semi-Annually  Quarterly  
Beginning date \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(month) (year)  
For pledged gifts, a reminder will be sent to you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like more information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach and mail to: KU Endowment,  
3901 Rainbow Boulevard, Kansas City, KS 66160-7804

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

MasterCard  Visa

Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(month) (year)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Check. Please make check payable to **The Liver Center**

## MATCHING GIFT

My company will match this gift.

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure:  Form enclosed  
 Other (Please describe)

# Who We Are

## Researchers at The Liver Center represent institutions across the Kansas City region:

KU Medical Center  
KU Lawrence  
Kansas Masonic Cancer Research Institute  
VA Hospital  
UMKC  
Children's Mercy Hospital  
XenoTech LLC

### Basic Science Researchers:

Yazen Alnouti, Ph.D.  
Udayan Apte, Ph.D.  
Mostafa Badr, Ph.D.  
David Buckley, Ph.D.  
Bryan Copple, Ph.D.  
Maciej Czerwinski, Ph.D.  
Guoli Dai, Ph.D.  
Andrea Gaedigk, Ph.D.  
Grace Guo, Ph.D.  
Bruno Hagenbuch, Ph.D.  
Hartmut Jaeschke, Ph.D.  
Gregory Kearns, PharmD  
Curtis Klaassen, Ph.D.  
Partha Krishnamurthy, Ph.D.  
Jennifer Laurence, Ph.D.  
Steven Leeder, Ph.D.  
Hong Lu, Ph.D.  
Jim Luyendyk, Ph.D.  
Kristi Neufeld, Ph.D.  
Andrew Parkinson, Ph.D.  
Michael Parmely, Ph.D.  
Amit Rastogi, M.D.  
Gregory Reed, Ph.D.  
John Robertson, Ph.D.  
Emily Scott, Ph.D.  
Jeff Staudinger, Ph.D.  
Gregory Vanden Heuvel, Ph.D.

Carrie Vyhlidal, Ph.D.  
Yvonne Wan, Ph.D.  
Wenfang Wang, Ph.D.  
Scott Weir, PharmD, Ph.D.  
Sitta Sittampalam, Ph.D.  
Xiaobo Zhong, Ph.D.  
Bao Ting Zhu, Ph.D.  
Hao Zhu, Ph.D.

### Clinical Science Researchers:

*Gastroenterologists*  
Mojtaba Olyae, M.D.  
Richard Gilroy, M.D.  
Shailender Singh, M.D.  
Prashant Pandya, D.O.  
Ryan Taylor, M.D.

*Transplant Surgeons*  
Bashar Abdulkarim, M.D.  
Jameson Forster, M.D.  
Erik Schadde, M.D.

*Medical Oncologist*  
Stephen K. Williamson, M.D.

*GI Pathologists*  
Ivan Damjanov, M.D., Ph.D.  
Ossama Tawfik, M.D., Ph.D.

# The Liver Center

At The University of Kansas  
Medical Center

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT:

**Dr. Yvonne Wan, Ph.D.**  
*Director of The Liver Center*  
*Professor of Pharmacology and Pathology*  
*Joy McCann Professor*

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**KU**  
THE LIVER CENTER  
The University of Kansas Medical Center



There is a single light of science,  
and to brighten it anywhere is  
to brighten it everywhere.

Isaac Asimov

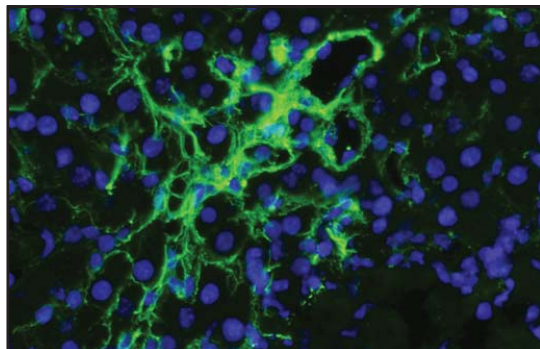
# The Liver

## Mission of the *Liver Center*

Liver disease is among the 10 major causes of death in the United States. The mission of The Liver Center is to enhance interdisciplinary collaboration among basic and clinical scientists to conduct translational research involving etiology, treatment, and prevention of liver diseases.

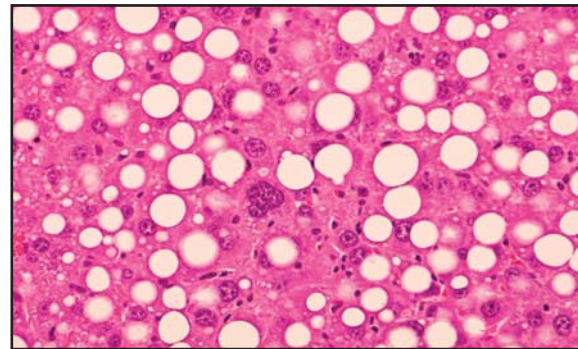
## Research at the *Liver Center*

A major area of research interest at The Liver Center is the metabolic syndrome, a combination of medical disorders that increase the risk of heart disease, stroke, and diabetes. It is characterized by abdominal obesity as well as elevated blood pressure and triglyceride levels. The metabolic syndrome has become increasingly common in the United States. It's estimated that over 50 million Americans are affected. Other areas of focus are to define the mechanism for the development of fatty liver and the progression of fatty liver to fibrosis, cirrhosis, and cancer. The Liver Center also includes research on gastrointestinal disorders and treatment.



**Liver fibrosis**  
Image: Bryan Copple's lab

Liver is the largest organ in the human body. The blood that leaves the stomach and intestines passes through the liver before it goes to other parts of the body. The liver plays a major role in metabolism: it converts nutrients into forms that are easier to use for the rest of the body and eliminates drugs and toxic



**Fatty liver can be induced by alcohol or high fat diet. Round holes are fat accumulation in the liver.**  
Image: Yvonne Wan's lab

Our researchers fall into several categories of liver and GI investigations:

- Metabolic Syndrome**
- Chemical and Alcohol-Induced Liver Disease**
- High Fat Diet-induced Liver Diseases**
- Liver and GI Inflammation**
- Liver Fibrosis and Cirrhosis**
- Liver and GI Cancer**
- Liver Regeneration and Transplantation**
- Cholesterol and Bile Acids Metabolism**
- Drug Metabolism**
- Genetic Variation on Drug Response**

The Liver Center has nearly 40 researchers representing 7 institutions across the Kansas City region. Our 10- year plan is to develop program projects, recruit outstanding basic and clinical researchers, and gain national status to become a NIH-funded Liver Center.

substances. In fact, more than 500 vital functions have been identified for the liver. The liver is the organ which has the best ability to repair itself and re-grow after injury. Understanding liver disease processes in order to maintain a healthy liver is the fundamental interest of researchers at The Liver Center.

## Your Gift Is *Vital*

The Liver Center at The University of Kansas Medical Center offers a unique research environment. We are building programs which bridge partnerships between clinical investigators and basic researchers. These relationships ensure that doctors who treat patients can share their insights and concerns with basic researchers to move forward toward the fundamental understanding of liver injury and disease and the pathways to repair.

Researchers at The Liver Center are dedicated to unraveling therapeutic targets for early diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of the metabolic syndrome, hepatitis, alcoholic liver disease, and cancer. Basic scientists and clinicians are working together to bring bench side discovery to bedside treatment.

Your gift goes toward innovative programs and to the direct support of biomedical and clinical research and training focused on liver/GI problems. We appreciate your gift and your trust in us.

## For more information on giving Please contact:

**The Kansas University  
Endowment Association**  
3901 Rainbow Boulevard  
Kansas City, KS 66160  
(913) 588-5551  
(888) 588-5249

[www.kumc.edu/livercenter](http://www.kumc.edu/livercenter)



**Kansas Life Sciences Innovation Center**