



Arjun V. Balar, MD

*Director, Genitourinary Medical Oncology Program,
Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone Health*

*Asst. Professor, Dept. of Medicine, NYU School of
Medicine*

Education and Training

- Fellowship, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Medical Oncology (2012)
- Residency, New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center, Internal Medicine (2009)
- MD, University of South Florida College of Medicine (2006) (Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society Member)

Who Is Arjun V. Balar?

- Dr. Balar joined NYU Langone Health as assistant professor of medicine in 2012 and became a member of Perlmutter Cancer Center in 2013.
- Dr. Balar oversees outpatient clinical services for patients with tumors of the genitourinary (GU) tract including prostate, kidney, bladder and testicular cancers.
- He leads a team of medical oncologists, nurse practitioners, social workers, and other care providers who are dedicated to treating people who have genitourinary cancers.
- He also works closely with surgeons and radiation oncologists to enhance multidisciplinary care models and with basic scientists to foster translational research.
- He is a clinical and translational researcher focused on novel therapies for high grade, invasive and metastatic urothelial bladder cancer, with a particular focus on immunotherapies and combinations.
- Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HMP1TsOoS4E>
- Video: Arizona man beats rare form of cancer, CBS News

Areas of Expertise

- Able to speak to all aspects of research and treatment of bladder and GU cancers
- Novel immunotherapies, targeted therapies and combinations
- Early phase clinical trials in bladder and other GU malignancies
- Biomarkers to assist in treatment selection for patients with bladder and other GU malignancies

Research

- Dr. Balar's research focuses on bladder cancer and immunotherapy—treatments that harness the body's own immune system to fight the cancer—as well as molecularly targeted therapy.
- Dr Balar has focused primarily on cisplatin-ineligible patients with the goal of identifying better-tolerated and more effective therapies in advanced and invasive/high-grade urothelial cancer. He has a particular focus on novel immunotherapies and combinations.
- Clinical trial findings from Dr. Balar led to accelerated FDA approval of two drugs for advanced bladder cancer: pembrolizumab, marketed under the brand name Keytruda®, and atezolizumab, marketed as Tecentriq® (see NBC News coverage of atezolizumab trial here).
- Among Dr. Balar's current clinical trials is an investigator-initiated phase II trial that combines pembrolizumab with hypofractionated radiation and a small amount of the chemotherapeutic gemcitabine to increase the cure rate in muscle-invasive bladder cancer.