

Philip Jones, Ph.D.

Dr. Jones is Vice President for Therapeutics Discovery at MD Anderson Cancer Center, and Head of Drug Discovery for the Institute of Applied Cancer Science (IACS). IACS is a fully integrated small molecule drug discovery and development unit with a mission to bring new, more effective therapeutics to patients. It employs a bench-to-bedside, synergistic approach relying on three key components: an experienced team of professional drug discovery scientists; real-time access to insights gained by the best physician-



scientists in the nation; and clinically informed, patient-oriented research programs.

IACS was the first platform created to support MD Anderson's Moon Shots Program™ — a bold, comprehensive effort to rapidly and dramatically reduce deaths to cancer.

Dr. Jones earned his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from The University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, and completed his postdoctoral research at Philipps-Universität Marburg, Germany.

Prior to his appointment at MD Anderson in 2011, he amassed more than 15 years of drug discovery research experience from Merck at three worldwide locations. He led several of Merck's oncology drug discovery programs, overseeing cross-functional project teams that successfully delivered novel candidates to ongoing clinical trials. These include the PARP inhibitor niraparib (Zejula™), which was recently approved by the FDA for the treatment of ovarian cancer. He also was involved in developing raltegravir, the first-in-class HIV integrase inhibitor.

Dr. Jones currently is leading the development of IACS's portfolio of novel cancer therapeutics. The lead project, IACS-10759, is the focus of two first-in-human clinical trials at MD Anderson, one for patients with acute myeloid leukemia and the other for those with solid tumors. Two other compounds are entering the clinic in early 2019. Multiple other projects are also advancing toward the clinic as IACS teams collaborate with investigators across the institution.