

Robert L. Ferris, MD, PhD is Hillman Professor of Oncology and Director at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, Associate Vice Chancellor for Cancer Research, and Professor of Otolaryngology, of Immunology, and of Radiation Oncology. He also Co-Directs the Tumor Microenvironment Center. Dr. Ferris currently serves on the Editorial Boards of *JNCI*, *JCO*, *Clinical Cancer Research*, *Cancer Immunology Research* and Section Editor for *Cancer*. He is Editor in Chief of *Oral Oncology*. Dr. Ferris has published over 300 peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters. In 2015 was elected co-chair of the NCI Head and Neck Steering committee to facilitate prospective clinical trials, and currently chairs the NIH tumor Microenvironment study section.

Dr. Ferris's NIH-funded laboratory is focused on reversal of immune escape and immunotherapy using monoclonal antibodies and vaccines, leading randomized phase II-III trials of cancer immunotherapy. He is PI of several prospective randomized trials, including Checkmate-141 which led to the FDA approval of Nivolumab for head and neck cancer, ECOG 3311, testing radiation dose-deintensification after transoral robotic surgery (TORS) for HPV+ oropharynx cancer, as well as ECOG-ACRIN 3132, using p53 mutational testing in HPV- cancer, to predict response to radiation versus chemoradiation. He is a Principal Investigator of the University of Pittsburgh Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) grant for translational head and neck research, and a T32 training grant, "Training of Head and Neck Oncologists," both funded by the National Cancer Institute until 2020.