Biography: Stuart H Orkin, MD

Dr. Stuart H Orkin serves as Chairman of the Department of Pediatric Oncology at DFCI, the David G. Nathan Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard, and an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. In addition, he is a principal faculty member of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute (HSCI) and an associate of the Broad Institute of MIT/Harvard. He received his BS from MIT and MD from Harvard Medical School. He completed pediatric hematology/oncology training at Children’s Hospital and the Dana Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI), and trained in the laboratory of Philip Leder at NIH. His research focuses on intersections of transcriptional control with stem cell biology, hematopoiesis, and cancer. He is currently interested in the roles of epigenetic regulators in leukemia, mechanisms controlling globin genes, and the development of new therapies for hemoglobin disorders based on reactivation of fetal hemoglobin in adults.

He is also an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), Institute of Medicine, and American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and recipient of the Distinguished Research Award from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), the E. Donnall Thomas, Dameshek and Basic Science Mentor Awards of the American Society of Hematology (ASH), and the Metcalf Award of the International Society of Experimental Hematology (ISEH). In 2013 he is the recipient of the Jessie Stevenson Kovalenko Medal of the NAS for "important contributions to the medical sciences".