Alan Tan, MD, recently was appointed Executive Officer of the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology. The Alliance develops and conducts clinical trials as part of the National Clinical Trials Network sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and serves as a research base for the NCI Community Oncology Research Program.

The Alliance develops and conducts clinical trials as part of the National Clinical Trials Network sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and serves as a research base for the NCI Community Oncology Research Program. The Alliance seeks to reduce the impact of cancer on people by uniting nearly 10,000 scientists and clinicians who are committed to discovering, validating and disseminating prevention and treatment strategies.

As executive officer, Dr. Tan will oversee the development of clinical trials and serve as a senior leader for the Central Protocol Operations Program. Dr. Tan will be a key advisor to study chairs and act as a liaison to the NCI. He will collaborate with the scientific committee chair in managing the committee’s scientific portfolio, provide operational perspective on concepts and protocols in development, and guide coordinators in protocol development with issues requiring scientific and medical expertise.

Dr. Tan is the director of genitourinary medical oncology at Rush and has clinical research interest in designing and implementing clinical trials to test novel immunotherapies and targeted therapies for renal cell carcinoma and genitourinary malignancies. He also has interest in precision genomic cancer medicine, identifying molecular alterations that will serve as targets for individualized treatment strategies.

As the executive officer for the Alliance, Dr. Tan is currently assigned as study champion to S1931 Phase III Trial of Immunotherapy-based Combination Therapy with or without Cytoreductive Nephrectomy for Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma (PROBE Trial). This trial compares the effect of adding surgery to a standard of care immunotherapy-based drug combination versus a standard of care immunotherapy-based drug combination alone in treating patients with metastatic kidney cancer.

Dr. Tan is also working to activate several study concepts, including one about adding maintenance targeted therapy with immunotherapy in metastatic bladder cancer and another study concept of adding a PARP inhibitor + anti-androgen in metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer. Dr. Tan plans to submit his own study concept in renal cell carcinoma and eventually become a study chair.