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James F. Amatruda, MD, PhD, is Director of the Cancer and Blood Disease Institute and Chief of the Division of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology at Children's Hospital Los Angeles; Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine; and Associate Director for Pediatric Oncology, Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Southern California. He holds the Alfred E. Mann Family Foundation Chair in Cancer Research. Dr. Amatruda received his Bachelor's degree in Biochemical Sciences from Harvard University and his MD, PhD degree from Washington University School of Medicine. He did internship and residency training in Internal Medicine at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA, followed by fellowship training in Medical Oncology at Dana-Farber/Partners Cancer Care in Boston, MA. He was a Postdoctoral Fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Leonard Zon at Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. From 2005-2019, Dr. Amatruda was on the faculty of UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX.

Dr. Amatruda is a physician-scientist with a primary research and clinical focus on solid tumors of childhood including sarcomas, germ cell tumors and Wilms tumor. He has published more than 120 peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts focused on pediatric cancer genomics, identification of novel therapies, and zebrafish models of pediatric solid tumors. He led a project in the UT Southwestern Kidney Cancer SPORE and is co-PI of two NIH U54 Centers, one focused on developing new therapies for Ewing Sarcoma and the other on advanced cancer cell imaging and metastasis. Work in the Amatruda lab is also supported by several foundations including Curing Kids Cancer, the St. Baldrick's Foundation and Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation. Dr. Amatruda is an Editor of the journal Disease Models and Mechanisms. He has had long-standing leadership positions in the Children's Oncology Group; serving as Chair for the Germ Cell Tumor Biology Committee and the Rare Tumors Biology Committee. He also serves on the Scientific Advisory Boards of the William Guy Forbeck Foundation, the Pablove Foundation, Curing Kids Cancer and the Sam Day Foundation.