

**Elizabeth J. Shpall, MD**

**Howard and Lee Smith Professor of Cancer Research at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC), Director of the GMP and Core Cell Therapy Laboratories, Director of the Cord Blood Bank and Chair Ad Interim of the Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy Department**

**The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center**

**Houston, TX**

Dr. Elizabeth J. Shpall is the Howard and Lee Smith Professor of Cancer Research at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC). She is the Director of the GMP and Core Cell Therapy Laboratories, Director of the Cord Blood Bank and Chair Ad Interim of the Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy Department. She is an internationally recognized expert and leader in the field of stem cell biology, hematology, and clinical hematopoietic transplantation for the treatment of cancer. Dr. Shpall pioneered development of strategies for ex-vivo expansion of stem cells and novel strategies addressing obstacles of successful cord blood transplantation, improving outcomes for patients. As the founding president of the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cell Therapy (FACT), her visionary translational research has advanced the field and set international standards for stem cell and cord blood transplantation and more recently immune effector cell therapy. She founded and grew to prominence the MD Anderson Cord Blood Bank. This vital resource provides cord blood stem cells for transplantation and cellular therapy for cancer and neurologic diseases, collecting over 110,000 units and providing stem cells for transplantation and cellular therapy for other diseases to more than 2,200 patients in need worldwide. Dr. Shpall has authored more than 500 papers/chapters and is the Principal Investigator on numerous grants and trials. She serves as the Leader of the Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy Program of the MD Anderson Cancer Center Support Grant. She was elected by her MDACC peers to receive the Irwin H. Krakoff Award for Excellence in Clinical Research, and the Otis W. and Pearl L. Walters Faculty Achievement Award in Clinical Research. She has received the MD Anderson President's Recognition for Faculty Excellence Award and the R. Lee Clark Prize for Excellence-Clinical Faculty. She was awarded the 2017 ASCO Women Who Conquer Cancer Mentorship Award, and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine Drake Medal, which is the highest recognition bestowed upon its former graduates for their contributions to academic medicine. Dr. Shpall was inducted into the Association of American Physicians (AAP) in 2018 and since 2018 serves on the Board of Scientific Advisors for the National Heart Lung and Blood Intramural Program. She has held more than ten investigator-initiated INDs for stem cell expansion and engineering studies. She and her team have developed several different strategies to enhance cord blood engraftment (ex vivo expansion and improved homing). She is the Principal Investigator on the Texas Medical Center Regenerative Medicine grant evaluating mesenchymal stem cell therapy for cancer patients with lung, cardiac and brain injuries. She also Co-leads the burgeoning institutional CARTOX program providing critical oversight in the diagnosis management of patients receiving chimeric antigen receptor-based therapies. Dr. Shpall is a current board member of FACT, and a past president of the American Society of Blood and Marrow Transplantation (ASBMT).