

## Toni Qian Cao, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor, Adult Neurology

### CLINICAL OFFICE (PRIMARY)

- **Neuro-Oncology**

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### Bio

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#### BIO

Dr. Toni Qian Cao is a board-certified, fellowship-trained neuro-oncologist with Stanford Health Care.

Dr. Cao specializes in caring for brain and spine tumors, including low grade glioma and glioblastoma. She also has expertise in cancer that has spread (metastasized) to parts of the central nervous system (CNS), such as the brain and the tissues that surround the brain and spinal cord (leptomeninges). She is committed to providing the highest quality care while prioritizing the goals and needs of her patients. She offers compassionate treatment and cancer management, with deep knowledge of tumor therapies and neurological complications of cancer.

Dr. Cao's research focuses on improving the identification and treatment of brain tumors and metastases. She has investigated factors that impact the development of brain metastases from breast cancer, as well as treatment for leptomeningeal metastases from breast cancer. She has studied combination treatments for glioblastoma, a type of malignant brain tumor. She is also interested in novel neuroimaging techniques for both primary and metastatic CNS tumors.

Dr. Cao has published her research in peer-reviewed journals, including Journal of Neuro-Oncology; Neurology; and the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics. She has also written a book chapter on common early symptoms of CNS metastases.

Dr. Cao has presented her findings nationally at annual meetings of the American Academy of Neurology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, and Society for Neuro-Oncology. She has also spoken on panels and at regional conferences, including the Annual NeuroTech Convention of Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics.

Dr. Cao is a member of the American Academy of Neurology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, and Society for Neuro-Oncology.

#### CLINICAL FOCUS

- Neuro-oncology
- Brain metastases
- Metabolic neuroimaging

- Neurology

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Clinical Assistant Professor, Adult Neurology

## ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Ad Hoc Reviewer, Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics, (2025- present)
- Ad Hoc Reviewer, Journal of Neuro-Oncology, (2025- present)

## BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Member, Society for Neuro-Oncology (2023 - present)
- Member, American Society of Clinical Oncology (2023 - present)
- Member, American Academy of Neurology (2020 - present)

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Fellowship: Stanford Hospital and Clinics Neuro-Oncology Fellowship (2025) CA
- Board Certification: Neurology, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (2023)
- Residency: McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University (2023) IL
- Internship: McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University (2020) IL
- Medical Education: Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine (2019) IL
- Board Certification, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology , Neurology (2023)
- Residency, McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University , Neurology (2023)
- MD, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine (2019)

## Publications

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### PUBLICATIONS

- **An updated review on systemic therapy for brain metastases in non-small cell lung cancer.** *Translational cancer research*  
Louis, S., Aboubekara, J. P., Saigal, K., Cao, T., Nagpal, S.  
2025; 14 (12): 9053-9062
- **Real-world use of IDH inhibitors in a Broad IDH-mutant Glioma Population**  
Louis, S., Cao, T., Solomon, D., Iv, M., Nagpal, S.  
OXFORD UNIV PRESS INC.2025: v336
- **A novel therapeutic strategy using a single non-toxic agent that produces consistent long-term control of orthotopic experimental glioblastomas**  
Khojasteh, A., Pisani, L., Kiebish, M., Cao, T., Nagpal, S., Nastke, M., Adamson, P., Beinat, C., Gesta, S., Hurd, R., Spielman, D., Recht, L.  
OXFORD UNIV PRESS INC.2025: v452-v453
- **Molecular testing and targeting for solid tumors with CNS metastases.** *Journal of neuro-oncology*  
Therkelsen, K. E., Cao, T., Roy-O'Reilly, M., Stocksdales, B., Nagpal, S.  
2025
- **Precision medicine approaches to CNS metastatic disease.** *Advances in cancer research*  
Cao, T., Roy-O'Reilly, M., Nagpal, S.  
2025; 165: 57-114
- **Durable responses to trastuzumab deruxtecan in patients with leptomeningeal metastases from breast cancer with variable HER2 expression.** *Journal of neuro-oncology*  
Rogawski, D., Cao, T., Ma, Q., Roy-O'Reilly, M., Yao, L., Xu, N., Nagpal, S.

2024

- **A phase II study of plerixafor combined with whole brain radiation therapy (WBRT) for patients with newly diagnosed glioblastoma**  
Cao, T., Gu, Y., Yagmurlu, B., Yerraballa, H., Bertrand, S., Naya, L., Miller, K., Iv, M., Soltys, S. G., Patel, C. B., Nagpal, S., Thomas, R., Brown, et al  
LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS.2024
- **Ready to INDIGO: Vorasidenib Ushers in the Era of Isocitrate Dehydrogenase Inhibition in Low-Grade Glioma.** *International journal of radiation oncology, biology, physics*  
Lanman, T. A., Cao, T. Q., Miller, J. J., Nagpal, S.  
2024; 118 (2): 334-336
- **Differential Diagnosis of Tumor-like Brain Lesions.** *Neurology. Clinical practice*  
Perez Giraldo, G. S., Singer, L., Cao, T., Jamshidi, P., Dixit, K., Kontzialis, M., Castellani, R., Pytel, P., Anadani, N., Bevan, C. J., Grebenciucova, E., Balabanov, R., Cohen, et al  
2023; 13 (5): e200182
- **Next Steps for Immunotherapy in Glioblastoma.** *Cancers*  
Cao, T. Q., Wainwright, D. A., Lee-Chang, C., Miska, J., Sonabend, A. M., Heimberger, A. B., Lukas, R. V.  
2022; 14 (16)
- **Clinical Reasoning: A 77-Year-Old Man With Involuntary Movements, Sleep Changes, Falls, Bulbar Symptoms, and Cognitive Complaints.** *Neurology*  
Cao, T. Q., Harris, G. R., Lineback, C. M., Sokol, L. L., Mencacci, N., Opal, P.  
2022; 99 (1): 26-30
- **Factors affecting time to brain metastases for stage 2 and 3 breast cancer patients: A large single-institutional analysis with potential screening implications.** *Neuro-oncology advances*  
Cao, T. Q., Dixit, K., Santa-Maria, C., Kumthekar, P.  
2021; 3 (1): vdab009