

April, 2009

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CCOP NEWS

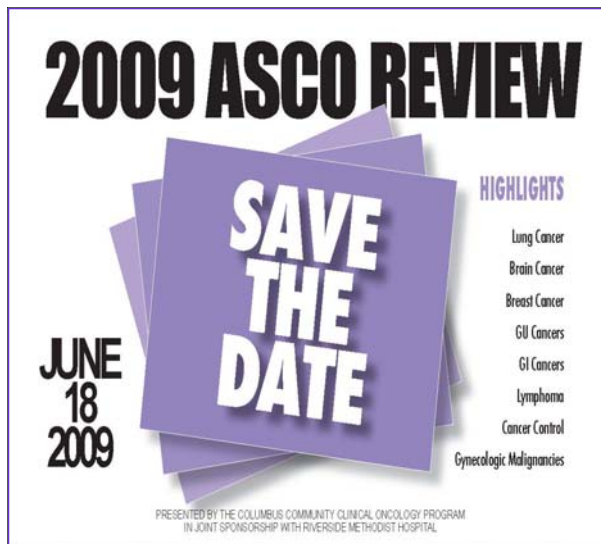


A Community of Caring in Cancer Research

Columbus Community Clinical Oncology Program

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Join your colleagues to hear the latest information in oncology presented by *eight nationally recognized speakers*. Registration brochures will be mailed soon, or you can register by visiting www.columbusccop.org.



Gynecologic Malignancies
Dr. Maurie Markman
MD Anderson Cancer Center

Lung Cancer
Dr. Mark Socinski
University of North Carolina

Brain Cancer
Dr. Mark Gilbert
MD Anderson Cancer Center

GU Cancers
Dr. Derek Raghavan
Cleveland Clinic

Breast Cancer
Dr. Claudine Isaacs
Georgetown University

GI Cancers
Dr. Richard Goldberg
University of North Carolina

Lymphoma
Dr. Richard Fisher
James P Wilmot Cancer Center

Cancer Control
Dr. Charles Loprinzi
Mayo Clinic

APRIL IS CANCER CONTROL MONTH

April is National Cancer Control Month. The purpose of cancer control is to promote healthy lifestyles, cancer screenings, increase access to quality cancer care, and improve quality of life for cancer patients and survivors.

Cancer Control is a very important topic for the Columbus CCOP. We continue to encourage members to screen patients to see if they are eligible for available CCOP Cancer Control studies. There are currently 8 cancer control studies open. See page 2 for details.

Visit the following web sites to learn more about Cancer Control:

- <http://cancercontrolplanet.cancer.gov/>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/>



OUR MISSION: The Columbus Community Clinical Oncology Program (Columbus CCOP) strives to deliver state-of-the-art cancer care to patients in their communities through clinical trials. This allows individuals to remain in their own neighborhoods while receiving the latest and best in cancer screenings, diagnostic care and treatment plans.

Please send newsletter comments to steveo@columbusccop.org



Hello everyone. It usually happens about this time of the year. The weather warms up and so do accruals. This is another reason I like spring time!

We have some interesting new cancer control trials. One study (SWOG S0702) in particular should finally give us the true incidence of osteonecrosis of the jaw in patients on Zometa. Any of your patients who have started this agent within 90 days are eligible. Another trial will provide information on Paclitaxel-associated acute pain syndrome via questionnaire after treatment. Please consider one of these trials for your patients. Registration is easy and both studies will likely be followed by larger phase III international trials.

Many of us at Columbus CCOP central are watching the mail because we should receive the request for application (RFA) documentation for our 5 year competitive grant any day. This grant is our major source of funding and our past success is what keeps our designation as a CCOP. As we write and prepare our grant request, we may request updated curriculum vitae, or other information, from our member institutions. Your assistance and cooperation will be greatly appreciated!

Good news! I am happy to announce that both candidates for Columbus CCOP Assistant PI have agreed to serve in that position. Dr. Mark Knapp and Dr. Nse Ntukidem will assist me as we move into another grant cycle. In anticipation of your questions and thoughts, yes, I am getting a little longer in the tooth (I am having a significant birthday in a few months), and no, I have no intention of stepping down as Columbus CCOP PI. Of course my tenure is controlled by the Columbus CCOP Board of Directors. Both the board and myself recognize the importance of having a back-up. Mark and Nse have graciously agreed to help out and, at the same time, learn about the “magical” workings of CCOPs. We have a great organization and successful consortium throughout central and southern Ohio due to member institution’s efforts and skills. When you see Mark and Nse, congratulate them! Let them know if there is anything we can do to make research easier to accomplish at your institution.

Have a great month.



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COLUMBUS CCOP DONATIONS

The Columbus Community Clinical Oncology Program is a community based non-profit organization with a mission to deliver state-of-the-art cancer care to patients in their communities through clinical trials.

We accept, and are extremely grateful for, private donations from individuals. The Columbus CCOP is a 501 (c)(3) organization and your contribution is tax deductible.

You can help support the Columbus CCOP in the following ways:

You can fill out a donation form and mail your check to the address shown at the bottom of the form. Go to:

<http://www.columbusccop.org/news/nletters/CCOP%20Donation%20Form.pdf>

You can also make a credit card donation through the Columbus Foundation at:

www.columbusfoundation.org.



JANET HARVEY'S MISSION TRIP

It is common to hear about a Columbus CCOP member who gives generously to those needing help. Janet Harvey, a Columbus CCOP Research Nurse, is certainly one of those people. Janet recently returned from a 1 week mission trip to Honduras where she worked with a team in a small mountain village with a goal of providing healthcare and food for people living there. The team consisted of a physician, Janet and 1 other nurse, and 18 college students. They flew to Choluteca, Honduras and then traveled in 2 army trucks to a mountain village of about 500 residents. The region was very remote and they sometimes had to get out of the vehicle and walk because the roads were narrow, primitive and dangerous. Many of the people there had never received medical care or seen a vehicle.



The mission team accomplished several very important things while there. They provided health care including diagnosis and treatment of health problems. The most common problems treated were intestinal parasites and infections. The mission team had drugs available to treat many of the common illnesses and found it extremely rewarding to provide help where none would otherwise be available. Malnutrition was a significant problem in both children and adults. Mission team members also provided education about health issues such as hygiene and nutrition. Many of the village people were unaware of germs ... if you can't see them they must not exist! Village residents had very little knowledge or understanding of basic good healthcare practices. The mission team also provided spiritual support.



This was Janet's 4th year on the mission, which is sponsored by 11 churches from across the United States. Janet also sponsors an 11 year old girl, Dayanna, who lives in Choluteca. She believes strongly that work such as this keeps a person's life in perspective. It is rewarding to make a very real difference in the lives of those living in poverty and it is certainly a reminder of the abundance we enjoy living in the United States. Janet also pointed out that every donation makes a dramatic difference. \$30 can feed a family of 4 for a month! Generosity with our time and money really does matter. When you see Janet, be sure and ask how you can support her in this extremely worthwhile effort ... and be sure to thank her!



Janet and Dayanna



NEW STRECKER CANCER CENTER

The new Strecker Cancer Center at Marietta Memorial Hospital has been under construction for several months. The team of physicians and nurses there hope to move into their new home in late April, 2009. They are anxious to work in this beautiful new facility that is designed to make patients comfortable as possible. Visitors may attend the grand opening scheduled May 21st from 5:00 PM—7:00 PM. We will keep you updated!



2009 UPDATE ON MELANOMA



Dr. John Kirkwood

The Columbus CCOP presented the 2009 Update on Melanoma, featuring Dr. John Kirkwood, on April 2nd. Dr. Kirkwood, Director, Melanoma Center, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, presented Systemic Medical Therapy of Melanoma followed by a question and answer period with the audience. Feedback from the audience was very positive. The Columbus CCOP is grateful for the support of Bristol Myers-Squibb, Cephalon, Novartis and Schering Plough, which made this program possible.



Dr. Philip Kuebler

NCI TRIAL NEWS

As emphasized in prior months, the Columbus CCOP's goal is to accrue 110 cancer control credits this year. We have a few weeks left to close a gap of over 70 credits. Columbus CCOP members are asked to continue their focus of screening new patients to determine if they are eligible for cancer control studies. Below is a list of cancer control trials currently available through the Columbus CCOP. As always ... thank you for your support!



ECOG E5597	Phase III Chemoprevention Trial of Selenium Supplementation in Persons with Resected Stage 1 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer
HLMCC 0501	Stress Management Therapy for Patients Undergoing Chemotherapy. Open for Hispanic patients only.
NCCTG N04CA	Pilocarpine for Vaginal Dryness: A Phase III Randomized, Double Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study
NCCTG N07C2	The Use of Wisconsin Ginseng (<i>panax quinquefolius</i>) to Improve Cancer-Related Fatigue: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Phase III Study
NCCTG N08C1	Paclitaxel-Associated Acute Pain Syndrome Natural History Study
SWOG S0424	Molecular Epidemiology Case-Series Study of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer in Smoking and Non-Smoking Women and Men
SWOG S0702	A prospective observational multicenter cohort study to assess the incidence of osteonecrosis of the jaw in patients with bone metastases starting zoledronic acid
URCC 07079	Prevention of Pegfilgrastim-Induced Bone Pain (PIBP): A Phase III Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial
URCC U1105	Prevention of Delayed Nausea - A Phase III Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial
URCC U1701	Dyspnea in Cancer Patients

Protocol and consent forms can be found at www.columbusccop.org

Please remember to consider cancer control protocols found in the Columbus CCOP protocol book.