

Sept / Oct, 2009

Columbus CCOP  
1335 Dublin Road, Suite  
124-A  
Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: 614-488-2118  
Fax: 614-488-2647  
[www.columbusccop.org](http://www.columbusccop.org)

# CCOP NEWS



A Community of Caring in Cancer Research

## Columbus Community Clinical Oncology Program



### OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

The National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is dedicated to increasing awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States. According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer death rates have been on the decline since 1990, with declining rates among women younger than 50. Researchers attribute those declines to early detection through screening, such as mammography, and improvements in treatment. Regular mammograms are used to find breast cancer early, sometimes up to three years before it can be felt. When breast cancer is found early, many women go on to live long and healthy lives. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests most women should have their first mammogram at age 40 and then have another mammogram every one or two years. Women with a higher risk of breast cancer should talk with their doctor about the best approach for them. This might mean starting mammograms when they are younger, having extra tests such as an MRI, or having more frequent exams. Schedule your exam today! For more information, please visit:

American Cancer Society: <http://www.cancer.org/>  
National Cancer Institute: <http://www.cancer.gov/>  
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/>



### COMING SOON: GOG CLINICAL TRIALS

The Columbus CCOP plans to offer a select number of Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG) clinical trials to its members as they become available through the CTSU network. We will provide details about specific trials in the coming weeks.

You can visit the CTSU website at: <https://www.ctsu.org/>

**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](mailto:steveo@columbusccop.org)

## DR. KUEBLER'S CCOP UPDATES

I guess there are times when even a CCOP PI has little new information to share, and this may be such a month. We continue to hum along with business as usual (at times you can almost hear the singing in the CCOP central office).

We are working on opening new oncology clinical research opportunities for your patients in the areas of radiotherapy, gynecologic oncology and neuro-oncology. I will update you about these initiatives at a later date. Meanwhile, we continue to monitor accruals to both treatment and cancer control studies. We will hopefully improve cancer control activity with some new trials, including a study of exercise on cancer related fatigue. Look for this trial in the protocol book during the next month or so.

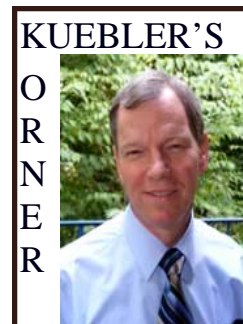
Of course, what would a month be without audits? ECOG will be visiting our little spot of paradise here in central Ohio over the next few months! With the upcoming audits it's never too late to get your data into the CCOP office. Actually, the data can be late, as defined by our timelines. So please remember that a study's conclusion is as robust as the quality and timeliness of the data, on which it entirely rests.

Well ... Halloween is coming up, so enjoy your tricks and treats ...

and be safe!



Columbus CCOP Principal Investigator



## NCI TRIAL NEWS

The following trials are now open for accrual:

**ASOSOG Z1071:** A Phase II Study Evaluating the Role of Sentinel Lymph Node Surgery and Axillary Lymph Node Dissection Following Preoperative Chemotherapy in Women with Node Positive Breast Cancer (T1-4, N1-2, M0) at Initial Diagnosis

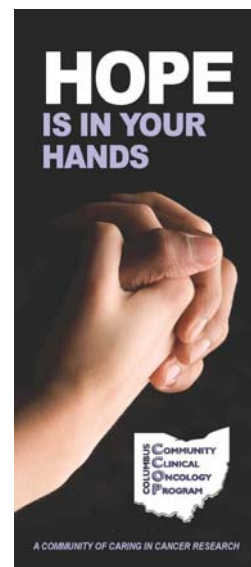
**CALGB 90601:** A Randomized Double-Blinded Phase III Study Comparing Gemcitabine, Cisplatin and Bevacizumab to Gemcitabine, Cisplatin and Placebo in Patients with Advanced Transitional Cell Carcinoma

**ECOG E1508:** A Randomized Phase II Study of Cisplatin and Etoposide in Combination with Either Hedgehog Inhibitor GDC-0449 or IGF A-12 for Patients with Extensive Stage Small Cell Lung Cancer

**NCCTG N054C:** Phase II Study of Sorafenib/Bevacizumab as Salvage Therapy in Patients with Metastatic Colorectal Cancer

The focus on **cancer control** trials continues this year. Columbus CCOP members are asked to screen new patients to determine if they are eligible to participate.

**Protocols and consent forms can be found at [www.columbusccop.org](http://www.columbusccop.org)**





Please welcome the following Research Nurses to the Columbus CCOP:

Portia Schiming, RN, joined with Riverside Methodist Hospital in September.

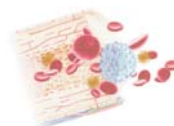
Michelle Majoy, RN, joined Licking Memorial Hospital in March.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**October 25, 2009: Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.** Help the American Cancer Society fight breast cancer by participating in this annual event. This five kilometer event will start at COSI. Registration begins at 8:30 am and the walk/run starts at 10:00 am. Please visit [www.cancer.org/stridesonline](http://www.cancer.org/stridesonline) for more information.



**January 28, 2010: Multiple Myeloma.** Mark your calendar for this CME evening program presented by Dr. Don M. Benson Jr., MD, PhD. Additional details and registration information will be available soon.



## **CCOP Anniversary**

Please congratulate Debby Halk who recently celebrated her 12th anniversary with the Columbus CCOP! Debby came to the Columbus CCOP in 1997 from the Grant Medical Center, where she was an Oncology Nurse. She is an excellent “go to” Clinical Research Manager because of her vast knowledge about protocols and regulations. She also participates as an auditor for SWOG and NCCTG.



## **Optimizing the Management of Myelodysplastic Syndromes**

Dr. William Blum, Assistant Professor of Medicine, The Ohio State University, presented Optimizing the Management of MDS on September 16th, 2009. This CME program was hosted by the Columbus CCOP and was made available through an educational grant from Celgene Corporation to OptumHealth. Over 50 physicians, nurses and healthcare professionals attended to hear Dr. Blum’s updates.



Dr. Ntukidem (left) and Dr. Blum (right)

## **Journal of Clinical Oncology**

Dr. Philip Kuebler, Columbus CCOP Principal Investigator, recently contributed an article to the Journal of Clinical Oncology titled Radioembolization of Liver Metastases in Patients With Colorectal Cancer: A Nonsurgical Treatment With Combined Modality Potential. It can be found in Vol 27, No 25 (September 1), 2009: pages 4041-4042. It can also be found at <http://jco.ascopubs.org/cgi/content/full/27/25/4041>.

## COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Did you know that singing or humming Yankee Doodle can help prevent the spread of germs?

Because of the plethora of various infectious diseases this fall, the Columbus CCOP plans to be to be very careful and proactive.

Here are some of the practice guidelines we plan follow:

First and foremost: **WASH YOUR HANDS.** Proper hand-washing is the number one best way to curtail the spread of germs. Just by humming the tune Yankee Doodle or Happy Birthday you'll spend the necessary 15 seconds the task of proper hand washing! Alcohol based hand cleaners are also effective.

Second: Always remember to sneeze or cough into a tissue. It helps stop the spread of tiny droplets containing viral germs. Alcohol based hand cleaners are also effective.

You can find more information by visiting:

- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)
- Ohio Department of Health: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/>



Columbus CCOP  
Executive Director