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Donation helps bring novel cancer therapies to Lake Forest through clinical trials

This summer, the [Northwestern Medicine Developmental Therapeutics Institute \(NMDTI\)](#) will begin offering patients with cancer in the North Chicago suburbs easier access to novel clinical trials with a new clinic location at [Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital](#). The new NMDTI clinic was made possible with the help of a significant donation from Lake Forest, Ill. residents, Guy and Janice Arvia. NMDTI is dedicated to providing patients in need of cancer treatment with access to innovative therapies using early and later phase human clinical trials.

“We wanted to help increase the number of treatment options available for cancer patients living in the northern suburbs,” said Guy Arvia. “It is very exciting to know that NMDTI will be able to provide exactly that here in Lake Forest through high quality clinical trials.”

NMDTI was established in downtown Chicago in 2013 with a focus on accelerating the translation of preclinical medical breakthroughs into better therapies for patients through support from the [Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University](#), [Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine](#) and [Northwestern Memorial Hospital](#).

“Bringing NMDTI to Lake Forest Hospital will allow us to offer patients in the suburbs new options for their cancer care that aren’t available anywhere else in the Chicago area,” said [Valerie Nelson, MD](#), medical oncologist and director of the NMDTI clinic being created at Lake Forest Hospital. “Our Lake Forest patients can expect not only the best standard of care cancer treatments but also cutting edge therapies available through the clinical trials at our NMDTI clinic.”

The contribution from Guy and Janice Arvia is part of a \$2 million philanthropic pledge by the [Women's Board of Lake Forest Hospital](#) in support of the campaign for the [new Lake Forest Hospital campus](#). While the new hospital is scheduled to open in 2017, the Lake Forest Hospital NMDTI clinic is planning to start seeing patients this summer.

“With their gift, the Arvias have helped NMDTI further its mission of making novel therapies and clinical trials more widely available to cancer patients and advancing the translation of laboratory-based discoveries into effective therapeutic agents,” said [Francis J. Giles, MD](#), deputy director of the Lurie Cancer Center and director of NMDTI.

“We will rapidly expand our tissue-agnostic studies to Lake Forest Hospital. These studies allow us to use a treatment developed to target the genetic characteristics of multiple cancer types that may seem different from each other on the surface, but actually share genetic targets and therefore therapeutic approaches. We are increasingly using new molecular tests to define those targets in our Northwestern [Onco-SET program](#).”

To learn more about NMDTI and how to enroll in a developmental therapeutics clinical trial, please call 312-472-1234 or 855-82-NMDTI (855-826-6384), or visit www.nmdti.org

About Northwestern Medicine Developmental Therapeutics Institute

The Northwestern Medicine Developmental Therapeutics Institute (NMDTI), a joint venture between Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, provides the infrastructure and expertise to accelerate the developmental therapeutics process. With dedicated patient care facilities, experienced physician-scientists, and specialized advanced practice providers, pharmacists, and allied staff, NMDTI brings a large external pipeline of investigational agents to our patients while accelerating the development of Northwestern University’s internal pipeline of novel therapies. The NMDTI Developmental Therapeutics Fellowship, supported by the Woman’s Board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital, focuses on nurturing physician scientists whose career is dedicated to the development of novel approaches to curing cancer.

About Northwestern Medicine®

Northwestern Medicine® is the collaboration between Northwestern Memorial HealthCare and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine around a strategic vision to transform the future of healthcare. It encompasses the research, teaching and patient care activities of the academic medical center. Sharing a commitment to superior quality, academic excellence and patient safety, the organizations within Northwestern Medicine comprise more than 9,000 clinical and administrative staff, 3,100 medical and science faculty and 700 students. The entities involved in Northwestern Medicine remain separate organizations. Northwestern Medicine is a trademark of Northwestern Memorial HealthCare and is used by Northwestern University.

About Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital

Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital is a wholly owned entity of Northwestern Memorial HealthCare. The 201-bed hospital has more than 700 physicians board-certified in 90 medical specialties, located at its Lake Forest and Grayslake campuses and at facilities in Deerfield, Evanston, Glenview, Gurnee-Brookside, Gurnee-Tower Court, Libertyville, Lindenhurst and Vernon Hills. Lake Forest Hospital is ranked among Illinois' "Best Hospitals" by U.S. News & World Report. It has been named the Consumer Choice hospital in Lake and Kenosha counties for ten years in a row by National Research Corporation. It receives an "A" Hospital Safety Score from the nonprofit Leapfrog Group and is a Magnet hospital, having earned the country's highest recognition for patient care and nursing. For more information, visit lfh.org.

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