INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
- Lurie Cancer Center News - 1
- Awards and Honors - 4
- Professional and Public Programs - 5
- Grand Rounds - 6
- Tumor Cell Biology - 7
- New Members - 8
- New Staff - 9

Soy May Stop Prostate Cancer Spread
Experimental soy-based drug shows benefits in men with localized prostate cancer

A new, nontoxic drug made from a chemical in soy could prevent the movement of cancer cells from the prostate to the rest of the body, according to data presented at the Ninth Annual AACR “Frontiers in Cancer Prevention Research” Conference. Genistein, a natural chemical found in soy, is being used in the lab of Raymond Bergan, MD, Director of Experimental Therapeutics at the Lurie Cancer Center, to inhibit prostate cancer cells from becoming metastatic and spreading to other parts of the body. So far the cancer therapy drug has worked in preclinical animal studies and now shows benefits in humans with prostate cancer.

A recent phase II randomized study of 38 men with localized prostate cancer found that genistein, when given once a day as a pill, one month prior to surgery, had beneficial effects on prostate cancer cells. Researchers examined the cancer cells from the subjects’ prostates after surgery and found that genistein increased the expression of genes that suppress the invasion of cancer cells and decreased the expression of genes that enhance invasion.

“The first step is to see if the drug has the effect that you want on the cells and the prostate, and the answer is ‘yes, it does,’” said Bergan, Professor of Hematology and Oncology at the Feinberg School of Medicine and a physician at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

The next step is to conduct another phase II study to see if the drug can stop the cancer cells from moving out of the prostate and into the rest of the body, Bergan said. If confirmed, Bergan said this could be the first therapy for any cancer that is non-toxic and targets and inhibits cancer cell movement.

in humans have basically failed have because they have been ineffective or toxic,” Bergan said. “If this drug can effectively stop prostate cancer from moving in the body, theoretically, a similar therapy could have the same effect on the cells of other cancers.”

Share the Holiday Spirit
The Lurie Cancer Center is collecting NEW unwrapped toys for children treated at Northwestern’s Radiation Oncology Center.

Boxes are available for drop off through January 14th, in the following locations:
- Galter Pavilion, 21st floor, near staff elevator
- Prentice Women's Hospital, 15th floor, staff lounge
- Prentice Women's Hospital, 4th floor
- Olson Pavilion, 8th floor
- 676 N. St. Clair, 12th floor, suite 1200, reception
- Lurie Medical Research Center, 3rd floor, Director’s offices

Your gift will brighten a child’s day!
Northwestern University, a leader in cancer nanotechnology research, has received a five-year, $12 million grant from the NCI to leverage the advantages of nanotechnology to improve the way cancer is diagnosed and treated. Results will be disseminated to the wider research community for ultimate translation to the clinic. The Northwestern University Center of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence (NU-CCNE) will focus on developing nanomaterials and nanodevices primarily for application in brain, breast and pancreatic cancer diagnostics and therapeutics, with potential for use in other forms of cancer.

Northwestern is one of only nine institutions across the country, and the only one in the Midwest, to receive a CCNE award in this second funding phase of the NCI Alliance for Nanotechnology in Cancer Program. (Northwestern’s first CCNE received NCI support from 2005 to 2010.) Augmenting the NCI CCNE grant, a $2.1 million award from the Chicago Biomedical Consortium (CBC) will establish a new facility enabling NU-CCNE discoveries to be shared with CBC-affiliated biology laboratories at no cost, broadening the impact of the center’s research.

“The support from the National Cancer Institute and the CBC will enable researchers to continue to make significant cancer-relevant discoveries that ultimately can be transferred to the clinic,” said Steven T. Rosen, MD, Co-Director of the NU-CCNE, Genevieve Teuton Professor of Medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine and Director of the Lurie Cancer Center. The NU-CCNE combines the strengths and resources of the Lurie Cancer Center and Northwestern’s International Institute for Nanotechnology (IIN). Nanoscientists, cancer biologists, engineers and clinicians from Northwestern will work together on five research projects making up the center. Many will collaborate with researchers from the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

“Nanotechnology is a key driver of advances in cancer detection and treatment, and Northwestern has played a major role in developing this field,” said Chad A. Mirkin, PhD, Co-Director of the NU-CCNE, George B. Rathmann Professor of Chemistry in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, and IIN Director.

For more information, visit cancer.northwestern.edu.

Northwestern Receives $1.9 Million Cancer Nanotechnology Partnership Platform (CNPP)

As part of the NCI Alliance for Nanotechnology in Cancer Program, Northwestern also has received a CNPP Grant of $1.9 million over five years for a project focused on the treatment of metastatic breast and ovarian cancer. This work was initiated in the University’s first CCNE program.

The CNPP grant will support a project titled “Tumor Targeted Nanobins for the Treatment of Metastatic Breast and Ovarian Cancer” led by Thomas O’Halloran, PhD, Charles E. and Emma H. Morrison Professor of Chemistry, Director of the CLP, and Associate Director for Basic Sciences Research at the Lurie Cancer Center and Vincent Cryns, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine at Feinberg and Director of the SUCCEED Breast Cancer (Survivor Comprehensive Care, Empowerment and Education) Program.
Minesh Mehta Joins Radiation Oncology

Minesh Mehta, MD, has joined Northwestern University as Professor of Radiation Oncology. He brings expertise in the treatment of both lung and brain tumors and will work with colleagues in the Department of Thoracic Surgery and the Northwestern Brain Tumor Institute to expand the clinical trial program and invigorate clinical research. He maintains an active interest in radiation-drug interactions, amelioration of radiation toxicities, incorporation of advanced radiation and imaging technologies, and is keenly interested in expanding the frontiers of personalized care in radiotherapy.

Dr. Mehta comes to Northwestern from the University of Wisconsin’s School of Medicine and Public Health, where he was most recently a professor in the Department of Human Oncology. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) since 2006, and Chair of the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG) Brain Tumor Committee since 1998. From 2001 to 2005, Dr. Mehta served on and eventually chaired the FDA Radiological Devices Panel. He has published extensively, focusing in the areas of radiation therapy and translational and clinical cancer research, provided leadership for over 100 clinical trials through clinical trials cooperative groups and led international, randomized multicenter clinical trials.

Spanish-Language Website Provides Information about Cancer Patients’ Fertility

Spanish-speaking cancer patients have a new website to gain information about the effects of cancer treatments on fertility and the options available to them to preserve their fertility. Many life-saving cancer treatments, such as chemotherapy and radiation, increase the risk of infertility in men, women, and children.

MyOncofertility.org, a website created by Northwestern University in 2007 to communicate fertility preservation options to cancer patients, now has a Spanish-language version. The new Spanish-language site is Es.MyOncofertility.org.

Both websites are a project of Northwestern’s Oncofertility Consortium, a national group of scientists who investigate and expand the fertility options of cancer survivors. “It’s critical to communicate directly to people of color, including Spanish-language speakers, because research shows that doctors of these patients are less likely to suggest preventive care,” said Teresa Woodruff, PhD, Director of the Oncofertility Consortium.

In addition to discussing fertility preservation options, Es.MyOncofertility.org includes patient testimonials, animations of fertility preservation techniques and links to support groups.

1011 by 2011—Help us Reach our Goal!

Help the Lurie Cancer Center reach our goal of 1011 fans by 2011. Stay connected to news and events at the Lurie Cancer Center and share your point of view. Join us on Facebook and encourage your friends to “like” us too!
Awards and Honors

Navdeep Chandel, PhD, and Vincent Cryns, MD, have been awarded Dixon Translational Research Grants for FY11. The grants are awarded to Northwestern investigators for innovative multi-disciplinary clinical and translational research collaborations that accelerate the identification and implementation of new treatments to improve human health. Dr. Chandel will pursue research targeting SOD1 for treatment of lung cancer. Dr. Cryns will examine the potential for dual antiangiogenic and cytotoxic nanostructures as a novel breast cancer therapy.

Vincent Cryns, MD, William Gradishar, MD, and Charles Clevenger, MD, were honored at the Breast Cancer Research Foundation Symposium and Annual Awards Luncheon in New York as “Superheroes of Breast Cancer Research.” President Clinton spoke at the luncheon about efforts to eradicate breast cancer by 2020.

Dean Ho, PhD, has received the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation Phase II Translational Research Award. The award, which provides funding for professors in established biomedical engineering departments within the United States, seeks to support biomedical research that is translational in nature, and to encourage and assist eligible biomedical engineering investigators to establish themselves in academic careers involving translational research.

Chad Mirkin, PhD, is the first at Northwestern University and in the Midwest, and the 10th in the world to be elected to all three branches of the National Academies. Recently elected a member of the prestigious Institute of Medicine, he was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences earlier this year and a member of the National Academy of Engineering in 2009.

Northwestern Memorial Hospital received the National Research Corporation’s (NRC) Consumer Choice Award for the 12th consecutive year. The award honors hospitals which healthcare consumers have rated as having the highest quality and image in over 300 markets throughout the U.S. This is the sixth year that Northwestern Memorial has been named the sole winner in Chicago.

Laurie Rice, RN, MSN, APN-BC, presented her abstract, “Vitamin D deficiency is prevalent among patients with glioma brain tumors” at the 2010 Oncology Nursing Society Advanced Practice Nursing Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Richard Silverman, PhD, received the E.B. Hershberg Award for Important Discoveries in Medicinally Active Substances from the American Chemical Society.

Winter Won’t Last Forever!
Plan ahead for some warm weather fun

Registration is open for the Sunday, May 15th Chicago Spring Half Marathon and 10K benefitting the Northwestern Brain Tumor Institute (NBTI). Hosted by Magellan Development Group, both races begin steps away from Lake Michigan at The Park at Lakeshore East, 400 S. Columbus Dr. Northwestern was well represented by patients, faculty and staff at last year’s event, raising over $250,000 for the NBTI.

For information and online registration visit www.cancer.northwestern.edu

As always, sunshine is guaranteed for the 18th Annual Cancer Survivors’ Celebration & Walk on Sunday, June 5, 2011. Save the date to enjoy the picnic, entertainment, and walk along Chicago’s lakefront. Check cancer.northwestern.edu for details and online registration—both will be available soon.
Professional & Public Programs

Throughout the year, the Lurie Cancer Center offers professional education and public programs on various cancer related topics. Below is a set of programs scheduled through March, 2011.

For more information or to register, visit cancer.northwestern.edu or call 312.695.1304.

**Professional Programs**

8th Annual Dr. Roizen’s CAM Conference: The Science and the Art of Non-Traditional Medical Therapies Preventive Care and Integrative Medicine: Focus on Oncology and New Strategies in Preventive Medicine
*December 10-12, 2010*
Feinberg Pavilion
Conference Room A (3rd floor)
251 E. Huron St., Chicago
Chair: Melinda Ring, MD

**Current Trends in Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Myeloma**
*January 21, 2011*
Feinberg Pavilion
Pritzker Auditorium (3rd floor)
251 E. Huron St., Chicago
Chair: Steven Rosen, MD

**NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology Symposium Breast Cancer and 2010 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium Review**
*February 5, 2011*
Feinberg Pavilion
Conference Rooms A-D (3rd floor)
251 E. Huron St., Chicago
Chair: William Gradishar, MD

**Malkin-Kraft Lectureship: Phillip A. Sharp, PhD**
*March 21, 2011*
Pancoe Life Sciences Building
Pancoe Auditorium
2200 N. Campus Drive, Evanston

*March 22, 2011*
Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center
Hughes Auditorium
303 E. Superior Street, Chicago

**Gastrointestinal Malignancies: 2011 Update of Clinical Care**
*March 25, 2011*
Feinberg Pavilion
Conference Rooms A-D (3rd floor)
251 E. Huron St., Chicago
Chair: Mary Mulcahy, MD

**Public Programs**

**Cancer CONNECTION Days**
An opportunity for patients and families to learn about local support groups, educational programs, wellness activities and community resources.

11 a.m. – 2 p.m., alternating between:

- **Galter Pavilion, 21st floor**
- **675 N. St. Clair St., Chicago**

- **Prentice Women’s Hospital, 4th floor**
- **250 E. Superior St., Chicago**

*December 8, 2010 (Galter)*
*December 9, 2010 (Prentice)*
*January 10, 2011 (Prentice)*
*February 9, 2011 (Galter)*
*March 2, 2011 (Prentice)*

**Center for Integrative Medicine and Wellness Integrative Approaches to Cancer Care: Wellness, Health and Healing (REGISTRATION CLOSED)**
*December 11, 2010*
Prentice Women’s Hospital
L North (3rd floor)
250 E. Superior St., Chicago

**Leukemia Research Foundation Annual Town Hall Meeting: Leukemia, Lymphoma and other Blood Cancers**
*January 30, 2011*
Feinberg Pavilion
Conference Room A (3rd floor)
251 E. Huron St., Chicago
Grand Rounds

Grand Rounds are on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in the Gray Conference Room of the Robert H. Medical Research Center, 303 E. Superior, Chicago (unless otherwise noted). Contact Denise Marshall at 312.695.1392 or d-marshall4@northwestern.edu.

December 10  Molecular Targeted Therapies in HCC  
IDIPABS Hospital Clinic  
Barcelona, Spain  

December 17  Update in the Use of Double Unit Cord Blood Transplantation as Treatment for Hematologic Malignancies  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center  
New York  

December 24  Winter Holiday  

December 31  Winter Holiday  

January 7  TBA  

January 14  TBA  
Dana Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, MA  

January 21  No Grand Rounds-Continuing Trends in Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma (Post-ASH Review)  

February 4  TBA  
Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine  
Chicago, IL  

February 11  TBA  
UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Chapel Hill, NC  

February 18  TBA  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, MN  

February 25  TBA

Accreditation Statement: Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Credit Designation Statement: The Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
Tumor Cell Biology

Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center
Baldwin Auditorium
303 E. Superior, Chicago, IL
Thursdays - 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.
Contact Denise Marshall at 312.695.1392 or d-marshall4@northwestern.edu.

December 16  Mouse Models of Acute Leukemia: Oncogene-expressing Human Stem Cells in the Immunocompromised Mouse
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati, OH
Sponsored by Clinical Oncology Research Training Program (T32 CA079447)

December 23  Winter Holiday

December 30  Winter Holiday

January 6  Multivalent Interactions Interpret the Histone Code at the Nucleosome Level
University of Chicago
Chicago, IL

January 13  TBA
Duke University
Durham, NC

January 20  TBA
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL

January 20  TBA

February 3  TBA

February 10  TBA
Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, WI

February 17  TBA
Edna Cukierman, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Molecular and Cell Biology
Fox Chase Cancer Center
Philadelphia, PA

February 24  TBA
Cancer Center Appoints New Members

Steven T. Rosen, MD, FACP, Director of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, announces the following full members appointments:

**Neil Kelleher, PhD,** is Professor in the Department of Molecular Biosciences at the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences and Director of the Proteomics Center of Excellence. His research is built around expertise in technology development for complex mixture analysis using Fourier-Transform mass spectrometry for targeted applications in histone methylation analysis, proteomics and natural products discovery with antiproliferative activity. His office is in Silverman Hall, 2205 Tech Dr., Room 3613, Evanston. Contact Dr. Kelleher at 847.467.4362 or n-kelleher@northwestern.edu.

**Rajesh Keswani, MD,** is Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine. His clinical research focus is on the outcomes of interventional endoscopic procedures in the diagnosis and therapy of patients with gastrointestinal malignancy. His office is in the Arkes Family Pavilion, 676 N. St. Clair St., Suite 1400, Chicago. Contact Dr. Keswani at 312.695.8174 or rai-keswani@northwestern.edu.

**Srirnadh Komanduri, MD,** is Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine. His primary research focus is outcomes and comparative effectiveness in gastrointestinal oncology with specific emphasis on Barrett’s Esophagus, esophageal cancer and pancreaticobiliary malignancies. His office is in the Arkes Family Pavilion, 676 N. St. Clair St., Suite 1400, Chicago. Contact Dr. Komanduri at 312.695.0484 or sri-komanduri@northwestern.edu.

**Jennifer Schneiderman, MD,** is Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Feinberg School of Medicine. She is PI of a clinical trial that recently closed, titled “Reduced Intensity Stem Cell Transplant in Children and Young Adults Utilizing Photopheresis, Fludarabine, and Busulfan.” Her office is at 2300 Children’s Plaza, Chicago. Contact Dr. Schneiderman at 773.880.4562 or jschneiderman@childrensmemorial.org.

**Erica Smith, PhD,** Research Assistant Professor the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology at the Feinberg School of Medicine. The goal of her research program is to establish S. mediterranea as a model for the study of aging and age-related disease with emphasis on the role of stem cells longevity. Her office is in the Ward Building, 303 E. Chicago Ave., Room 8-122, Chicago. Contact Dr. Smith at 312.503.9899 or erica-smith-0@northwestern.edu.

**Kume Tsutomu, PhD,** is Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine. His research interests focus on cardiovascular development, cardiovascular stem/progenitor cells, and angiogenesis. Current studies include the role of Foxc transcription factors in pathological angiogenesis and tumor vasculature. His office is in the Tarry Building, 303 E. Chicago Ave., Room 14-731, Chicago. Contact Dr. Tsutomu at 312.503.0623 or t-kume@northwestern.edu.

**Dennis West, PhD,** is Professor in the Department of Dermatology at the Feinberg School of Medicine. His research focus is on dermatopharmacology of anti-cancer agents, skin toxicity and skin care research related to anti-cancer agents, especially growth factor inhibitors and small molecule targeted agents. Dr. West leads the Lurie Cancer Center’s RADAR (Research on Adverse Drug Events and Reports) Program. His office is in the Arkes Family Pavilion, 676 N. St. Clair St., Suite 1600, Chicago. Contact Dr. West at 312.503.3571 or dwest@northwestern.edu.

**Zhuoli Zhang, MD, PhD,** is Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology at the Feinberg School of Medicine. Her research interest is in the development of molecular and cellular imaging methods and developing MRI-monitored cellular therapies for the treatment of cancer. She is also interested in developing quantitative imaging solutions for drug clinical trials. Her office is 737 N. Michigan Ave., 16th floor, Chicago. Contact Dr. Zhang at 312.926.0752 or zhuoli-zhang@northwestern.edu.
Welcome New Staff

Gonzalo Choque-Gonzales
Data Assistant 2
CRO
choque-gonzales@northwestern.edu

Patricia Folliard
Administrative Assistant 3
Operations
p-folliard@northwestern.edu

Luke Herro
Program Assistant 3
Operations
l-herro@northwestern.edu

Anne McDermott
Administrative Assistant 3
CRO
a-mcdermott@northwestern.edu

Trenten Santonastaso
Research Tech 2
PathCore
t-santonastaso@northwestern.edu

Julia Veprinsky
Data Assistant 2
CRO
j-veprinsky@northwestern.edu

Shamekia Wiggins
Research Study Program Coordinator
CRO
s-wiggins@northwestern.edu

Matthew Winter
Research Study Program Coordinator
PathCore
m-winter@northwestern.edu

Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center News

Office of Public Affairs and Communications -
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1200 - Chicago, IL 60611 - 312.695.1304

Director - Steven T. Rosen, MD, FACP
Director, Public Affairs and Communications - Sharon Markman
Editorial Advisor - Tim Volpe
Managing Editor - Jennifer Bowker
Designer - Daniel D. Cooper

Lurie Cancer Center Weekly Updates
Information to be considered for inclusion in the Lurie Cancer Center’s weekly e-mail updates must be received at least one week in advance. Submit suggestions to Denise Marshall at d-marshall4@northwestern.edu.