

Indiana University Cancer Center Newsletter

JANUARY 1999

Special Point of Interest

- SRC Policy
- Symposium on Anti-Angiogenic Agents
- Indiana University Cancer Center Site Visit
- Progress in Cancer Research in Dr. Feng's Laboratory
- Please Welcome
- Seminars/Meetings/ Conferences

Scientific Review Committee Policy (SRC)

PROTOCOL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS IU CANCER CENTER SCIENTIFIC REVIEW COMMITTEE (SRC)

The Scientific Review Committee (SRC) will review cancer-related clinical trials proposed by the Indiana University School of Medicine faculty or proposing to use Cancer Center resources with the following exceptions:

- Single case compassionate use protocols
- Retrospective chart reviews
- Laboratory studies using existing pathology material or clinical specimens

The review process will include mandatory submission of protocols and model consent statements by monthly deadlines, which will be designed to allow prompt submission to the IRB after SRC review. Review of all protocols will be carried out at the monthly SRC meeting prior to IRB submission with the following exception:

- Externally peer-reviewed studies will undergo an expedited review. These studies include cooperative group trials which are funded and approved by the NCI and include ECOG, GOG, RTOG, and CCG studies.

Expedited studies will be reviewed by a single reviewer and submitted to the IRB as long as the study meets expedited review criteria that include lack of competition with existing studies and strong rationale for accrual of the patient population. Any study that is reviewed unfavorably by this process will receive a full review by the SRC.

Symposium on Anti-Angiogenic Agents

Indiana University School of Medicine and the Indiana University Cancer Center will be sponsoring the First International Symposium on Anti-Angiogenic Agents January 29-30 in Irving, Texas.

The program will address recent advances and future directions in cell biology and clinical research.

Co-chairs of the symposium are George Sledge Jr., M.D., and Michael Gordon, M.D.

Indiana University Cancer Center Site Visit

The Indiana University Cancer Center Support Grant site visit will be January 27, 1999, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Cancer Research Institute Auditorium 101.

PROGRESS IN CANCER RESEARCH FROM DR. GEN-SHENG FENG'S LABORATORY

Dr. Gen-Sheng Feng, assistant professor of biochemistry & molecular biology and medical & molecular genetics, has received a 3-year research grant from American Cancer Society to study "The function of Grap adaptor protein in cell signaling" and has received a fundable priority score on a 5-year NIH R01 grant from National Cancer Institute on his project "Tyrosine dephosphorylation and blood cell development,.

Dr. Feng's research program focuses on understanding the dynamic interaction between tyrosine kinases and phosphatases in cell signaling. Their goal is to determine how a balance between kinases and phosphatases is critical in the normal control of cell growth, differentiation, migration and death and how a disruption of this balance could lead to malignant cell growth and metastasis.

Their current projects involve two signaling molecules, Shp-2, a ubiquitously expressed tyrosine phosphatase with two SH2 domains, and Grap, an SH3-SH2-SH3 adaptor protein that is predominantly expressed in lymphocytes.

Shp-2 appears to participate in multiple intracellular signaling pathways, although the mechanism is unknown and the biological role of Shp-2 is yet to be defined. Using a gene targeting approach, they created Shp-2 mutant cell lines and a Shp-2-deficient mouse model. By in vitro ES cell differentiation and chimeric animal analysis, they uncovered an essential role of Shp-2 in hematopoietic stem cell development, while its function in many other tissues can be compromised to certain extents. Their biochemical analysis indicates that Shp-2 acts to promote mitogenic stimulation of the Erk kinase, while being a suppressor in stress-induced Jnk kinase activation and interferon-stimulated Jak/STAT pathway. Together, these results allowed them to propose a new theory that Shp-2 modulates positively cell growth via two mechanisms, i.e. the stimulation of the Erk pathway and the repression of Jnk, STAT pathways. Finally, they reported a novel function of Shp-2 in guiding cell spreading, migration and focal adhesion by working in concert with Fak kinase. This work may lead to a better understanding of the mechanism of cell migration as well as tumor metastasis.

To determine the function of Grap in lymphocyte signaling, they have made a Grap

knockout mice and they are now in the process of characterizing its phenotype. Their work is focused on the genetic and molecular interaction between Grap and other cytoplasmic signal transducing molecules in mediating cellular responses to antigens and also in lymphocyte development, with the aim to elucidate the molecular basis for origin and progression of lymphoma.

The excellent work of Dr. Feng's laboratory has been underscored by a number of publications on prestigious international journals in 1998.

Please Welcome!

Kathy Miller, M.D., will be joining the faculty of the Hematology-Oncology division and the Indiana University Cancer Center in January of 1999. Dr. Miller, who did her residency in Internal Medicine at Johns Hopkins University, and her Oncology fellowship at Indiana University, returns to Indiana after a year and a half in North Dakota, where she was on the faculty of ND University. She joins the Breast Care and Research Center's staff, where she will participate in clinical and translational breast cancer research.

Also welcome Marietta Moore who joins the Indiana University Cancer Center Staff as the new GU Nurse Coordinator. Marietta comes to us from the Urology Clinic at Wishard Hospital where she served as the Clinic Manager. Marietta can be reached at 4-7477 and her office is located in the Cancer Pavilion Room 415.

Seminars/Conferences/Meetings

Monday, January 4

4:30 p.m. Hematology Fellows Lecture. **No Lecture**

Wednesday, January 6

7:00 a.m. Skull Base Group Conference. *UH 2005*

12:30 p.m. Radiation/Gynecologic Oncology Conference Case Presentation/Didactic. Dr. Gregory Sutton, IUSM. *RT 425.*

4:00 p.m. Dr. Glenn Wilson. **“Mitochondrial DNA Damage and Repair”**. Department of Structural and Cellular Biology, University of South Alabama. *Cancer Research Institute Auditorium 101.*

Friday, January 8

8:00 a.m. Richard Buller, M.D., Ph.D. **“The X Chromosome in Ovarian Cancer.”** Director, Div. of Gynecologic Oncology, University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA. *Petticrew Auditorium, Bldg A., Methodist Hospital*

Monday, January 11

4:30 p.m. Hematology Fellows Lecture. **“Management of GI Symptoms (Diarrhea, Constipation, Bowel Obstruction Ascites) in Oncology Patients”**. Fellow. *RT 425.*

Wednesday, January 13

8:00 a.m. Emil P. Paginini, M.D., F.A.C.P., **“Severity Scoring in IUC/ARF-Is it Time for Selective Support and Realistic Outcome Expectations.”** Head, Section of Dialysis and Extracorporeal Therapy, CEO Outpatient, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH. *Wishard Hospital,*

Myers Auditorium.

- 9:00 a.m. Richard E. Buller, M.D., Ph.D. “**Cases.**” Director, Div. Of Gynecologic Oncology, University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA. *Petticrew Auditorium, Bldg. A., Methodist Hospital.*
- 10:00 a.m. Richard E. Buller, M.D., Ph.D. “**The Role of P53 in Ovarian Cancer from Tumor Suppressor Gene to Gene Therapy.**” Director, Div. of Gynecologic Oncology, University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA. *Petticrew Auditorium, Bldg. A., Methodist Hospital.*
- 12:30 p.m. Radiation/Gynecologic Oncology Conference Case Presentation/Discussion.
- 4:00 p.m. Stephen J. Szilvassy, Ph.D. “**Experimental Transplantation of Ex Vivo Expanded Hematopoietic Stem Cells**”. Assistant Professor of Medicine, Lucille P. Markey Cancer Center, University of Kentucky. *Cancer Research Auditorium 101.*

Monday, January 18

- 4:30 p.m. Hematology Fellows Lecture. **No Lecture**

Tuesday, January 19

- 12:00 p.m. Experimental Therapeutics Research Program Meeting. *Cancer Research Institute Auditorium 101A.*

Wednesday, January 20

- 12:30 p.m. Radiation/Gynecologic Oncology Conference case presentation/didactic. Dr. Higinia Cardenes, IUSM.
- 4:00 p.m. Kathleen Scotto, Ph.D. “**The MDR1 Promoter as a Model for Signal Convergence**”. Department of Pharmacology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. *Cancer Research Institute Auditorium 101.*

Thursday, January 21

- 5:00 p.m. Robert Goulet, M.D. “**Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulators**”. Associate Professor of Surgery, IUSM. *Wishard Hospital, Myers Auditorium.*
- 5:30 p.m. Dr. Kenneth Kesler, M.D. “**The Treatment of Esophageal Cancer at the Millennium: Are we Doing Better with a Bad Disease?**”. Associate Professor of Surgery, IUSM. *Wishard Hospital, Myers Auditorium.*

Friday, January 22

- 12:00 noon Dr. Roger Roeske. “**GmRH Antagonists: From Design to Clinical Trial in Prostate Cancer**”. Professor, Department of Biochemistry, IUMC. *Medical Science A506.*

Monday, January 25

- 6:30 a.m. “**Round Cell Tumors of Bone**”. Dr. Bruce Rougraff, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, IUSM. *UH 4420*
- 4:30 p.m. Hematology Fellows Lecture. “**Special Lecture**”. Dr. Lawrence Einhorn, IUSM. *RT 425.*

Wednesday, January 27

- 6:30 a.m. “**Miscellaneous Benign Bone Tumors**”. Drs. Bruce Rougraff and Daniel Wurts, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, IUSM. *Riley Hospital 4150.*

8:00 a.m. Indiana University Cancer Center Support Grant Site Visit. *Cancer Research Institute Auditorium 101.*

12:30 p.m. Radiation/Gynecologic Oncology Conference case presentation/discussion. *RT 425.*

4:00 p.m. Combined Seminar Lecture. **No Lecture.** *Cancer Research Institute Auditorium 101.*

Thursday, January 28

12:00 noon Cancer Control Committee. Chris Callahan, M.D. **“Center for Aging”.** *Van Nuys Medical Science Bldg. Room B14.*

Questions? Suggestions? Announcements?
Contact Liz Parsons 8-0070
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