Alliance Launches New Website

The Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology has launched its new website: www.allianceforclinicaltrialsinoncology.org. The site features a new design and is the result of months of effort by the Alliance Website Team which encompassed representation from many Alliance locations and disciplines.

The site has both a public and a member side allowing visitors to gain a comprehensive understanding of the Alliance while providing members with the tools and resources necessary to work effectively with the Alliance.

Information is organized within easy-to-use menus (or navigation bars) at the top and bottom of each page. The public side includes information on the Alliance, clinical trials, membership, patient advocacy, news, the foundation, newsletters and publications, meetings, and cancer-related resources. The member side includes information on protocols (e.g., study summaries and concept submission), committees, members services, tools and calculators, meetings, links to each legacy Group website, and a directory (roster lookup). Currently, not all member side information is available on the website. To assist members in accessing information, the site provides direct links to legacy websites and to the CTSU website, where applicable.

To access member-specific information, all Alliance members must have a National Cancer Institute (NCI) Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program (CTEP) Identity and Access Management (IAM) username and passcode.

continued page 3
Distinguished Researchers Present Annual Lectures at 2012 Alliance Group Meeting

Richard M. Goldberg, MD, an internationally renowned gastrointestinal oncologist at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC - James), presented the Charles G. Moertel Lecture during the Plenary Session at the 2012 Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology Group Meeting in Chicago, IL.

This is the first annual Moertel lecture being given at an Alliance meeting. The lecture was initiated in 1995 to honor the legacy of Dr. Moertel, one of the founders of the North Central Cancer Treatment Group (NCCTG). He was a renowned cancer researcher and former Director of the Mayo Comprehensive Cancer Center, who died in 1994.

During his presentation titled, “Meaningful Outcomes: Lives Saved Due To Clinical Trials in Early Stage Colon Cancer,” Dr. Goldberg discussed his personal relationship with Dr. Moertel, in whose footsteps he followed at the Mayo Clinic.

Ohio State University cancer researcher Electra D. Paskett, PhD, presented the 12th annual Jimmie Holland lecture during the recent Alliance meeting.

Dr. Paskett, who is the Associate Director for Population Sciences at the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute, and holds the Marion N. Rowley Chair in Cancer Research at Ohio State, presented “Interventions to Address Cancer Health Disparities: The Case of Cervical Cancer in Appalachia.”

As part of her lecture, Dr. Paskett discussed methods to eliminate cancer health disparities, including conducting community based participatory research with trans-disciplinary teams using multi-level interventions. She also reviewed past and current research projects in the Ohio State University Center for Population Health and Health Disparities that she leads in Appalachia, Ohio.

Dr. Goldberg, who is the Physician-in-Chief at OSUCCC – James and Associate Chair of Cancer Center Collaborations for the Alliance, also explained Moertel’s work in making the first major discovery on how to increase the surgical cure rate of stage III colon cancer by adding postoperative chemotherapy, and how that initial discovery has led to further improved outcomes more than 35 years of additional research.

The Jimmie Holland lecture, sponsored by the Alliance Health Outcomes Committee of which Dr. Paskett is Chair, is named for Jimmie C. Holland, MD, Wayne E. Chapman Chair in Psychiatric Oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Over the years, Dr. Holland has pioneered ways in which counseling, psychosocial interventions, and medications can reduce the distress experienced by cancer patients and their families.
Renowned Leukemia Expert Receives Annual Richard Schilsky CALGB Achievement Award

Clara D. Bloomfield, MD, an international authority on leukemia and lymphoma at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur C. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute, received the 2012 Richard L. Schilsky Cancer and Leukemia Group B (CALGB) Achievement Award during the Plenary Session at the 2012 Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology Group Meeting in Chicago, IL.

The award acknowledges the significant contributions of an individual to cooperative group research. It is presented each year at the Alliance Group Meeting. Dr. Bloomfield presented a summary of her research done in collaboration with the CALGB. Dr. Bloomfield, who is a member of the Alliance Executive Committee and Board of Directors, conducted seminal work showing that the type of chromosome changes (abnormal chromosomes are present in about 55 percent of acute myeloid leukemia or AML patients) often predicted a patient’s response to therapy.

In the early 1990s, Dr. Bloomfield played a key role in the research that discovered the first gene mutation in AML patients with normal-looking chromosomes, a type of acute leukemia called cytogenetically normal AML (CN-AML). She has since led research showing that CN-AML harbors many gene mutations, gene-expression differences and microRNA-expression changes that influence how a patient’s disease responds to therapy.

Her work, published in more than 600 research papers, has changed treatment standards and helped to personalize the care of acute leukemia patients, in younger people and those over the age of 60.

Alliance Launches New Website

continued from page 1

Visit the CTEP-IAM website at https://eapps-ctep.nci.nih.gov/iam to obtain a username and password by clicking the “Request New Account” link at the bottom right of the page.

To log onto the member side, click the Member Login icon at the upper right of the Alliance home page. Members will be re-directed to the CTSU (CTEP-IAM) site to login, and then to the member side. Once logged in, members can move freely between public and member sides.

Future plans for the site include a protocol catalog to provide complete information, including protocol documents for Alliance studies; expanded directory search capabilities that will allow lookup by committee and other criteria; access to various applications such as the OPEN Patient Registration System; committee-specific wiki pages; and more.

Please send questions, comments or concerns to info@alliance-website.org.
The Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology Foundation annually awards grants to support research activities of oncology junior faculty working at Alliance institutions. This research includes studies that assess interventions in cancer patients and/or examines biological specimens obtained from cancer patients. This year, with the support of Amgen Oncology, Celgene Corporation, Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Novartis Oncology, grants were presented to five young investigators from the nation’s leading medical institutions at the 2012 Alliance Group Meeting in Chicago, IL.

**Clinical Scholar Awards**

**Beata Holkova, MD**
Virginia Commonwealth University
Massey Cancer Center

*Project:* “Phase I Trial of Carfilzomib in Combination with Obatoclax in Relapsed/Refractory B-Cell Lymphomas”
*Sponsor:* Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

**Matthew H.G. Katz, MD, FACS**
University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center

*Project:* “An Intergroup, Phase II Trial of Multimodality Therapy for Patients with Borderline Resectable Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma: Alliance A0201101”
*Sponsor:* Novartis Oncology

**Chloe E. Atreya, MD, PhD**
University of California, San Francisco

*Project:* “Novel Models and Therapeutics for Targeting KRAS Mutant Colorectal Cancer”
*Sponsor:* Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

**Daniel Catenacci, MD**
University of Chicago

*Project:* “Laboratory Correlatives Companion Study for CALGB 80101 Evaluating MET, RON, TOP2A and ERCC1 as Biomarkers for Gastroesophageal Adenocarcinoma”
*Sponsor:* Amgen Oncology

**Alex Kentsis, MD, PhD**
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston Children’s Hospital

*Project:* “Blockade of Compensatory HGF Expression to Therapeutically Target Aberrant MET Activation in AML”
*Sponsor:* Celgene Corporation

For more information about these grants, visit the Alliance website at www.allianceforclinicaltrialsinocnology.org.
2012 Alliance ASCO Abstracts

The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) is the world’s leading professional organization representing physicians and health care professionals who care for people with cancer. The society’s annual meeting is considered the premier educational and scientific event in the oncology community. Researchers representing the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology presented more than 30 abstracts at this year’s 48th Annual ASCO Meeting held in June.

By Committee

>> Breast

ACOSOG Z1031
Whole genome sequencing to characterize luminal-type breast cancer
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):503, 2012

ACOSOG Z1071
Role of axillary ultrasound after neoadjuvant chemotherapy in women with node positive breast cancer (T1-4, N1-2, M0) at initial diagnosis (ACOSOG Z1071)
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):1107, 2012

CALGB 40502
CALGB 40502/NCCTG N063H: Randomized phase III trial of weekly paclitaxel (P) compared to weekly nanoparticle albumin bound nab-paclitaxel (NP) or ixabepilone (Ix) with or without bevacizumab (B) as first-line therapy for locally recurrent or metastatic breast cancer (MBC)

CALGB 49907
Comorbidity, chemotherapy toxicity, and outcomes among older women receiving adjuvant chemotherapy for breast cancer (BC)

NCCTG N093B
Phase I study of panobinostat (LBH589) and letrozole in post-menopausal women with metastatic breast cancer
Tan WW, Allred J, Moreno-Aspitia A, Northfelt DW, Ingle JN, Perez EA
Journal of Clinical Oncology, (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):e13501, 2012

NCCTG N1031
Randomized phase II study of two doses of pixantrone in patients with metastatic breast cancer, N1031
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):1083, 2012

>> Cancer Control

NCCTG N0392
Patient satisfaction with participation in phase II/III NCCTG clinical trials: Was it worth it?
Chauhan C, Atherton PJ, Satele D, Dueck AC, Soori GS, Johnson DB, Mandrekar SJ, Buckner JC, Sloan JA
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):6133, 2012

continued next page
2012 Alliance ASCO Abstracts

>> Cancer Control continued

NCCTG N07C2
Phase III evaluation of American ginseng (panax quinquefolius) to improve cancer-related fatigue: NCCTG trial N07C2
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):9001, 2012

NCCTG N0821
A phase II first-line study of a combination of pemetrexed (P), carboplatin (C) and bevacizumab (B) in elderly patients with good performance status (PS <2)
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):7555, 2012

NCCTG N0147
Smoking status and prognosis in patients with stage III colon cancer: A correlative analysis of NCCTG phase III trial N0147
Phipps AI, Shi Q, Limburg PJ, Nelson GD, Sargent DJ, Newcomb PA, Alberts SR
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):3526, 2012

>> GI

ACOSOG Z4051
A phase II study of neoadjuvant therapy with cisplatin, docetaxel, panitumumab plus radiation therapy followed by surgery in patients with locally advanced adenocarcinoma of the distal esophagus (ACOSOG Z4051)
Reed CE, Schefter TE, Meyers BF, Ferguson MK, Decker PA, Oeltjen AR, Lockhart AC
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):4062, 2012

CALGB 89803
A novel interaction of genotype, gender and adjuvant treatment in survival after resection of stage III colon cancer: Results of CALGB 89803

NCCTG N00CA
Patient assessment of measures of bowel function during and after pelvic radiation therapy: An ancillary study of North Central Cancer Treatment Group Study N00CA
Atherton PJ, Halyard MY, Sloan JA, Miller RC, Deming RL, Tai THP, Stein KJ, Martenson JA

NCCTG N064A
North Central Cancer Treatment Group phase II study of panitumumab (Pmab), chemotherapy, and external beam radiation (chemo-RT)in patients with locally advanced (LA) pancreatic cancer
Kim GP, Foster NR, Haddock MG, Bollinger JW, Dakhil SR, Behrens RJ, Flynn PJ, Steen PD, Bury MJ, Stella PH, Alberts SR

NCCTG N0147
A comprehensive analysis of clinical and tumor characteristics with BRAF and KRAS mutations status in adjuvant colon cancer trial N0147
McWilliams RR, Mahoney MR, Sargent DJ, Nelson GD, Sinicrope F, Limburg PJ, Thibodeau SN, Grothey A, Hubbard JM, Alberts SR

continued next page
2012 Alliance ASCO Abstracts

>> GI continued

NCCTG N0147
Association study of the let-7 microRNA-binding site polymorphism in 3-untranslated region (UTR) of the KRAS gene in stage III colon cancers from adjuvant trial NCCTG N0147
Sha D, Lee A, Shi Q, Steven AR, Sargent DJ, Sinicrope FA, Diasio RB

NCCTG N0147
Relationship between genetic markers and quality of life (QOL) in stage III colon cancer (CC) patients (pts) prior to adjuvant treatment (N0147)
Sloan JA, Shi Q, Lee A, Diasio RB, Pavey ES, Sargent DJ, Goldberg RM, Sinicrope FA, Mahoney MR, Alberts SR

>> GU

CALGB 90102
External validation of prognostic models predicting overall survival in patients (pts) with metastatic or unresectable urothelial cancer (UC) treated with cisplatin-based chemotherapy
Apolo AB, Philips GK, Ostrovnaya I, Rosenberg J, Milowsky MI, Iasanos A, Small EJ, Bajorin DF, Halabi S

CALGB 90401
Liver metastases (lm) predicts for short overall survival (os) in metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) patients (pts)

CALGB 90401
The impact of prior therapy with ketoconazole (keto) on clinical outcomes after subsequent docetaxel treatment in metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) patients: Results from a randomized phase 3 trial (CALGB 90401)

>> Leukemia

CALGB 10502
A phase II study of bortezomib added to standard daunorubicin and cytarabine during induction therapy and to intermediate-dose cytarabine for consolidation in patients with previously untreated acute myeloid leukemia (AML) age 60-75 years: CALGB study 10502

>> Lymphoma

CALGB 50401
CALGB 50401: A randomized trial of lenalidomide alone versus lenalidomide plus rituximab in patients with recurrent follicular lymphoma
Leonard JP, Jung S, Johnson J, Bartlett NL, Blum K, Cheson BD

continued next page
2012 Alliance ASCO Abstracts

>> Neuro-Oncology

NCCTG N05C3, N04C7
A comparison of simple single-item measures and the NCI common toxicity criteria version 3.0 measure of peripheral neuropathy
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):1557, 2012

NCCTG N057K
NCCTG N057K phase II trial of everolimus, temozolomide and radiotherapy in patients with newly diagnosed glioblastoma: A North Central Cancer Treatment Group trial
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):2031, 2012

NCCTG N0877
Phase I/randomized phase II trial of either dasatinib or placebo combined with standard chemoradiotherapy for newly diagnosed glioblastoma multiforme (GBM): Final results of phase I study
Laack NN, Galanis E, Wu W, Leinweber CH, Buckner JC, Giannini C, Geoffroy FJ, Jaeckle KA, Sarkaria JN
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):2032, 2012

NCCTG N79725 and (797251, 860351, 887202, 887203, 907201, 917201, 927203, 937252, 987252, N0074, N0177, N027D, N057K, N0874, N0877)
Relationship between overall survival and progression-free survival for recent NCCTG glioblastoma multiforme trials
Wu W, Galanis E, Buckner J, Jaeckle K, Sargent D

RTOG R-9402
Chemotherapy plus radiotherapy (CT-RT) vs. RT alone for patients with anaplastic oligodendroglioma: Long-term results of the RTOG 9402 phase III study
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):2008b, 2012

>> Oncology Nursing

CALGB 170601
CALGB 170601: A phase III double blind trial of duloxetine to treat painful chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy (CIPN)

>> Pharmacogenomics and Population Pharmacology

ACOSOG Z4031
Accuracy of FDG-PET to diagnose lung cancer in the ACOSOG Z4031 trial
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):7008, 2012

continued next page
2012 Alliance ASCO Abstracts

>> Pharmacogenomics and Population Pharmacology continued

CALGB 10503, 19808, 100103
Effect of age on the pharmacokinetics of busulfan (Bu); an Alliance study (CALGB 10503, 19808, and 100103)

NCCTG N0147
Prognostic impact of BRAF and KRAS mutations and their relationship to DNA mismatch repair (MMR) status in 2,686 stage III colon cancer patients (pts) treated in a phase III study of adjuvant FOLFOX +/- cetuximab: NCCTG N0147
Sinicrope FA, Maoney MR, Smyrk TC, Thibodeau SN, Goldberg RM, Nelson GD, Sargent DJ, Alberts SR
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):3514, 2012

>> Respiratory

CALGB 30704
CALGB 30704: A randomized phase II study to assess the efficacy of pemetrexed or sunitinib or pemetrexed plus sunitinib in the second-line treatment of advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)
Heist RS, Wang X, Hodgson L, Otterson GA, Stinchcombe T, Vokes EE, Socinski MA

CALGB 150802, 150601
Prognostic and predictive effects of KRAS mutation subtype in completely resected non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC): a LACE-bio study
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):7007, 2012

NCCTG N0321
N0321: A phase II study of bortezomib, paclitaxel, carboplatin (CBCDA), and radiotherapy (RT) for locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)
Schild SE, Molina JR, Dy GK, Rowland KM, Sarkaria JN, Sachdev PT, Northfelt DW, Kugler JW, Foster NR, Adjei AA
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):7073, 2012

NCCTG N0424
Impact of disease progression (DP) date determination method on post progression survival (PPS) and DP metrics in advanced lung cancer
Journal of Clinical Oncology (Meeting Abstracts), 30(15s):7605, 2012
Patrick Gavin, RPh, has been appointed a member of the Institute of Medicine’s National Cancer Policy Forum. The forum will convene early next year to follow-up on the IOM consensus report “Implementing a National Cancer Clinical Trials System for the 21st Century.” Gavin is the newly appointed Chair of the Alliance Patient Advocate Committee, and a retired pharmacist. He is also the Chairman of the Patient Advisory Committee for Clinical Research for the Grand Rapids Clinical Oncology Program (GRCOP), and serves as a member of the Executive Operations Board.

Bettye L. Green, RN, was presented with the 2012 Treatment Diversity Champion Award by Trinity Health. The award acknowledges her outstanding commitment to cancer patient advocacy. Green, a member of the Alliance Patient Advocate Committee, has conducted protocol and grant reviews for numerous organizations, including the U.S. Department of Defense, AVON, NCI, California Breast Board and Susan G. Komen Foundation. She serves on the Patient Advisory Board for Eli Lilly and has served for 12 years as the Chairperson of African American Women in Touch. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the National Breast Cancer Coalition.

Col. (Ret.) James E. Williams, Jr., United States Army, MS, SPHR, was presented with the 2012 Susan Matsuko Shinagawa LIVESTRONG™ Cancer Control Leadership Award by the Intercultural Cancer Council (ICC) and Lance Armstrong Foundation. The juried award recognizes Williams’ role as a 20-year prostate cancer survivor/advocate and national leader in prostate cancer control for men in underserved communities – particularly among African American men, who have considerably higher incidence (number of newly diagnosed cases) and death rates than all other U.S. racial/ethnic population groups. The award also honors Williams’ unique role as the only elected ICC Chair to serve a three-year term, presiding over the organization’s major transition from a large 75-member governing board to a leaner and more nimble 15-member body. He is a member of the Alliance Patient Advocate Committee.

For meeting and travel queries, contact Katherine Faherty:
phone: 617-525-3022
e-mail: kefaherty@partners.org

For more information on the Alliance and updates to meeting information, visit allianceforclinicaltrialsinoncology.org