

Caring for Carcinoid Foundation

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Events

Nancy O'Hagan and Anne Doyle Attend MGH Event - "The HapMap"

On May 23, [Nancy O'Hagan](#), Founder and President of the Caring for Carcinoid Foundation, and [Anne Doyle](#), member of our Board of Directors, attended an event hosted by Massachusetts General Hospital, "The HapMap - Mapping DNA Variations to Determine Causes of Human Disease".

The featured speaker was [David Altshuler, M.D., Ph.D.](#), Director of the Program in Medical and Population Genetics at [The Broad Institute](#). Dr. Altshuler is one of the world's leading scientists in the study of human genetic variation and its application to disease, using tools and information from the Human Genome Project. Among his discoveries is the finding of a common genetic variant that increases the risk of contracting type 2 diabetes.

Dr. Altshuler is a lead investigator in the [International HapMap Project](#), a public-private partnership that has created public maps of human genome sequence variation as a foundation for disease research. The project provides a public resource that will help researchers find genes associated with human disease and response to pharmaceuticals.

[View photo - Nancy O'Hagan and Anne Doyle](#)

[View photo - Nancy O'Hagan, Barbara Dunderdale \(MGH\), and Anne Doyle](#)

Nancy O'Hagan Presents at CCTS Event - "Living with Carcinoid, Living with Hope!"

On May 13, [Nancy O'Hagan](#), Founder and President of the Caring for Carcinoid Foundation, presented at "Living with Carcinoid, Living with Hope!", a day-long, special event hosted by Carcinoid Cancer Texas Survivors (CCTS). This event was open to carcinoid patients, physicians, family, and friends. Nancy presented an update on the Caring for Carcinoid Foundation's progress in discovering a cure for carcinoid.

Special thanks to [Carol-Anne Wilson](#), Founder of CCTS, for making Nancy's visit possible.

[View photo - Nancy O'Hagan](#)

[View photo - Nancy O'Hagan and Carol-Anne Wilson](#)

Nancy O'Hagan and Dr. Andrew Leiter Present at SEA4Carcinoid Event - "Celebrate Life!"

On March 18, [Nancy O'Hagan](#), Founder and President of the Caring for Carcinoid Foundation, presented at "Celebrate Life!", a day-long, special event hosted by SEA4Carcinoid. The theme of this event was "Living a Positive Life - Even with Carcinoid". Nancy presented an update on the Caring for Carcinoid Foundation's progress in discovering a cure for carcinoid.

In addition, [Dr. Andrew Leiter](#), member of our Board of Scientific Advisors, shared recent scientific insights into carcinoid and provided a picture of how leading scientists are making progress toward achieving breakthroughs in carcinoid treatment. According to SEA4Carcinoid:

"Andrew Leiter, M.D. is an internationally recognized authority on how gastrointestinal endocrine cells differentiate. Dr. Andrew Leiter was a refreshingly down to earth speaker and captured the attention of everyone in the room at Descanso Gardens. Although his presentation was highly technical in some respects, Dr. Leiter presented the overall concept in a manner that made it easy for all patients to grasp.

Dr. Leiter shared his background with the audience and then went on to speak of his current interests in the field of medical research. He then went on to detail his lab's current work on gut hormones. One of the 'unexpected' outcomes of this research was to discover that mice, which had been specially bred for his research, went on to develop Carcinoid tumors. Dr. Leiter and his colleagues were fascinated by this outcome and understood the importance of such an event . . . and thanks to the collaboration of the Caring for Carcinoid Foundation with Dr. Leiter, he plans to research how these specially bred mice came to develop Carcinoid tumors. Dr. Leiter spoke about the role genetically altered mice play in his research. This holds promise in the search for the cause and hopefully a cure for the disease.

Two things were very apparent after listening to Dr. Leiter. First, knowing that this research is being carried out by Dr. Leiter and other concerned researchers AND that the "incidental" or even "accidental" finding of the development of carcinoid tumors in these mice raised some 'interest' leaves all of us with a lot of HOPE for the future of carcinoid patients. Second, that the Caring for Carcinoid Foundation's funding of in-depth research makes it possible to continue this type of

research and pursue what might otherwise be considered an incidental and forgotten finding."

Special thanks to [Nickolette Way](#), Co-Founder of SEA4Carcinoid, for making Nancy's visit possible.

[View photo - Dr. Leiter, Nickolette Way, and Nancy O'Hagan](#)

[Read Dr. Leiter's presentation \(includes extensive notes to explain the scientific content\)](#)

Research

mTOR Inhibition: A Novel Mechanism for Cancer Treatments - Dr. Matthew Kulke

[Novartis Oncology](#) will host a free, live webcast on Monday, June 19, from 1:00pm to 2:30pm EST. The topic is "mTOR Inhibition: A Novel Mechanism for Cancer Treatments." [Dr. Matthew Kulke](#), member of our Board of Scientific Advisors, is a featured speaker.

According to Novartis Oncology, this webcast will provide a unique interactive opportunity to learn about:

- mTOR inhibition as a new mechanism for cancer treatments
- Treatment innovations for neuroendocrine cancers
- Update on the RADIANT-1 clinical trial

Space is limited, so register early!

[Learn more](#)

After Gleevec, Targeted Drugs Acquire More Targets - Dr. George Demetri

On May 30, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) published an article in Spotlight, its cancer bulletin, entitled, "After Gleevec, Targeted Drugs Acquire More Targets". This article describes the next generation of targeted therapies for cancer patients, such as "multi-targeted" drugs that interact with a small number of proteins rather than just one.

[Dr. George Demetri](#), member of our Board of Scientific Advisors, is profiled in this article for his work on targeted therapies, including the FDA-approved Sutent for gastrointestinal stromal tumors. Dr. Demetri states:

"We're now going around a corner again toward more broadly targeted agents that hit multiple genetic pathways. The good news is that the more broadly targeted drugs may be applicable to different cancers, as we've seen with sunitinib [Sutent]."

[Read the NCI article](#)

Clinical Trials

Launch of Phase II Clinical Trial of Panzem NCD with Avastin - EntreMed

[EntreMed](#) launched a Phase II clinical trial of Panzem NCD with Avastin for patients with locally advanced or metastatic carcinoid tumors. The clinical trial is designed to evaluate the safety and efficacy of this novel combination therapy. [Dr. Matthew Kulke](#), a member of our Board of Scientific Advisors, will direct this clinical trial as the Principal Investigator. The study sites include Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Carolyn F. Sidor, M.D., M.B.A., EntreMed's Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, stated:

"Patients with metastatic carcinoid tumors have very few effective treatment options. Combination chemotherapy, when used, generally results in a response rate of 10-15%. We believe that combining two agents with antiangiogenic activity represents a unique approach to treatment, and may produce higher response rates than combination chemotherapy or either antiangiogenic agent alone. Novel, effective therapies are needed to improve the outcomes for these patients."

[Learn about new Phase II clinical trial of Panzem NCD with Avastin](#)

Launch of Phase I Clinical Trial of Seneca Valley Virus - Neotropix

[Neotropix](#) launched a Phase I clinical trial of Seneca Valley Virus for patients with advanced neuroendocrine cancers. The clinical trial is designed to determine if Seneca Valley Virus can be systemically administered safely to patients.

Dr. Paul Hallenbeck, President, Chief Scientific Officer and founder of Neotropix, stated:

"Seneca Valley Virus has the potential to be safer and more effective than treatments currently available or even on the horizon, and may help treat some of the most commonly diagnosed cancers among American men and women."

[Learn about new Phase I clinical trial of Seneca Valley Virus](#)

New Data from Phase I Clinical Trial of Atiprimod for Advanced Carcinoid Patients - Callisto Pharmaceuticals

[Callisto Pharmaceuticals](#) released additional Phase I data from its clinical trial of Atiprimod. The clinical trial comprised advanced solid tumor patients of varying types. Of those patients, five had advanced carcinoid cancer and were treated with drug at 60 mg tablets (N=1), 90 mg capsules (N=1) and 120 mg capsules (N=3). Four of these advanced carcinoid patients have completed their treatment on Atiprimod.

During treatment, three of the four advanced carcinoid patients had measurable tumor regressions and loss of many of the debilitating symptoms of this disease. Importantly, one patient remained on drug through 7 cycles (seven months), exhibiting significant tumor regression. Reducing the debilitating symptoms so the patient can continue normal daily activities is an important aspect of treating this cancer.

Dr. Arthur Sytkowski, Consulting CMO and Medical Monitor of Callisto Pharmaceuticals, stated:

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"We are pleased with the results we have seen so far in this trial. The tumor regression and reduction in symptoms seen in the carcinoid patients is very encouraging and indicates that a Phase I/IIa trial of Atiprimod specifically to treat advanced carcinoid patients is clearly warranted."

[Review Phase I data](#)

[Learn about new Phase I/IIa clinical trial of Atiprimod](#)

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