



In affiliation with
UPMC Cancer Centers

Clinical Research, Now More Than Ever

The number and level of clinical trials offered at The Regional Cancer Center (RCC) continues to grow. For example, the RCC is currently conducting several clinical trials in our Multidisciplinary Thoracic Clinic lead by Dr. Jan Rothman. For **lung cancer** patients, the drug Bevacizumab (normally used for colorectal cancer) is being given over 12 weeks to patients who've had lung tumors removed. For patients with inoperable tumors, they are receiving the drug Cetuximab (normally used for colorectal and head and neck cancer) over 14 weeks. Patients with tumors in their esophagus are also being treated with Cetuximab before surgery and their results are monitored as well. These patients provide us with valuable information as a result of their participation in these studies.

Most recently, clinical trials for **head and neck cancers** and **brain tumors** have been added. After a rigorous testing period, The RCC became credentialed to conduct these trials. For brain tumor patients, the use of Bevacizumab with radiation therapy is showing great promise.

For head and neck cancers, Cetuximab is now being used for lower risk patients. Formerly the treatment for this type of cancer was surgery followed by radiation therapy only. This trial adds drug therapy which researchers believe will be instrumental in the cancer not returning.

The RCC is one of the first cancer programs in the region to offer F18 Sodium Fluoride (NaF) PET/CT

Bone Scans, a new imaging technique now being evaluated in clinical trials. Sodium Fluoride PET/CT scans benefit patients with bone metastasis, or potential bone metastasis, particularly (but not limited to) **prostate, breast and lung cancers**.

These scans are more sensitive and specific than previous alternatives for evaluating metastatic or cancerous bone disease and can be conducted in



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less time. At the present time, only Medicare will cover the F18 Sodium Fluoride (NaF) PET/CT Bone Scan under the National Oncologic PET Registry (NOPR). Participation in the research trial requires ordering physicians to document the enhancements to patient treatment plans made possible as a result of the scan.

Clinical research is a priority now and for the future at RCC. Expanded staff, resources and attention to research efforts at RCC brings momentum for continuing growth.



For a complete list of trials now open at RCC visit trcc.org and click on the "referring physicians" tab or scan the tag with your smart phone.

The Regional Cancer Center
Clinical Research Department
814-838-0448

RCC Among Top Performers in RTOG Study

Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG) is an international clinical cooperative group, through which RCC participates in clinical trials. RCC's work with one trial in particular (*RTOG 0617 A randomized Phase III comparison of Standard-Dose vs. High-Dose Radiotherapy with concurrent and consolidation Carbo/Paclitaxel +/- cetuximab in patients with Stage IIIA/B NSCLC*) is getting national attention. During

the fourth quarter of 2010 RCC ranked 6th in the nation for enrollment in this trial among the 197 participating sites. This achievement is a credit to the resources dedicated to clinical research at RCC, the interest and effort of RCC physicians and staff and – with this trial in particular – the Multidisciplinary Thoracic Cancer Clinic lead by Jan Rothman, MD and Conrad Stachelek, MD, PhD.

RTOG[®]
RADIATION THERAPY
ONCOLOGY GROUP

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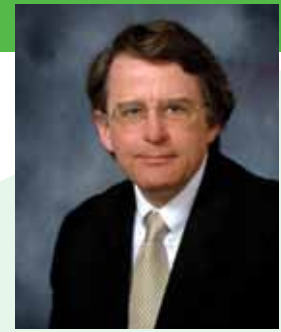
RCC physicians serve as Principal Investigators and participate actively in research trial selection and evaluation. When a particular trial is right for a patient but is not open at RCC, the physicians and staff facilitate patients' participation via an alternate provider.



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Open Trials

Prostate

RTOG 0815 A Phase III Prospective Randomized Trial of Dose-Escalated Radiotherapy with or without Short-Term androgen Deprivation Therapy for Patients with Intermediate-Risk Prostate Cancer

COMING SOON: UPCI 09-031 Prospective Evaluation of Hypofractionated Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy for low and intermediate risk prostate cancer

Lung

RTOG 0617 A randomized Phase III comparison of Standard-Dose vs. High-Dose Radiotherapy with concurrent and consolidation Carbo/Paclitaxel +/- cetuximab in patients with Stage IIIa/B NSCLC

ECOG 1505 A Phase III Randomized Trial of Adjuvant Chemotherapy with or without Bevacizumab for Patients with Completely Resected Stage IB-IIA NSCLC

ECOG 5508 Randomized Phase III Study of Maintenance Therapy with Bevacizumab, Pemetrexed, or a Combination of Bevacizumab and Pemetrexed Following Carboplatin, Paclitaxel and Bevacizumab for Advanced NSCLC

Gastrointestinal

RTOG 0436 A Phase III Trial Evaluating the Addition of Cetuximab to Paclitaxel, Cisplatin, and Radiation for Patients with Esophageal Cancer who are treated without surgery ON HOLD

Head/Neck

RTOG 0920 A Phase III study of Postoperative Radiation Therapy (IMRT) +/- Cetuximab for locally Advanced Resected Head and Neck Cancer

Brain Metastases

COMING SOON: RTOG 0933 A Phase II Trial of Hippocampal Avoidance during Whole Brain Radiotherapy for Brain Metastases

Breast

NSABP B 43 A Phase III Clinical Trial Comparing Trastuzumab Given Concurrently with Radiation Therapy and Radiation Therapy Alone for Women with HER2-Positive Ductal Carcinoma In Situ Resected by Lumpectomy

CALGB 40601 Randomized Phase III Trial of Paclitaxel combined with Trastuzumab, Lapatinib, or Both as Neoadjuvant Treatment of Her2-Pos primary Breast Cancer

Diagnostic

ACRIN (American College of Radiology Imaging Network)

NOPR Trial Sodium Floride- Bone Mets