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The latest cancer treatments ...

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Symptom Control is very important to our patients. Cancer spread to the bones from other sites, such as lung, prostate, colorectal, and breast, is a significant problem. It can cause bone pain, compression of the spinal cord, and paralysis or fractures. Our group presented at the 2003 Chicago cancer meetings the results with Zoledronate



Dr. E. Quan, medical team oncologist.

(Zometa®) in patients with cancer in the bones. We presented results in 773 patients treated in an international study, which included our center as well as McGill University in Canada, Westin Park Hospital in England, and other centers in the U.S. We found that Zometa® reduces the risk of bone complications in these patients. Zometa® is currently an approved medication for treatment of patients with bone involvement by myeloma and other cancers.

Cancer patients often have lack of appetite and weight loss, as well as loss of muscle mass. Our group, together with the team in Northwestern University as well as other centers, tested the use of Oxandrolone, an anabolic steroid given by mouth, in patients with weight loss due to cancer. We integrated this medication with a customized nutrition and exercise program. We have seen an improvement in weight and lean body mass as well as improvement in quality of life in patients associated with this program, and additional studies are ongoing. We have

presented and published our results, both in the United States and abroad. We are also participating in studies of new medications to control diarrhea, a problem that can be very significant in patients undergoing cancer treatments.

We have advanced dramatically with regards to the treatment of anemia and fatigue in cancer patients. Recently, in association with our UCLA colleagues, we have pursued multiple large clinical studies to determine the efficacy of new molecules in the treatment of anemia. Of interest is Aranesp, a new long-acting injection for anemia treatment. It stimulates the production of red cells in the bone marrow. Because Aranesp is effective for a long period of time, the injections can be given less frequently. We are also testing new iron formulations known to enhance anemia treatments. We now are able to reverse anemia in the majority of cancer patients with these interventions, and this is associated with an improvement in energy and quality of life.

Prostate cancer remains a huge challenge, and it receives our constant attention. Clinical trials with monoclonal antibodies that are designed to augment the immune response against prostate cancer are on-going. We will be starting clinical trials in prostate cancer with the new oral chemotherapy agent Satraplatin. Novel combination chemotherapy trials are also in progress.

A new chemotherapy drug, Alimta® has recently been found to be effective in the treatment of malignant mesothelioma, an asbestos-related cancer which predominantly develops in the lining of the lungs. We now have access to Alimta® for our patients through a compassionate expanded access clinical trials program and the drug may become available for wide-spread use in the future. This medication is also being tested in small cell lung cancer.

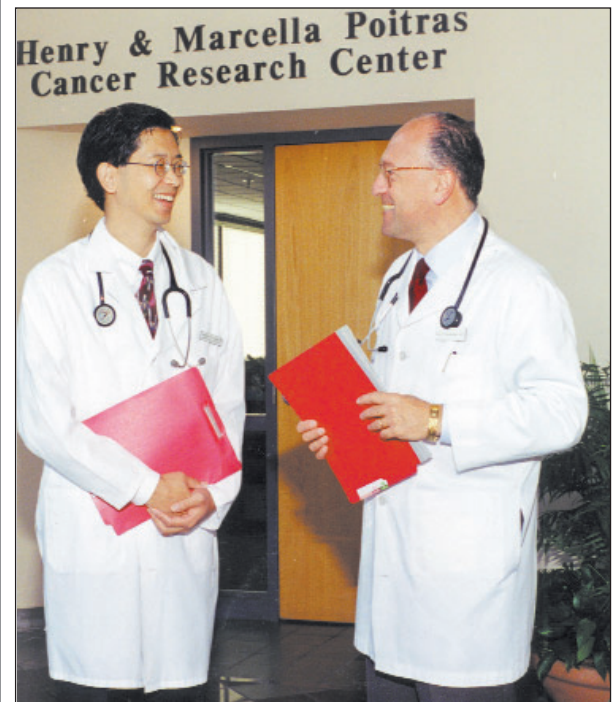
Breast cancer is a major problem receiving renewed and massive attention. We are testing new oral compounds, such as GW572016, in patients with breast cancer. These molecules target multiple weak spots on cancer cells and turn the cancer cell division switches off. Several new hormonal treatments and therapies designed to protect the bones and bone marrow from metastases of breast cancer are under testing. Femara® works by blocking estrogen production and was recently found to be helpful when given after five years of treatment with tamoxifen in patients with breast cancer. New chemotherapy programs in combination with novel antibodies are also offering promise for breast cancer patients with advanced disease. In all, we have 15 new active clinical trials addressing breast cancer. We also participate in the STAR Trial, a study for the prevention of breast cancer.

Advanced kidney cancer is notoriously resistant to most treatments. We are about to embark on an international clinical trial to test a new oral non-chemotherapy medication with a unique mechanism of action in the treatment of

kidney cancer. 123 centers, including ours, in 21 countries will participate with this truly global, worldwide effort. Over 800 patients are expected to participate, and the large scale of the effort is needed because kidney cancer is not very frequent.

Antibodies that target specific cancer cells are being developed and are under extensive testing in lymphoma and melanoma. A variety of cancer prevention strategies in patients at high risk for cancer because of their family history or personal history background are becoming increasingly available. We are also participating in studies of a complex dietary supplement in patients with a personal history of cancer.

Recent surveys show that 395 new cancer-related medications are in the pipeline, with focus not only on the most common cancers such as lung, breast, colorectal and prostate, but also on less frequent cancers such as pancreatic, ovarian, kidney, brain, skin, lymph glands, liver and many others. The National Cancer Institute and 181 pharmaceutical companies are engaged in this effort.



Drs. A.K. Liem and S. Tchekmedyian, medical team oncologists.

New options, coupled with current standard therapy, provide cancer patients with access to the best that medical science has to offer today.

For more information, please call our Long Beach Office at (562) 590-0345, Los Alamitos Office at (562) 430-5900, Huntington Beach Office at (714) 252-9415, Glendale Office at (818) 637-7611, or visit www.pacshoresoncology.com.

N. Simon Tchekmedyian, M.D. F.A.C.P.
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