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News@MSKCC provides journalists with news and information from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and is released six times a year. For more information about these and other potential story ideas, contact Memorial Sloan-Kettering's Department of Public Affairs at: **212-639-3573** or at [mediastaff@mskcc.org](mailto:mediastaff@mskcc.org)

## What's New

**Raising Awareness, Reducing Risks: Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Treatment**

While the survival rate for childhood cancers nears 80 percent, survivors can face future health risks as a result of their treatment.

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**MSKCC Investigator Named Dream Team Leader by Stand Up To Cancer**

An MSKCC researcher has been named a "Dream Team" leader by Stand Up To Cancer and will co-lead a collaborative team that will receive \$15 million to study targeted therapies to treat women's cancers.

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**Online Portal Connects Patients with Treatment Teams**

MSKCC has now made keeping track of details regarding care easier by creating a private, personalized online link for patients to access this information and communicate with their physicians and nurses.

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**Research Highlights****Surgery Not Necessary for Most Late-Stage Colorectal Cancers**

MSKCC experts report that a large majority of patients who present with advanced colorectal cancer that has spread to other organs (stage IV) don't require immediate surgery to remove the primary tumor in the colon.

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**Study Shows Drug Combination Improves Outcome for Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer**

A new, international study found that the combination of two drugs delays disease progression for patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer.

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**Genes Found to Play a Role in Breast Cancer's Spread to the Brain**

New research led by investigators at MSKCC identifies three genes that specifically mediate the metastasis, or spread, of breast cancer to the brain and illuminates the mechanisms by which this spread occurs.

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**New Minimally Invasive Surgery Option for Patients with Stomach Cancer**

Findings from a new study led by researchers at MSKCC show that while laparoscopic surgeries generally took longer to perform than open procedures, the minimally invasive approach yielded shorter hospital stays, a decreased need for postoperative pain relief, fewer complications after surgery, and similar rates of recurrence-free survival.

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**Drug Shows Activity in Men with Advanced Prostate Cancer**

A new multi-center study shows that an experimental drug lowers PSA levels in men with advanced prostate cancer for whom traditional treatment options have failed.

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**A New Tool to Predict Outcome and Evaluate Treatment in Patients with Advanced Prostate Cancer**

Researchers at MSKCC have gained new insight into how circulating tumor cells can help predict the prognosis of patients with castration-resistant prostate cancer.

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**MSKCC Researchers Establish Further Immune Benefit of Blood Stem Cell Transplants**

MSKCC medical oncologist Katharine C. Hsu and colleagues have described an immune benefit of allogeneic, or donor-provided, blood stem cell transplants in patients being treated for leukemia.

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**The Geoffrey Beene Translational Oncology Core Facility**

Research conducted at MSKCC's Geoffrey Beene Translational Oncology Core Facility helps increase our understanding of the genes involved in cancer.

understanding of the genes involved in cancer.  
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#### **Toward the Next Generation of Medical Imaging**

Researchers at MSKCC are exploring whether a new generation of nanoparticles called "C dots" can assist in tumor detection and treatment.

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#### **Staff Highlights**

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##### **Cancer Biologist Joan Massagué Honored on Two Continents**

Joan Massagué, Chair of the Cancer Biology and Genetics Program in the Sloan-Kettering Institute, has been named the recipient of two prestigious awards.

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##### **Charles Sawyers Awarded Landon Prize**

The American Association for Cancer Research recently awarded Charles L. Sawyers, Chair of MSKCC's Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program, the 2009 Dorothy P. Landon Prize for Translational Cancer Research.

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##### **David Scheinberg Elected to the Association of American Physicians**

MSKCC physician-scientist David A. Scheinberg was recently elected a member of the Association of American Physicians.

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