



**NATIONAL COLONOSCOPY STUDY
ANNUAL MEETING**

WASHINGTON, DC OCTOBER 28 – 29, 2011

The National Colonoscopy Study (NCS) organized the 2011 annual meeting to discuss preliminary results of Phase II study findings. NCS is a randomized controlled study comparing screening colonoscopy versus a program (3 years) of fecal occult blood tests in asymptomatic patients (Phase II.) Preliminary results highlighting screening adherence and outcome findings for both study arms were presented. Additional discussions included three papers-in-progress, biorepository data and candidate biomarkers, and computer modeling of the NCS data for long-term follow-up of colonoscopy and FOBT screening.

Principal Investigators and coordinators from the three clinical sites (University of Minnesota, Group Health Cooperative - Seattle, and Louisiana State University Health Science Center - Shreveport) were in attendance. Representatives from Erasmus University of the Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modeling Network (CISNET) and the Chairman of the NCS Pathology Review Committee at Boston University Medical Center also joined the meeting. **Ann Zauber**, Principal Investigator, would like to thank the NCS team - **Sharon Bayuga**, **Deborah Kuk**, **Julie Ruckel Kumar**, **Chelsea Schneider**, and **Youming Xu** - for all their hard work!

**SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL TRIALS
ANNUAL MEETING**

Mithat Gönen is the program chair for the upcoming annual Society for Clinical Trials meeting in Miami on May 20-23, 2012. The theme of the 2012 meeting is "Clinical Trials in Vulnerable Populations".

Visit www.sctweb.org for more details. See you in Miami!

caBIG ANNUAL CaTissue MEETING

Ravi Jagannathan was one of the organizing committee members for NCI and caBIG's annual caTissue Users meeting at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. The conference was held from Dec 5 -7 2011 where he presented a technical session for new users of caTissue Suite.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Andrew Vickers ran the New York City Marathon in early November. He wore his MSKCC running shirt and received a huge cheer while running past the hospital, on his way to completing the marathon with a time of 2:57:34.

CRG CORNER

The Clinical Research Database (CRDB) runs on three platforms including CRDB Client, CRDB Web, and CRDBi. New modules on CRDBi include the Special Diagnostic Test and the Tablet Based BMT Survey. CRDBi is the web client platform of the Clinical Research Database. The release version is currently CRDBi 1.28.3.



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**DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIOSTATISTICS
EXPANDS TO THE 14TH FLOOR OF 300 EAST 66TH STREET**

On December 19, 2011, the Department will have additional space at 300 East 66th Street on the 14th floor. The floor will be shared with the division of Solid Tumor Head and Neck. Total space allocated to the Department for offices/cubicles is 1955 square feet. Common spaces include a state of the art conference room that holds up to 15 people and a break out room for meetings of up to 4 people. Thirteen employees who are closely associated with The Center for Health Policy and Outcomes will be moving to the new location. They include, **Peter Bach**, M.D., **Elena Elkin**, Ph.D, **Victoria Blinder**, M.D., M.Sc., **Allison Lipitz Snyderman**, Ph.D, **Coral Atoria**, **Carolyn Eberle**, **Sang-Hee Min**, **Paige Nobles**, **Laura Pinheiro**, **Romina Rodriguez**, **Geoffrey Schnorr**, **Yvonne Bombard**, and **Caitriona O'Neill**.

The building was first occupied in 2009 by the Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center and MSKCC Imaging Center. With Mrs. Lauder's guidance and support, the building was established to provide state-of-the-art care in a comfortable and welcoming environment. Mrs. Lauder personally made many of the design and material choices. Mrs. Lauder's personal curator selected the artwork displayed on the 14th floor.

300 East 66th Street is on 2nd Avenue between 65th and 66th Streets. The entrance can be accessed through the driveway from 65th or 66th Street. All of Health Outcomes and the Administrative team have been granted security access on their ID cards. Other visitors will need to be announced at the Security desk. If you anticipate that you will be a frequent visitor, please contact Romina Rodriguez to have your ID updated. All are welcome to visit the new space on or after December 21st. Please contact Kara Fraga or Romina Rodriguez to arrange.



GRANT AWARD

Kathy Panageas has been awarded a PCPR Goldstein Award to examine the frequency and patterns of off-label use of chemotherapeutic agents in a cohort of elderly breast cancer patients. The population based SEER-Medicare linked dataset will be used to explore this topic. This work will be carried out in collaboration with **Cami Sima** and **Anne Eaton**.

In a manuscript recently published in *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*, **Anne Reiner**, **Kathy Panageas** and colleagues conducted the first population-based study of lymphedema in elderly men following a diagnosis of incident primary breast cancer of any stage. Lymphedema rates in elderly men were similar to analogous rates for elderly women; lymphedema is a common complication affecting both genders.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Staff

Melissa Budnick is the new Biostatistics Fund Coordinator. Prior to MSKCC, she worked in grant management at Weill Cornell, in the Departments of Pediatrics and Public Health. Additionally, Melissa has worked in grant management at New York University and The George Washington University. She completed her Master's in Public Health from Hunter College in May 2011 and is currently pursuing a Master's in Public Administration at Baruch College.



Farewell to Staff

Quincy Mo will leave the department in January 2012 to take a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor at the Baylor College of Medicine. The faculty appointment will be in the Department of Medicine and Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center.