The EyeCare Foundation is now The Eye Cancer Foundation

Starting January 1st, 2010, ECF will stand for The Eye Cancer Foundation. This change enables us to focus on eye cancer and better reflects the interests of our volunteer board of directors, board of trustees and our newly expanded scientific advisory board.

The Eye Cancer Foundation is an educational and supportive resource for eye cancer patients, their families, and physicians. Our mission is two-fold; one part focused on multi-centered research of new diagnostic treatments for eye cancer research, the other focused on providing much needed patient support services.

Save the Date!

ARVO - Florida
May 2nd-6th, 2010
We will present many ECF supported research studies!

WOC - Berlin
June 5th-9th, 2010
We will present a symposium on the use of the AJCC-UICC Language.

ECF Lunch - NYC
TBA
Call to find out about our annual patient get together and support group.

Do You Speak

The AJCC_UICC Ophthalmic Oncology Task Force completed its work to create an international language for describing eye cancers. Published by Springer during the fall of 2009, it has already been accepted by most of the major ophthalmic research journals.

This work was a combined effort from 46 eye cancer specialists from 11 countries including Canada, England, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, The Netherlands, Sweden and the United States of America (see page 5).

We all owe a debt of gratitude for the support of The American College of Surgeons, the American Joint Committee on Cancer, the International EyeCare Foundation.
Cambridge University

Over 800 years ago, this center of higher education was constructed by those who sought to leave this world a little better than they found it.

In September of 2009, researchers supported by The Eye Cancer Foundation, came from all over the world to share their vision for ophthalmic oncology at the ICOO (International Congress for Ophthalmic Oncology).

Robert Raut, MD at the ICOO 2009
Cambridge, UK: Dr. Robert Raut of Montreal Canada, presents cutting edge research describing the use of total body PET/CT imaging to screen for metastasis in patients with choroidal melanoma. Supported by The Eye Cancer Foundation, he presents the largest series of screened patients to the world’s community of ophthalmic oncologists.

Sri Bhargava Natesh, MBBS
Sribhargava Natesh is currently working as a retinal consultant and Neuro-ophthalmologist at Narayana Nethralaya Super Specialty Eye Hospital, Bangalore India. He is involved in management of intraocular tumors. In 2009 he completed a fellowship at The New York Eye Cancer Center, funded by the International Council of Ophthalmologists (ICO).

Ekaterina Semenova, MD
A 2009 ICO Fellow, Dr. Semenova has published her work on cytology for squamous conjunctival tumors in the American Journal of Ophthalmology and novel FAF-imaging techniques for cancer related retinopathy.

A native of Siberia, Dr. Semenova is currently caring for eye cancer patients and performing research in Moscow’s Helmholtz Research Institute of Eye Disease.
Spreading the Word: The Eye Cancer Foundation Distributes 200 AJCC Manuals Around the World

Starting at the 2009 International Congress of Ophthalmic Oncology (ICOO), representatives of The Eye Cancer Foundation began a process to encourage international clinical acceptance of the unified TNM-based AJCC-UICC eye cancer staging system.

This involves several initiatives. First, the ICOO recognized that the AJCC-UICC Ophthalmic Oncology Task Force represents the largest multinational collaboration of eye cancer specialists.

Second, we gained support from the major ophthalmic journals (The Archives of Ophthalmology, The American Journal of Ophthalmology, the British Journal of Ophthalmology and the journal of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery) and continue to ask others to join.

Then, with the help of the publisher (Springer) we purchased and distributed over 200 copies of the AJCC manual throughout the world. In this we recognized that many areas of the world might not be aware of or able to purchase this work. For this, we have received many appreciative notes of appreciation. We in turn, thank you for your support.

One such note was sent from Nepal as seen below:

Dr. A.S. Karthikeyan
Lumbini Eye Institute
Shree Rana Ambika Shah Eye Hospital
Siddarthanagar, Rupandehi, Bhairahawa
Nepal

Your gift came at a right time as I am developing Retinoblastoma services together with our regional cancer Institute in Nepal. Dr. Karthikeyan completed a fellowship at Birmingham Children’s Hospital, U.K for Retinoblastoma Management through an award by Royal college of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow Sponsored by the Davies Foundation. The Lumbini Eye institute is located in Bhairahawa at Lumbini Zone, the birthplace of Lord Buddha in Nepal. My Institute is also very close to the Indian border and we see many children with Retinoblastoma. I once again sincerely thank you for this precious gift.
ECF Research News

Lucentis for Radiation Maculopathy
In a study sponsored by Roche-Genentech, Eye Cancer Foundation researchers at The New York Eye Cancer Center are the first to report that the anti-VEGF drug Lucentis can be used to improve vision in patients affected by radiation-related retinal damage. This work was published in prestigious Archives of Ophthalmology.

Retinoblastoma
This year, The Eye Cancer Foundation made posters available “for free” to hospitals, clinics and offices that see children with retinoblastoma. All they have to do is go to http://eyecancerfoundation.net/news.htm and download and print them for their center. While you are there, download the free coloring book, “Joey’s Special Eye” too!

Choroidal Melanoma
Co-sponsored by Theragenics and The Eye Cancer Foundation, 23 coworkers from 4 hospitals published their 18-year experience with palladium-103 ophthalmic plaque radiation therapy for choroidal melanoma in the journal of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. In this series, palladium-103 was used to treat 400 patients whose results were found to be superior to those reported for alternative forms of radiation.

Intraocular Imaging Research
The Eye Cancer Foundation has sponsored research on specialized imaging techniques called FAF and OCT, to better understand why and how intraocular tumors grow. A series of our articles are recently published or in press describing optic disc melanocytoma, choroidal metastases and cancer-related retinopathy.
2009 ECF Publications


The AJCC-UICC Task Force Members

The members of the 7th Edition, AJCC-UICC Ophthalmic Oncology Task Force include:

Col Darryl J. Ainbinder, MD; Daniel M. Albert, MD, MS; James O. Armitage, MD; James J. Augsburger, MD; Nikolas E. Bechrakis, MD; Maj John H. Boden, MD; Patricia Che´vez-Barrios, MD; Sarah E. Coupland, MBBS, PhD; FRCPath; Bertil Damato, MD, PhD; Laurence Desjardins, MD; Ralph C. Eagle, MD; Deepak P. Edward, MD; Bita Esmaeli, MD; Paul T. Finger, MD (Chair); James C. Fleming, MD; Brenda L. Gallie, MD; Dan S. Gombos, MD; Jean-Daniel Grange, MD; Hans E. Grossniklaus, MD, MBA; Barrett G. Haik, MD; Col John B. Halligan, MD; Santosh Hanavar, MD; J. William Harbour, MD; George J. Harocopoulos, MD; Leonard M. Holbach, MD; John L. Hungerford, MD; Martine J. Jager, MD, PhD; Zeynel A. Karciglu, MD; Akihiro Kanecko, MD, Tero Kivela, MD; Emma Kujala, MD; Ashwin C. Mallipatna, MBBS; Col Robert A Mazzoli, MD; Hugh McGowan, MD; Tatyana Milman, MD; A. Linn Murphree, MD; Tim G. Murray, MD, MBA; Jack Rootman, MD, FRCS; Didi de Wolff-Rouendaal, MD, PhD; Andrew P. Schachat, MD; Stefan Seregard, MD; E. Rand Simpson, MD; Arun D. Singh, MD; Valerie A. White, MD, MHSc; Matthew W. Wilson, MD; Christian W. Wittekind, MD; Guopei Yu, MD, MPH.

You are the ECF!

We are the only charitable organization that supports coordinated efforts among eye cancer specialists throughout the world. This is why we support the continued efforts of the international colleagues involved in creating Eye Cancer Big!

The Eye Cancer Foundation (sm)

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