

THE
University of Vermont
C A N C E R C E N T E R

The eALERT is an internal newsletter sent semi-monthly.
Please send submissions for the eALERT to [Sarah Keblin](#) by 4 PM Wednesday for
submission in the current issue.

Thursday, April 15, 2015

[Host Factor and Tumor Progression Program Meeting to Feature Alan Howe, PhD](#)

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[Host Factor and Tumor Progression
Research Program Meeting: April 27](#)

Event Spotlight

April 27, 2015

**UVM Cancer Center
Program Meeting**
hosted by Host Factors and
Tumor Progression

featuring
Alan Howe, PhD
Department of
Pharmacology

"Regulation of Metastatic
Tropism by the Mechanical
Microenvironment: The
Tension Mounts"

4 PM to 5:30 PM
HSRF 300

Save the Date

April 2015

*National Cancer
Control Month, Head and Neck
Cancer Awareness Month,
Testicular Cancer Awareness
Month*

**17 Biochemistry/Cancer
Center Seminar** featuring Mark
Israel, MD, Director, Norris
Cotton Cancer Center:
"Therapeutic targeting of a
transcription factor: A novel
approach to brain tumor
treatment"; Given C443, 12 PM.

**17 VGN/AGTC Seminar:
Bioinformatics in a Box,**

All UVM Cancer Center members are encouraged to attend this month's research program meeting, hosted by the Host Factors and Tumor Progression (HFTP) program. The meeting will feature a presentation by UVM Cancer Center member Alan Howe, PhD, associate professor of pharmacology, titled "Regulation of Metastatic Tropism by the Mechanical Microenvironment: The Tension Mounts."



Research program meetings are open to all UVM Cancer Center members and are intended to inspire opportunities for collaborations and translational science, as well as to provide a forum to share updates on research, funding opportunities, and more.

The meeting will take place on Monday, April 27, 2015 from 4 PM to 5:30 PM in HSRF 300. Please contact HFTP program leader, [Jane Lian, PhD](#), with any questions.

UVM Cancer Center and VT PBS to Host Public Screening of *Cancer: Emperor of All Maladies*

The UVM Cancer Center, with Vermont PBS, will host a public screening of the new Ken Burns' presented film, *Cancer: Emperor of All Maladies*, on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6 PM in Carpenter Auditorium at the UVM College of Medicine. The 6-hour film, based on the book by Pulitzer Prize-winning author and physician-researcher Siddhartha Mukherjee, MD, chronicles the history of cancer research and treatment. The screening event will feature a 40-minute segment of highlights from the film followed by an expert panel discussion with the audience.

All UVM Cancer Center members, staff, and patients are encouraged to attend.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please see the UVM Cancer Center [webpage](#).

featuring Faye D. Schilkey, Director, Strategic Projects & NM-INBRE Sequencing & Bioinformatics Core National Center for Genome Resources; HSRF 400, 2 PM. Contact [Tim Hunter](#) for more information.

26 [UVM Women's Soccer Score for a Cure](#); 3v3 soccer tournament for U10, 12 and 14 age groups as well as college students.

May 2015

*Brain Tumor Awareness/
Cancer Research Month/
Skin Cancer Detection and
Prevention Month/National
Women's Health Month*

1-2 [NE Genitourinary Oncology Symposium](#); Hilton Hotel, Burlington, VT.

1-3 [Stowe Weekend of Hope](#)

4 Genomic Instability Cancer Meeting; Jackson Laboratories, Bar Harbor, ME; please contact [Kevin Mills](#) at Jackson Labs.

8 [Northeastern Breast Cancer Symposium](#); Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH, 8 AM to 5 PM. For more information, or to register, [click here](#).

12 J. Walter Juckett Distinguished Lecture: "The Many Faces of Li Fraumeni Syndrome" featuring Louise Strong, MD, Professor of Genetics at the University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center; Carpenter Auditorium, 12 noon.

Team Science Mini Research Symposium on May 22

The UVM Cancer Center will host a half-day Clinical and Translational Research Symposium on Friday, May 22, 2015 focused on team science. Featured speakers include two experts on the topic from the National Institutes of Health (NIH)--Michelle Bennett, PhD, deputy scientific director of the Division of Intramural Research (DIR) at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and Howard Gadlin, PhD, NIH Ombudsman and Director of the Center for Cooperative Resolution at the NIH. The pair are contributors to the NIH's 2010 publication *Collaboration and Team Science: A Field Guide*.

The event will also include interactive time for faculty, staff, and students to work collaboratively on the process of team science, utilizing real-time scientific and clinical research happening at the UVM Cancer Center.

The event will take place in the UVM College of Medicine's new Larner interactive classroom near the Dana Medical Library from 8 AM to 12 PM. Breakfast will be provided.

A full agenda for the day will be distributed in the coming weeks. Please [RSVP to Charlie Brooks](#).

Registration Open for Men's Health and Cancer Conference

THE University of Vermont CANCER CENTER PRESENTS

Men's Health + Cancer
2015 CONFERENCE

Friday, June 26, 2015
8:00 am – 12:00 pm

SULLIVAN CLASSROOM
University of Vermont Medical Education Pavilion

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Please join us for a half-day event focused on education about MEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER. Sessions will include information about nutrition and cancer prevention, screening, treatment, survivorship, and more.

Pre-registration is available until June 19th. Visit www.VermontCancer.org or call (802) 656-4414.

[facebook.com/UVMCancerCenter](https://www.facebook.com/UVMCancerCenter) [pinterest.com/UVMCancerCenter](https://www.pinterest.com/UVMCancerCenter) [@UVMCancerCenter](https://twitter.com/UVMCancerCenter)

The Men's Health and Cancer Conference is now open for registration! All Cancer Center members and staff are welcome to attend this public education event and are strongly encouraged to refer patients. The half-day event is on **Friday, June 26, 2015** and is free and open

19 Public Screening and Panel Discussion of Ken Burns' film, *Cancer: Emperor of all Maladies*; a joint event with Vermont PBS; Carpenter Auditorium, 6-7:30 PM.

22 UVM Cancer Center Mini-Symposium: *Team Science* Lerner Classroom (near Dana Medical Library), 8 AM to 12 PM.

29 VTAAC Annual meeting; 9 AM to 3 PM Capitol Plaza, Montpelier.

June 2015

Men's Health Awareness Month

19-20 [ACS Relay for Life](#)

26 SAVE THE DATE: 1st Annual Men's Health and Cancer Conference presented by the UVM Cancer Center; Medical Education Center, UVM College of Medicine; 8-12.

September 2015

Ovarian, Leukemia and Lymphoma, Childhood and Prostate, and Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month

12 Sugarbush Polo Club match to benefit the UVM Cancer Center; more details to come!

14 SAVE THE DATE: J. Walter Juckett Distinguished Lecture, featuring nobel prize winning scientist Phil Sharp, PhD, Professor at the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT.

to the public. For more information, or to register, [click here](#).

UVM Women's Soccer Hosts 2nd Score for a Cure: April 26

For the second year in a row the UVM Women's Soccer team will be hosting an event to raise funds for the University of Vermont Cancer Center and the Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer. The 3 vs. 3 soccer tournament will feature two divisions--one for kids participating in under 10, 12, and 14 year teams and one for college students.

The event is happening on Sunday, April 26, 2015 from 10 AM to 1 PM at UVM's Virtue Field.

To learn more about this event, or to register, please visit the [event website](#).



2014 Score for the Cure

First Annual UVM Student Alumni Association Catamount Color Run

The UVM Student Alumni Association's inaugural Catamount Color Run was a success! More than 300 undergraduate students showed up on a beautiful Saturday afternoon on April 11 ready to run. The student-led event raised funds and awareness for a select few UVM organizations that have a "big impact" on campus. The UVM Cancer Center is a proud recipient of funds raised, and was on hand at the event to hand out goodies and talk to students about who we are and what we do!

October 2015

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

2 SAVE THE DATE: 18th Annual Breast Cancer Conference.

Many thanks to the UVM Student Alumni Association for supporting UVM research and education!



Students Supporting the UVM Cancer Center at the Catamount Color Run

SEABA to Host Art Exhibit to Benefit UVM Cancer Center Patient Program

A retrospective art exhibit at the South End Arts and Business Association (SEABA) will honor New England artist Michael Buckley and supports Drawing Inspiration, a virtual community connecting cancer patients with the arts at the UVM Cancer Center. The show, *The Buck Stops Here*, opens on May 1 and runs until May 20. All proceeds benefit the Drawing Inspiration project at the UVM Cancer Center. For more information about Drawing Inspiration, please visit the project's [Facebook page](#). For more about SEABA, [click here](#).

Clinical Trials Highlight

The UVM Cancer Center was the first site in a world-wide, phase I trial to enroll a patient in a cohort for first-line treatment of patients with metastatic, non-small cell lung cancer.

This a study of Avelumab, a novel anti-PDL-1 monoclonal antibody for patients with a variety of solid tumor malignancies. Over the past year the UVM Cancer Center

has participated in this trial enrolling 6 patients with a variety of cancers.

Study Title: EMR 100070-001 A Phase I, Open-label, Multiple-ascending Dose Trial to Investigate the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, Biological and Clinical Activity of Avelumab (MSB0010718C) in Subjects With Metastatic or Locally Advanced Solid Tumors and Expansion to Selected Indications
PI: Claire Verschraegen, MD, MS, FACP

For more information please contact [Claire Verschraegen, MD](#), or the study coordinator, [Sam Cory](#).

Publications and Announcements

Please send announcements and publication notices to [Sarah Keblin](#) for inclusion in the eALERT and other promotional material

Highlights and Announcements:

Janet Ely,, MSN, AOCNP, FNP, a nurse practitioner in Hematology/Oncology, recently passed the Advanced Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse certification exam. This accomplishment recognizes her expertise and the value she brings in supporting our Palliative Care program.

Kate Devine, Nursing Supervisor, UVM Cancer Center, was chosen to be introduced and honored as a Nursing Leader by Executive Nurse Fellow, Jenna Page (Assistant Nurse Manager, Shep 4) at the Vermont Organization of Nurse Leaders (V.O.N.L.) Annual Summit on April 9th. The vision of V.O.N.L. is to shape the future of health care for Vermonters through innovative leadership.

Publications:

[Health behavior change following a diagnosis of ductal carcinoma in situ: An opportunity to improve health outcomes.](#) Berkman AM, Trentham-Dietz A, **Dittus K**, Hart V, **Vatovec CM**, King JG, **James TA**, **Lakoski SG**, **Sprague BL**. Prev Med. 2015 Apr 6. pii: S0091-7435(15)00098-5. doi: 10.1016 /j.yjmed.2015.03.020. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25858806.

[Advanced Breast Imaging Availability by Screening Facility Characteristics](#). Lee CI, Bogart A, Hubbard RA, Obadina ET, Hill DA, Haas JS, Tosteson AN, Alford-Teaster JA, **Sprague BL**, DeMartini WB, Lehman CD, Onega TL. Acad Radiol. 2015 Apr 4. pii: S1076-6332(15)00108-7. doi: 10.1016/j.acra.2015.02.011. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25851643.

[Relation Between Cancer and Atrial Fibrillation \(from the REasons for Geographic And Racial Differences in Stroke Study\)](#). O'Neal WT, **Lakoski SG**, Qureshi W, Judd SE, Howard G, Howard VJ, **Cushman M**, Soliman EZ. Am J Cardiol. 2015 Apr 15; 115(8): 1090-4. doi: 10.1016/j.amjcard.2015.01.540. Epub 2015 Jan 31. PMID: 25711434.

Funding Opportunities

Green indicates NEW

An extensive list of upcoming, extramural funding opportunities can now be found on the [UVM Cancer Center website](#). This list will be updated monthly, however highlighted opportunities from this larger list will still appear in the eALERT. Please send funding opportunities you'd like to add to the list to [Kate Webster](#).

- [CDMRP Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Grants Announced](#); Innovator, Breakthrough and Distinguished Investigator Awards; **pre-application deadline is April 8 for some, April 24 for others**. See website for details.
- [NIH High-End Instrumentation \(HEI\) Grant Program \(S10\)](#); deadline is **April 29, 2015**.
- [NIH Advancing Mechanistic Probiotic/Prebiotic and Human Microbiome Research \(R01\)](#); earliest submissions deadline is **May 1, 2015**.
- [NIH Early-life Factors and Cancer Development Later in Life \(R01\)](#); deadline **May 5, 2015**.
- [NCI Basic Cancer Research in Cancer Health Disparities \(R01\)](#); **deadline is June 17, 2015**.
- [The Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award](#); designed to provide funding to extraordinary early career researchers who have an innovative new idea but lack sufficient preliminary data to obtain traditional funding; **application deadline is July 1, 2015**.

- [DOD Breast Cancer Research Program \(BCRP\) Innovator and Breakthrough Awards](#); deadline is July 28, 2015

[UVM Cancer Center Research Grants](#)

A full list of all organizations designated by the NCI as providing peer-reviewed funding can be found [here](#).

Ongoing Events

Cancer Biology and Technology Seminar Series (an integrated part of the Biochemistry Seminar Series)
Second Friday of each month at Noon, Given C443.

Environmental Pathology and Carcinogenesis Seminar Series

Mondays at Noon, HSRF 200

UVM Cancer Center Grand Rounds

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th

Tuesday 8-9am, MedEd 300

Please refer to the UVM Cancer Center Website for information regarding regularly scheduled tumor board meetings. Information can be found [here](#).

UVM Cancer Center Leadership:

Gary S. Stein, PhD, Director

Claire F. Verschraegen, MD, Deputy Director

Kate Webster, Administrative Director

Sarah Koblin, Communications Manager