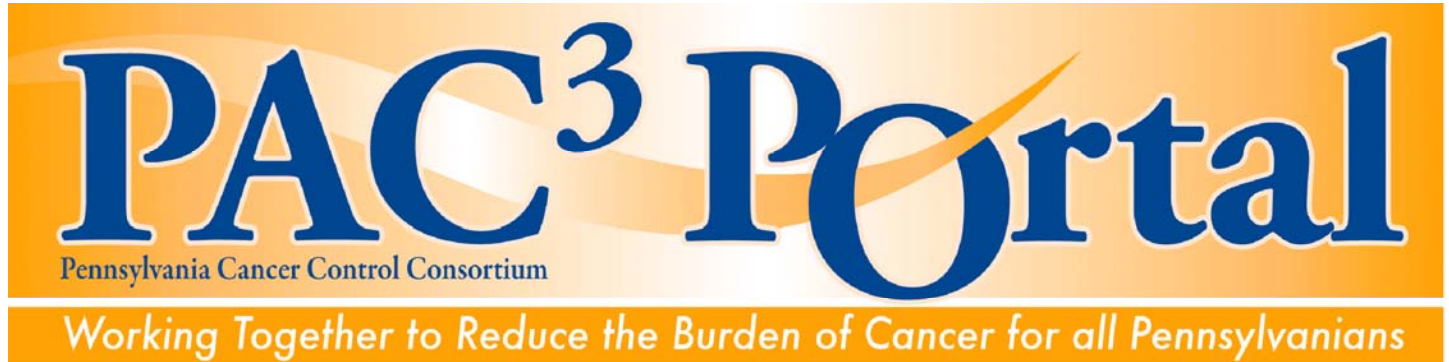


To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter please email us at [pac3@upmc.edu](mailto:pac3@upmc.edu) and at [rachel.gallo@fcc.edu](mailto:rachel.gallo@fcc.edu)

April 16, 2010



5150 Centre Avenue | Suite 4B | Pittsburgh, PA 15232 | 412.623.0033 | [www.pac3.org](http://www.pac3.org)

## PAC<sup>3</sup> COORDINATING OFFICE TO CLOSE ON APRIL 30, 2010

The PAC<sup>3</sup> Coordinating Office will close in two weeks on April 30, 2010. PAC<sup>3</sup>, as an organization, will continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The Board of Directors is committed to continuing the key communications and initiatives of the organization to further comprehensive cancer control efforts. Both Board members and some of their respective organizations have volunteered to take leadership of key initiatives during this transitional period. Please take note of the following:

- **Fox Chase Cancer Center** will manage PAC<sup>3</sup> communications, including the PAC<sup>3</sup> website (<http://www.pac3.org/>) and the PAC<sup>3</sup> Portal newsletter. The contact person will be Linda Fleisher (215-728-3690 | [linda.fleisher@fcc.edu](mailto:linda.fleisher@fcc.edu)).
- **Kimmel Cancer Center** will provide leadership in continuing to develop strategic initiatives. The contact person will be Dr. Ronald Myers (215-503-4085 | [ronald.myers@jefferson.edu](mailto:ronald.myers@jefferson.edu)).
- **Northeast Regional Cancer Institute** will endeavor to continue PAC<sup>3</sup> networking through periodic conference calls and/or meetings, as necessary or appropriate. The contact person will be Robert Durkin (570-941-7984 | [durkinr2@scranton.edu](mailto:durkinr2@scranton.edu)).

- **University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute** will continue to house and maintain the Pennsylvania Cancer Resource Database, online at <http://www.resources.pac3.org/>. The contact person will be Dr. Maryann Donovan (412-623-5964 | [donoma2@upmc.edu](mailto:donoma2@upmc.edu)).

For more information on PAC<sup>3</sup>'s decision to close the Coordinating Office and plans for future PAC<sup>3</sup> communications, please go to <http://www.pac3.org/Files/PAC3COClosure.pdf>.

## **PAC<sup>3</sup> ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Impact of PAC<sup>3</sup> Coordinating Office Closure on Future PAC<sup>3</sup> Communications**

In an effort to continue to serve our members with the high level of communication efficiencies that the PAC<sup>3</sup> Coordinating Office has provided, the PAC<sup>3</sup> Board of Directors has agreed to share PAC<sup>3</sup> members' contact information with organizations that will be assuming responsibility of key PAC<sup>3</sup> initiatives during this transitional period.

PAC<sup>3</sup> understands the importance of privacy for our members and this decision was not made without extensive consideration of your privacy. The Board felt without sharing such information, communications between PAC<sup>3</sup> members about critical issues like grant opportunities, cancer news, upcoming events, and legislative issues could not continue effectively.

If you wish to be removed from the PAC<sup>3</sup> membership list, please contact the PAC<sup>3</sup> Coordinating Office by next **Thursday, April 22** at [pac3@upmc.edu](mailto:pac3@upmc.edu).

Thank you for your understanding and your patience during the upcoming transition.

## **MORE NEWS**

### **Terminal Cancer Patients Do Not Receive Appropriate Radiation Therapy**

A new analysis has found that a considerable proportion of patients with end-stage or terminal cancer do not benefit from palliative radiation therapy (radiotherapy) despite spending most of their remaining life undergoing treatments. Published early online in *CANCER*, a peer-reviewed journal of the American Cancer Society, the study indicates that greater efforts are needed to tailor appropriately palliative radiotherapy to patients with end-stage cancer.

#### **Read More at:**

[http://media-newswire.com/release\\_1116426.html](http://media-newswire.com/release_1116426.html)

### **"Vicious Circle" That Promotes Leukemia Found**

In a finding that could lead to new treatment for acute myeloid leukemia (AML), scientists have identified a self-feeding "vicious circle" of molecules that help the cancerous cells to stay alive and drive the disease forward. AML is a cancer of the eyelid line of blood cells, characterized by the rapid growth of abnormal white blood cells. Although it is a rare disease, it kills nearly 9,000 people in the US alone. Researchers at Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center-Arthur James Cancer Hospital and Richard J Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC-James) have found that a new network of protein and microRNA molecules that,

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Link to County Health Rankings Report

C-Change would like to share with you a link to the County Health Rankings Reports –

<http://www.mmsend1.com/ls.cfm?r=115246447&sid=9232500&m=984005&u=CChange&s=http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>. You may find the report to be an

important and useful tool for your respective organization's program planning, implementation and evaluation efforts. This report is from collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

The report provides comprehensive data and action steps on multiple factors that determine the health of a county. The County Health Rankings Report website <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/> provides access to the 50 state reports, ranking each county within each of the respective states according to its health outcomes and the multiple health factors that determine a county's health.

The website also features examples of how counties have used these rankings of local data to encourage individuals, policy makers, community members, etc. to improve the health of their county and includes a 9-minute video that features County Health Rankings researchers and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation President and CEO Risa Lavizzo-Mourey. The video introduces the County Health Rankings report, explains how the report can be used to improve the health of your community, and highlights how one county used the report to inspire action and improve health in their community.

Please visit <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/> to find more information on the County Health Rankings Report.

when imbalanced, contributes to abnormal growth of another protein called KIT and favors leukemia development.

### Read More at:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life/health-fitness/health/Vicious-circle-that-promotes-leukaemia-found/articleshow/5802684.cms>

### Cigarette Tax Hikes Not Helping Anti-Smoking Efforts

Fourteen states and the District of Columbia hiked their cigarette taxes in 2009, but according to a new report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), anti-smoking efforts have not been sufficiently aided by these efforts. The CDC study, which was published in the April 9 issue of the organization's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), notes that higher excise taxes can theoretically help curb tobacco use and help fund programs designed to wean smokers off of the addictive substance.

### Read More at:

[http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1847629/cdc\\_cigarette\\_tax\\_hikes\\_not\\_helping\\_antismoking\\_efforts/](http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1847629/cdc_cigarette_tax_hikes_not_helping_antismoking_efforts/)

### American Association for Cancer Research Honors Eminent Researchers

The world's leading researchers whose efforts have significantly contributed to progress in the fight against cancer will be recognized by the American Association for Cancer Research at its 101st Annual Meeting 2010, held April 17-21, 2010, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. A series of awards given annually by the AACR, the world's largest professional organization representing cancer scientists from the United States and nearly 90 other countries, honors outstanding accomplishments in basic cancer research, clinical research, epidemiology, therapeutics and prevention. Each recipient presents an educational lecture at the annual meeting.

## IN THE NEWS

### “New” Prostate Cancer Treatment 100% Effective

During a routine physical in September 2006, retired airline pilot Jeff Albullet's doctor thought he 'felt something' when he did a digital rectal exam, although Jeff's prostate specific antigen (PSA) was only 2. Six months later, Jeff's PSA rose to 3.5, and a biopsy showed pre-cancerous cells. In discussing his options with his primary care physician, he learned about a treatment that would save his prostate and not cause impotence or incontinence. According the Dr. Friedrich Douwes, Medical Director of St. George Hospital in Bad Aibling, Germany, president of the German Oncological Society and the author of several hundred scientific articles and books, trans-urethral prostate hyperthermia has a 100% initial response rate.

#### Read More at:

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/new-prostate-cancer-treatment-100-effective-90939994.html>

### Many Hispanics Lack Access to Colon Cancer Screening

Colorectal cancer screening tests, such as colonoscopies, are harder to find in areas of the United States with large Hispanic populations, new research suggests. The finding could help explain why Hispanics are less likely to get screened than non-Hispanic whites, the study authors said. A group led by Dr. Jennifer Haas of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston examined statistics on colorectal screening taken from a national health survey, Medicare data and a cancer monitoring program.

#### Read More at:

<http://www.businessweek.com/lifestyle/content/healthday/637935.html>

#### Read More at:

<http://www.newswise.com/articles/aacr-honors-eminent-researchers2>

### Systematic Review: Enhancing the Use and Quality of Colorectal Cancer Screening

National guideline groups recommend screening and discussion of screening options for persons at average risk for colorectal cancer (CRC). However, emerging evidence suggests that CRC screening is simultaneously underused, overused, and misused and that adequate patient-provider discussions about screening are infrequent.

#### Read More at:

<http://www.annals.org/content/early/2010/04/08/0003-4819-152-10-201005180-00239.full?aimhp#sec-19>

For more new stories and articles of interest, please visit our **In the News** page on our website at:  
<http://www.pac3.org/ResourcesNews.asp>

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

There are many grant opportunities and funding announcements posted on the PAC<sup>3</sup> website. For more information about these and other archived funding opportunities, and to view any application deadlines, please visit <http://www.pac3.org/ResourcesGrantsArchive.asp>.

