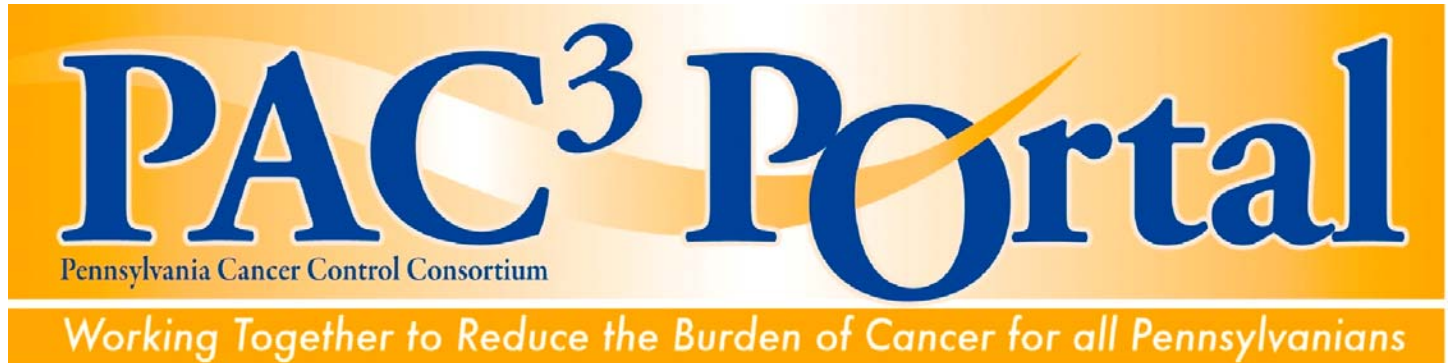


To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter please email Rachel Slamon at [rachel.slamon@fcc.edu](mailto:rachel.slamon@fcc.edu)

April 30, 2010



## NEW CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PAC<sup>3</sup> INITIATIVES AND OPERATIONS

The PAC<sup>3</sup> Coordinating Office will permanently close at 4:00 p.m. today.

PAC<sup>3</sup>, as an organization, will continue to operate for the foreseeable future and the **PAC<sup>3</sup> Board of Directors will manage the day-to-day operations of the organization.** If you have any operational requests or concerns, need information, or have a question regarding PAC<sup>3</sup>, please contact the following PAC<sup>3</sup> Board members:

- **Robert Durkin**, Chair (570-941-7984 | [durkin2@scranton.edu](mailto:durkin2@scranton.edu))
- **Charles Kupchella**, Treasurer (814-419-8038 | [charleskupchella@comcast.net](mailto:charleskupchella@comcast.net))
- **Patricia Bradley**, Secretary (610-519-4920 | [patricia.bradley@villanova.edu](mailto:patricia.bradley@villanova.edu))

In addition, please make a note of the following organizations and individuals, and their respective roles in continuing PAC<sup>3</sup>'s initiatives:

- **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 Rachel Slamon (215-214-1596 | [rachel.slamon@fcc.edu](mailto:rachel.slamon@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 host 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)).
- **Diane Phillips** (717-533-6144 ext 3072 | [diane.phillips@cancer.org](mailto:diane.phillips@cancer.org)), Director of Government Relations with the American Cancer Society, will continue to serve as Chair of the PAC<sup>3</sup> Education Committee. For information on the committee's current issues of interest, please visit <http://www.pac3.org/WhatWeDoEducation.asp>.

For more information, please visit <http://www.pac3.org/NewContacts.asp> or contact us at <http://www.pac3.org/contactus.asp>.

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

### **A Message from the PAC<sup>3</sup> Coordinating Office**

With the closure of the PAC<sup>3</sup> Coordinating Office, the PAC<sup>3</sup> Board members and several organizations around the state will be managing operations and leadership of key PAC<sup>3</sup> initiatives. This presents an opportunity to begin a new chapter in comprehensive cancer control and to re-engage your organizations and communities in working together to reduce the cancer burden.

Your efforts and support over the years have built a strong foundation for comprehensive cancer control efforts in Pennsylvania, but the work is far from completed. We challenge you to continue the PAC<sup>3</sup> vision of reducing suffering and death from cancer through the power of collaboration.

## **IN THE NEWS**

### **CDC Urges 50-State Anti-Smoking Effort**

A coordinated national anti-smoking effort could reduce the more than 400,000 annual tobacco-related deaths in the United States, federal health officials said on Thursday, April 22, 2010. A new report from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers a snapshot of each state's tobacco control progress, including wider adoption of measures to control, prevent and stop smoking. The key, the report says, is having all the states adopt uniform tobacco control plans.

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

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/04/22/cdc.smoking.report/>  
/

It has been a pleasure to work with you. Best wishes as you continue your efforts to transform the PAC<sup>3</sup> vision into a reality.

Sincerely,

Kathy Stadler, Executive Director  
Mark Byrne, Operations Coordinator

### **Keep Your Cancer Resources Current in the Pennsylvania Cancer Resource Database**

As you move forward in your collaborative cancer control endeavors, it remains important that you maintain the information you have currently posted in the **Pennsylvania Cancer Resource Database**, online at <http://www.resources.pac3.org/>, and continue to add new resources in the future.

The database will continue to exist after the PAC<sup>3</sup> Coordinating Office has closed. The University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute will host the database and maintain the information currently posted, as well as any new resources that are added in the future. The contact person for the Pennsylvania Cancer Resource Database will be Dr. Maryann Donovan (412-623-5964 | [donoma2@upmc.edu](mailto:donoma2@upmc.edu)).

Your work on this signature PAC<sup>3</sup> initiative has provided Pennsylvania with an excellent foundation for understanding what is happening in our state in relation to cancer programs and services. Your continued dedication to this project – **and the collaborative spirit embodied by PAC<sup>3</sup>** – will serve as the catalyst toward the progress we all desire.

### **Changes to PAC<sup>3</sup> Portal Dissemination Schedule**

Beginning in May, the PAC<sup>3</sup> Portal newsletter will be sent to you on a *monthly basis*. Look for your next issue

### **Prostate Cancer Vaccine May Get FDA Approval**

The anticipated approval this week (April 26, 2010) of a therapeutic prostate cancer vaccine by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration could be a milestone against the disease and cancer in general, experts say. The vaccine, called Provenge, appears to extend survival in men with advanced prostate cancer, and it does so without the serious side effects associated with chemotherapy, radiation and hormone therapy. "It is certainly exciting to see a drug that has made it this far and appears on the threshold of approval," said Dr. J. Len Lichtenfeld, the deputy chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society.

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

<http://www.businessweek.com/lifestyle/content/healthday/638483.html>

### **Study Makes Strides in Understanding Ovarian Cancer**

New understanding about the early stages of ovarian cancer may lead to the development of a new screening test for the cancer, U.S. researchers say. In the study, scientists uncovered early tumors and precancerous lesions in inclusion cysts, which fold into the ovary from its surface. "This is the first study giving very strong evidence that a substantial number of ovarian cancers arise in inclusion cysts and that there is indeed a precursor lesion that you can see, put your hands on, and give a name to," lead author Jeff Boyd, chief scientific officer at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, said in a news release. "Ovarian cancer most of the time seems to arise in simple inclusion cysts of the ovary, as opposed to the surface epithelium."

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

<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/cancer/articles/2010/04/26/study-makes-strides-in-understanding-ovarian-cancer.html>

### **Genetic Control of Mammalian T-cell Proliferation with**

on May 15th.

You'll still receive the same information including announcements, cancer news updates, upcoming events, and funding opportunities. You may also see new features added in the next few months. Since grant opportunities are timelier, we'll send you updates on new funding when they become available.

We, at Fox Chase Cancer Center, are looking forward to continued communications and exploring how we can best serve you.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Melanoma Monday ~ Monday, May 3, 2010**

May is Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Month and this coming Monday, May 3, 2010 is Melanoma Monday, online at <http://www.melanomamonday.org/>. More than one million new cases of skin cancer will be diagnosed in the United States this year. The American Academy of Dermatology is encouraging people to screen themselves and their loved ones for skin cancer. Performing regular skin self-examinations is an easy way to detect suspicious moles that could be cancerous, and research shows involving a partner in the process can improve the early detection of skin cancer.

The <http://www.melanomamonday.org/> website offers the tools and techniques that make skin self-examinations effective. In addition, visit <http://www.aad.org/public/exams/screenings/index.html> to find free skin cancer screenings in your community. Through this program, more than 1.9 million free screenings have been conducted since 1985.

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

<http://www.melanomamonday.org/>

### **Synthetic RNA Regulatory Systems – Abstract**

RNA molecules perform diverse regulatory functions in natural biological systems, and numerous synthetic RNA-based control devices that integrate sensing and gene-regulatory functions have been demonstrated, predominantly in bacteria and yeast. Despite potential advantages of RNA-based genetic control strategies in clinical applications, there has been limited success in extending engineered RNA devices to mammalian gene-expression control and no example of their application to functional response regulation in mammalian systems. Here we describe a synthetic RNA-based regulatory system and its application in advancing cellular therapies by linking rationally designed, drug-responsive, ribozyme-based regulatory devices to growth cytokine targets to control mouse and primary human T-cell proliferation.

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

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2010/04/23/1001721107.abstract?sid=fb85a900-9001-4d6a-a842-74c4730cdc8e>

### **Urologist Density and County-Level Urologic Cancer Mortality – Abstract**

The surgical work force distribution at the county level varies widely across the United States, and the impact of differential access on cancer outcomes is unclear. We used urologists as a test case because they are the first care providers for urologic cancers, can easily be identified from available data sources, and are unevenly distributed throughout the country. The goal of this study was to determine the effect of increasing urologist density on local prostate, bladder, and kidney cancer mortality. Using county-level data from the Area Resource File, US Census, National Cancer Institute, and Centers for Disease Control, regression models were built for prostate, bladder, and kidney cancer mortality, controlling for categorized urologist density, county demographics, socioeconomic factors, and preexisting health care infrastructure.

**Read More at:**

[http://www.urotoday.com/37/browse\\_categories/bladder\\_cancer/urologist\\_density\\_and\\_countylevel\\_urologic\\_cancer\\_mortality\\_abstract04272010.html](http://www.urotoday.com/37/browse_categories/bladder_cancer/urologist_density_and_countylevel_urologic_cancer_mortality_abstract04272010.html)

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>.