

Second International Symposium on Cancer Metastasis and the Lymphovascular System: Basis for Rational Therapy, held in San Francisco from May 3-5, 2007.

Summary of the Scientific Conference:

The 2nd International Symposium on Cancer Metastasis and the Lymphovascular System: Basis for Rational Therapy was successfully held from May 3-5, 2007 at the Hilton Hotel Financial Districts in San Francisco, CA. There were a total of 81 faculty members and 100 attendees registered for the meeting. In addition, there were 26 sponsors. Here is a breakdown of the attendees:

- 35 MDs
- 10 MDs, PhDs
- 20 PhDs
- 35 Other

Our goal to bring together basic scientists and clinicians to study the role of the lymphovascular system and the spread of cancer as well as develop logical strategies to curb the metastasis process has been adequately met. Following the symposium, we have achieved the following goals: 1) understand the mechanisms of tumor proliferation in the tumor microenvironment; 2) describe the mechanisms of metastasis through the lymphovascular system; 3) recognize the role of stem cells in cancer metastasis; 4) appreciate the potential use of nanoparticles in molecular imaging; 5) grasp the incubator and marker hypothesis; 6) correlate the tumor burden in SLNs and clinical outcome; 7) comprehend immune responses of draining lymph nodes against cancer; 8) explain the rationale of adopting molecular therapeutics against growth factor receptors, apoptosis factors, signaling pathways and angiogenesis; 9) learn about the genomic signatures of cancer for correlation with clinical outcome; and 10) update recent advances in the treatment of solid cancer.

There were a total of 13 sessions and 6 breakfast breakouts. In addition, there were 5 distinguished lectures.

There were a total of 49 poster abstracts that were submitted. Within the group of fellows and residents representing the young investigator group, totaling 29, awards were given to three young investigators namely:

- 1) Dr. Gert Van den Eynden
- 2) Dr. Jeremy Burton
- 3) Dr. Lakshmi Sampath

The overwhelming response is that it was a very successful symposium. There was great enthusiasm to continue this symposium and therefore, the 3rd International Symposium

on Cancer Metastasis and the Lymphovascular System has been scheduled to take place in May, 2009 in San Francisco.

Supplemental Publications:

The conference was successfully held and completed. The entire program has been reviewed and approved for publication as a book on **Cancer Metastasis: From Local Proliferation to Distant Sites Through the Lymphovascular System** to be published by Humana Press/Springer; editor: Stanley P. L. Leong. The publication date is in the Fall of 2008. At this time, manuscripts are being collected and reviewed. The Office of Rare Diseases of NIH and NCI will be cited for the support of this symposium. Further, most of the slide presentations from the symposium have been made into pdf files in CD-ROMs and again, the sponsors including Office of Rare Diseases of NIH and NCI have been acknowledged.

Proposed or Effectuated Research Activities:

It has been proposed that tumor proliferation and metastasis from rare types of cancer such as carcinoids, sarcoma and others should be included in future conferences.