

Cancer Information and Support Service

Cancer News 26 November 2010

Prostate cancer stage may not matter when the tumor is localized

November 22, 2010 Prostate cancer is often discovered when the tumor is localized -- meaning it has not spread beyond the site of the original cancer. Still, men with localized prostate cancer are given a "stage" of T1 or T2 to reflect the size of the tumor and other characteristics that involve the chances that the cancer will recur. Cancer staging can also help doctors and patients decide on treatments after surgery. However, a new study confirms what many cancer doctors have felt about localized prostate cancer staging: It just doesn't appear to matter after surgery. The study was published online Monday in the journal *Cancer*.

MRI Superior in Detecting Early Cancer in High-Risk Women November 22, 2010 — Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) appears to be more effective than mammography in detecting early breast cancer in women at high risk for breast cancer. Dutch researchers found that with a follow-up period of approximately 5 years, the sensitivity of MRI is still superior to that of mammography in women with *BRCA* mutations. The study was published online November 15 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Researchers Identify Key Enzyme That Regulates The Early Growth Of Breast Cancer Cells 22 Nov 2010 - New University of Georgia research, published this week in the early online edition of the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, has found that blocking the action of an enzyme called GnT-V significantly delays the onset and spread of tumors in mice with cancer very similar to many cases of human breast cancer. When the GnT-V enzyme activity in the cells was increased in mammary gland cells, they increased proliferation and began to take on many characteristics of cancer cells.

Comedonal postadolescent acne appears to be most common acne type in adult females by far MONDAY, Nov. 22 (HealthDay News) -- The type of acne most common in adult females is comedonal postadolescent acne (CPAA), and it appears to be strongly correlated with smoking cigarettes. To explore the clinical features of postadolescent acne and its possible association with cigarette smoking, Bruno Capitanio, M.D., of the Istituti Fisioterapici Ospitalieri in Rome, and colleagues examined 226 adult women with acne to assess the age of disease onset as well as the number and type of acne lesions. The research was published in the November issue of the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*.

Clinical Cancer Advances 2010: Annual Report on Progress Against Cancer
From the American Society of Clinical Oncology

ABC Health Online:

Cancer in Indigenous community

Radio National Breakfast

Cancer is now the second leading cause of death, after heart disease, in Indigenous Australians. A new study has found Indigenous people in Queensland are less likely to receive a cancer diagnosis than the rest of the population but are more likely to die from the disease.

Experts fear axing of bowel cancer screening

Radio National Breakfast

It is estimated that 11,000 lives have been saved thanks to the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program. The do-it-yourself home kits, sent out to nearly half a million people, were the first steps to helping lower the number of largely preventable deaths. But there are now concerns about future funding for the program by the federal government

Bowel cancer screening may get a boost

Bowel cancer screening would be stepped up dramatically under plans that Health Minister Nicola Roxon is considering.

After the government's failure to guarantee extending the present limited bowel cancer screening came under expert fire last week, Ms Roxon yesterday raised the prospect of more than doubling the scope of the program, which is due to end early next year.

In response to a question from independent Tony Windsor in Parliament yesterday, Ms Roxon said the government had received advice that "the absolute rolled-gold clinical standard would be to commence screening at 50 and to do that every two years thereafter".

The Age 23/11/10 pg 4;

Centres fail to apply sun policies

Childcare centres are flouting sun-safe policies by not supplying sunscreen or enough shade in play areas and putting children at unnecessary risk of skin cancer, a report suggests.

The Cancer Council SA assessed the sunsmart policies, and how they are applied, of 1000 early education and childcare centres throughout Australia. It found the majority had a sun protection policy but implementation was often found to be lax.

Findings include: one in five childcare services did not supply sunscreen; less than half reapplied sunscreen regularly to children if they were outdoors; just over half reported sunscreen was applied to children 15 minutes before going outside; one quarter do not require children to wear specific sun protective

hats such as broad brimmed or legionnaire styles. *Adelaide Advertiser*
23/11/10 pg 20

No family link seen between Parkinson's, melanoma Nov 23, 2010

(Reuters Health) - Research has suggested that families affected by melanoma skin cancer may also have a higher-than-average rate of Parkinson's disease -- but a large new study found no evidence of such a link. This doesn't mean no genetic link exists, the authors of the new study say. But it does suggest that such a link might not have very important effects. The latest study was published in the journal *Epidemiology*.

Ultrasound boosts nodal staging accuracy in lung cancer November 23, 2010 - More nodal metastases were detected in patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) when surgical staging was supplemented with endosonography compared with surgical staging alone, according to results of a randomized trial. The multicenter trial of more than 240 NSCLC patients found that the sensitivity for mediastinal nodal metastasis detection was 94% with the combined approach (95% CI 85% to 98%) versus 79% for surgical mediastinoscopy alone ($P=0.02$), reported Jouke T. Annema, MD, PhD, of Leiden University in The Netherlands, and colleagues. The study was published the Nov. 24 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Late-occurring events seen more often in blacks with high-risk disease

TUESDAY, Nov. 23 (HealthDay News) -- High-risk neuroblastoma appears to be more prevalent in blacks and Native Americans, and blacks with high-risk disease tend to have a higher rate of late-occurring events. Tara O. Henderson, M.D., of the Comer Children's Hospital at the University of Chicago, and colleagues analyzed data for 3,539 neuroblastoma patients from the Children's Oncology Group to look for disparities in disease presentation and survival by race and ethnicity. The research was published online Nov. 22 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Early use tied to better event-free, disease-free survival in acute promyelocytic leukemia

MONDAY, Nov. 22 (HealthDay News) -- When administered in early remission, arsenic appears to improve the survival rates of patients with acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL). Bayard L. Powell, M.D., of the Cancer and Leukemia Group B in Chicago, and colleagues investigated the effects of administering arsenic to patients in first remission. The study was published in the Nov. 11 issue of *Blood*.

Large serrated polyps may be a useful sign for clinicians to predict CRC risk

MONDAY, Nov. 22 (HealthDay News) -- Large serrated polyps (LSPs) discovered during a colonoscopy are associated with an increased risk of colorectal cancer (CRC) -- proximal CRC in particular, Sakiko Hiraoka, M.D.,

of the Okayama University Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Japan, and colleagues conducted a large, multicenter database study that included 10,199 patients who had undergone their first colonoscopy between June 2005 and May 2008. LSPs were defined as those at least 10 mm in size. research published in the November issue of *Gastroenterology*.

Phase III Recurrent Glioblastoma Survival And Quality Of Life Data From The First Pivotal Study Of The NovoTTF-100A 23 Nov 2010 - Data

presented from a pivotal, phase III randomized clinical trial for patients with recurrent glioblastoma tumors suggest that Tumor Treating Fields (TTF) therapy may increase median survival time and improve quality of life scores compared to best standard of care chemotherapy. Professor Zvi Ram, chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, presented the data at the Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO) Annual Scientific Meeting.

Management of BPH and Prostate Cancer Reviewed November 23, 2010

— Watchful waiting or active surveillance are options in selected patients with benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) and prostate cancer, according to a review reported in the December issue of the *International Journal of Clinical Practice*. 2010;64:1740-1745.

Cancer test big boost for women

Thousands of women's lives could be saved by a dramatic improvement in testing for cervical cancer. The test delivers overnight results and is vastly more accurate than the smear test currently used to spot early signs of the disease, according to researchers.

Researchers claim the smear test misses up to a third of all cervical cancer cases but the new method picks up almost all of them.

Unlike the smear, which checks for abnormal cells, the new Cobas test, which also analyses a small sample of cells taken from the cervix, is able to detect the Human Papilloma Virus, which triggers abnormal cell growth.

Adelaide Advertiser 24/11/10 pg 31

Those with higher α -carotene have lower risk of all-cause, CVD, and cancer death TUESDAY, Nov. 23 (HealthDay News) --

Having higher serum concentrations of α -carotene is associated with a lower risk of death from cardiovascular disease, cancer, and all causes, Chaoyang Li, M.D., of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, and colleagues analyzed data from 15,318 adults aged 20 and older who participated in the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey Follow-Up Study. Participants provided a serum sample, which was assessed for α -carotene. research published online Nov. 22 in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*.

Deprived Cancer Patients Face Fatal Health Problems 24 Nov 2010 - Cancer patients from deprived backgrounds are more likely to develop life-threatening health problems, research published today (Wednesday) in the *British Journal of Cancer* shows. The research looked at over 72,000 patients with 14 different types of cancer between 1997 and 2006. The results showed that the likelihood of one-year survival for poorer patients was significantly worse than those who were well-off.

In Blood Cancers, Transplants Safer Than Before November 24, 2010 - Allogeneic hematopoietic-cell transplants have become safer, researchers reported. In a single-institution study, a comparison of two different periods showed a significant drop in the risk of death, according to George McDonald, MD, and colleagues at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. There were also significant declines in the risk of almost all complications of the procedure, McDonald and colleagues reported in the Nov. 25 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. 2010; 363: 2091-2101.

Treatment Recommendations for Thyroid Cancer Need Reevaluation November 24, 2010 — Current treatment recommendations for papillary thyroid carcinoma (PTC), which has a good overall prognosis, call for a near-total or total thyroidectomy for tumors larger than 1 cm. However, the authors of a new study suggest that it might be "time for a subtle paradigm shift in our approach to PTC." The study appears in the November issue of the *Archives of Otolaryngology — Head & Neck Surgery*.

Multidisciplinary Approach Improves Outcomes in Prostate Cancer November 24, 2010 — For patients with high-risk prostate cancer, a multidisciplinary approach to care can improve their survival. Findings from a 15-year clinic experience at a major cancer center demonstrated that a multidisciplinary strategy is key to the successful treatment of aggressive, locally advanced stage III and IV disease. The findings was published in the November issue of the *Journal of Oncology Practice*,

Cough medicine ingredient dextromethorphan could identify poor tamoxifen metabolizers WEDNESDAY, Nov. 24 (HealthDay News) -- Dextromethorphan, a known "probe drug" for both CYP2D6 and CYP3A4 metabolism, can be used as a phenotyping probe for tamoxifen metabolism in women who must take tamoxifen for breast cancer treatment, according to research presented at the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer/National Cancer Institute/American Association for Cancer Research Symposium on Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics, held from Nov. 16 to 19 in Berlin.

Many Cancers Still Found at Late Stages November 24, 2010 Half of all cases of invasive colorectal cancer diagnosed in the U.S. among people older than 50 continue to be diagnosed at a late stage -- when treatment is more difficult and less likely to be successful, according to a new report from the CDC. The same is true for cervical cancer, and a third of the cases of breast cancer, with differences being seen according to age, race, and location, according to the report, which was published as a surveillance summary in the Nov. 26 *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Campus ban on smokes

A University has banned smoking on 98 per cent of its campus and aims to become entirely cigarette-free by 2015.

And Macquarie University said the writing was on the wall for other tertiary institutions - which will mean the end of that quick smoke to calm the nerves before an exam. The Cancer Council NSW welcomed the move, which followed smoking bans in public hospital grounds in NSW and in many parks, beaches and outdoor eating areas. The first step for Macquarie Uni was banning the sale of cigarettes on its North Ryde campus two years ago. From next year, 98 per cent of the campus would be no-smoking zones.

Daily Telegraph 24/11/10 pg 11

Survival rates improve for kids

More Australian children are surviving cancer, according to research published in the *British Journal of Cancer*.

Although the improvement was mainly among leukemia patients, overall relative survival is now 90 per cent at one year, 79 per cent at five years and 75 per cent at 20 years. Many children still die and many survivors still face long term health complications. *Australian Financial Review 24/11/10 pg 62*

If you or someone you love is affected by cancer, call the Cancer Helpline at 13 11 20 or view our website www.cancervic.org.au
If you wish to include an item in the Cancer News contact Doreen.Akkerman@cancervic.org.au

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