

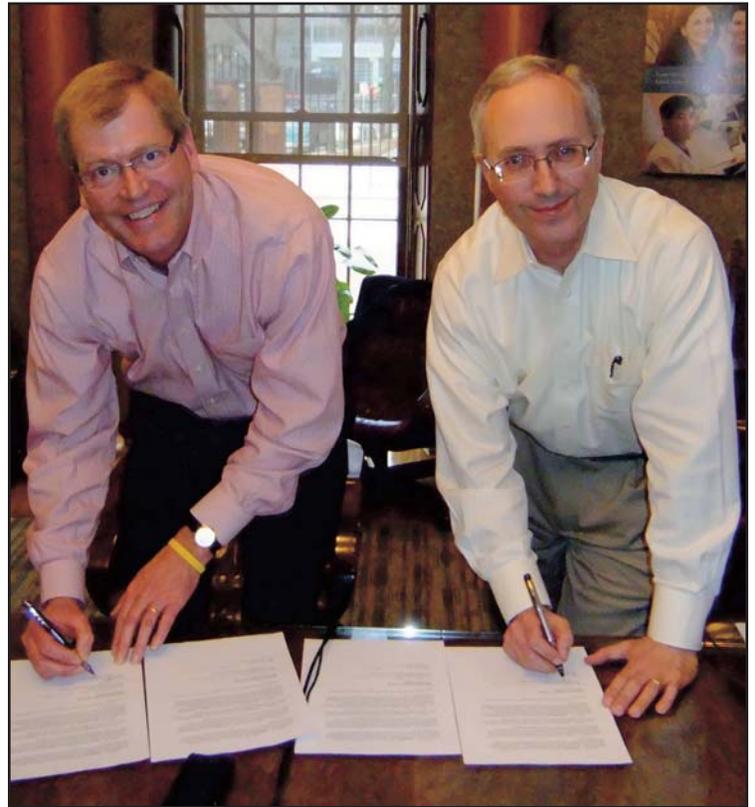


ITOG to Initiate First Trial with ACCRU Collaboration

ITOG's focus on clinical trials is motivated by offering hope to those patients with advanced disease and the more challenging diagnoses of thyroid cancer. Toward this end, the ITOG Board of Directors recently endorsed a partnership with an affiliate of the Mayo Clinic, Academic and Community Cancer Research United (ACCRU). ACCRU was selected after an extensive search to identify the right partner to provide quality infrastructure necessary for ITOG designed trials.

The timing of this agreement is ideal. ITOG has received approval from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Cancer Treatment Evaluation Program (CTEP) for its first clinical trial, Phase II Study of Cabozantinib in Patients with Radioiodine-Refractory Differentiated Thyroid Cancer Who Progressed on First-Line VEGFR-Targeted Therapy. This Phase II study of cabozantinib (XL184) will be opening to enrollment shortly at The Ohio State University, the Mayo Clinic, MD Anderson, University of Chicago and Massachusetts General Hospital. This will be one of the first trials to focus exclusively on patients whose tumors have progressed despite previous tyrosine kinase inhibitor therapy.

Last year the FDA approved the drug vandetanib for patients with medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC). Dr. Samuel Wells, ITOG's founding Executive Director, was the principal investigator and several other ITOG physicians participated in the study. This was a landmark event as MTC patients now have access to a therapy that improves outcomes in a majority of cases. FDA approval sends a strong signal to the pharmaceutical industry that advanced thyroid cancer is a diagnosis worthy of further investments.



ITOG Treasurer Dwight Vicks and Chairman Dr. Steven Sherman endorse the Collaboration Agreement with ACCRU

ITOG Annual Meetings Continue to Innovate and Inspire

Drs. Manisha Shah and Matt Ringel hosted the 2012 Annual Meeting at Ohio State University College of Medicine on April 29-30th. This annual event has become the "Go To" meeting where ITOG members share the latest clinical and scientific results that helps to prioritize the direction of future studies that hold the most promise. The ITOG atmosphere of trust across disciplines and institutions is truly unique and one of the most valuable attributes of ITOG, allowing ITOG members to share their most recent insights with each other confidentially and collaboratively to help move new understandings into patient care as quickly as possible. The 2013 Annual Meeting will be hosted by ITOG members Drs. Bible, Bermet, Menefee and Smallridge of the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.



ITOG founding members Dr. Robert Gagel and Dr. Barry Nelkin were honored at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Gagel was the first Chairman of ITOG and Dr. Nelkin completed his term as a founding director.

New Leadership Elected



Dr. Steven Sherman of MD Anderson was re-elected as ITOG Chairman after an extraordinary year of leadership, including activating the Clinical Protocol and Correlative Science Committees and leading the partnership agreement with ACCRU. He will be joined on the Executive Committee by Dr. Lori Wirth, the Director, Head & Neck Oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Wirth also serves as Chair of the Clinical Protocols Committee, the team charged with evaluating trial proposals. Dwight Vicks, whose wife Jean has medullary thyroid cancer, remains as Treasurer.

Philanthropy Reaches \$1,000,000

Individuals who mostly have been touched in some way by thyroid cancer have given generously to support the mission of ITOG since its inception in 2007. The Larkin Family, pictured, have raised over \$80,000 for ITOG through its annual Kel Klassic golf tournament. "Team Jean" reached \$100,000 in donations this year. Please contact Dwight Vicks, ITOG Treasurer, if you would like to help ITOG improved treatments for patients with thyroid cancer.

ITOG is a driving force leading advancements in the treatment of thyroid cancer. Although recent successes have been truly extraordinary, durable treatments remain elusive. It is vital to conduct additional clinical trials to help thyroid cancer patients. Although much has been accomplished, there remains so much more to be done.

ITOG Membership Doubles in 2012

The International Thyroid Oncology Group (ITOG) was founded initially as the inspiration of patient advocates and key leaders in the field of thyroid cancer who realized there was so much more to be gained by working together to face the challenges of patients with thyroid cancer. ITOG has assembled the very best practitioners and researchers in the field to collaborate to improve treatments, predominantly through facilitating ITOG designed clinical trials. ITOG recently doubled its size to 50 members that make up an extraordinary team, composed of physicians and researchers across different medical disciplines from the finest cancer research institutions around the world.

What Makes Us Different?

Your investment in ITOG will support translational and correlative science studies that are typically not included in most industry-sponsored research, but will be critical to learning how drugs do and don't work in thyroid cancers.



Megan Larkin Curry was inspired by the mission of ITOG to help her mom Maureen Larken, a thyroid cancer survivor, by organizing the Kel Klassic golf event.

How Can You Help?

Creating a clinical trials group requires support to develop, perform, and analyze the effects of new therapeutic agents. Though research grants from pharmaceutical companies and the federal government provide some of this support, they do not provide all the support that *ITOG* needs. If you are in a position to donate funds, please consider doing so. Your generous support will help us to develop the infrastructure we need to advance our goal of eliminating death from thyroid cancer.

To learn more, please contact Dwight Vicks, Treasurer, *ITOG*, PO Box 270, Yorkville, NY 13495; telephone 315-272-2455, e-mail dwight@vicks.biz. The more you learn about *ITOG*, the more you will want to provide support for this worthy cause!

ITOG is incorporated as a charitable foundation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations to *ITOG* are tax deductible.