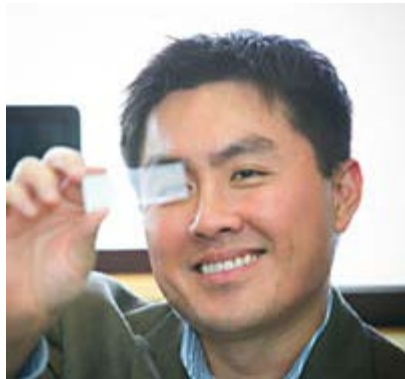


UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center NEWSLETTER



UCLA researchers' discovery marks milestone in understanding treatment-resistant melanoma

Mutation-targeted therapies are turning the tide against metastatic melanoma, and new research by JCCC scientist Dr. Roger Lo is shedding important new light on how the disease evolves to become more resistant to these treatments. Findings of the three-year study, Lo said, could lead to new methods to enable early detection of drug-resistant tumor cells and improved therapies designed to suppress resistance as soon as therapy begins. [Read more >](#)

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Latest News

Is genetic testing of all women for breast cancer worth the cost?



Life threatening mutations in the BRCA-1 and BRCA-2 genes are usually found in families with a known history of breast and ovarian cancers, but the value of screening for these mutations remains doubtful due to the high cost of genetic testing. In a landmark multi-year study, JCCC member Dr. Patricia Ganz and assistant professor Dr. Elisa Long compared BRCA genetic testing to other diagnostic methods and found that it not as efficient and does not eliminate the need for yearly mammograms.

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UCLA researchers create a promising new treatment for the deadliest form of brain cancer



UCLA scientists Drs. Robert Prins and Linda Liaw have developed a potentially promising new combination therapy for glioblastoma. In the research, they used engineered adoptive T cell transfer to extract and grow immune cells outside of the body, then reprogrammed them with the gene for a T cell receptor targeting New York esophageal squamous carcinoma, or NY-ESO-1. The study found the method was about 50 percent effective at curing the disease.

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UCLA scientist develops experimental therapy to treat colon cancer and chronic inflammatory bowel disease



Utilizing a chemical inhibitor to block an RNA molecule (microRNA-214) involved in the transmission of genetic information, a team led by JCCC researcher Dr. Dimitrios Iliopoulos has discovered an experimental therapy with the ability to suppress the development of ulcerative colitis. The two-year study evaluated the drug in mice with ulcerative colitis and colon tumors and found that in both cases it was highly effective to suppress the disease.

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