

Special Points of Interest

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Contact C.A.R.E.

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What if there was a vaccine against cancer?

The good news is, there is! The HPV vaccine protects against 6 different types of cancers! This exciting discovery was FDA-approved in 2006, and to date over 19 million Americans have been vaccinated. The bad news is only 57% of girls and 35% of boys who are recommended to have the vaccine actually do.

While the reasons for this low vaccination rate varies, many parents believe the erroneous information about the safety of vaccines in general. Relating to a now discredited research study relating MMR vaccination to autism, several celebrities have been doing the American public a potential serious disservice by promoting an anti-vaccination agenda without true scientific backing.

The article in question was written in 1998 by a British doctor, Andrew Wakefield. An investigation published by the British medical journal BMJ concluded that the study's author "misrepresented or altered the medical histories of all 12 of the patients whose cases formed the basis of the 1998 study". It appears that financial gain may have been the motive. The study was retracted and Wakefield lost his license in 2010, but the myth lives on in the minds of many.

Here are the facts about HPV and the vaccine:

What is HPV?

- HPV stands for Human Papilloma Virus. HPV is associated with cervical, vulvar, and vaginal cancer in females, penile cancer in males, and anal cancer and throat/oral cavity cancer in both females and males.
- HPV also causes cervical pre-cancers, genital warts and most cases of recurrent respiratory papillomatosis, a serious disease in which tumors grow in the air passages leading from the nose and mouth into the lungs.

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What is HPV? *(Continued from page 1)*

- HPV is so common that almost everyone will be infected with HPV at some point in their lives; however most people will never know they have been infected. Roughly 79 million Americans are currently infected.
- HPV exposure can occur with any type of intimate sexual contact.
- In the U.S., HPV causes about 17,000 cancers in women and about 9,000 cancers in men each year.
- HPV-related oral cancers have increased 250% over the past 20-30 years.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) strongly recommends routine HPV vaccination when children are 11 and 12 years old. The vaccination series can be started as early as 9 years. Vaccination is also recommended for ages 13 through 26 years who have not been vaccinated previously. The vaccine is administered in a 3-dose schedule. The second dose is administered at least 1 to 2 months after the first dose, and the third dose at least 6 months after the first dose. Interestingly, some protection occurs in those who do not complete all 3 injections.

Low HPV vaccination rates are leaving another generation of boys and girls vulnerable to devastating HPV cancers and other diseases. Vaccination could prevent most of these cancers. August is National Immunization Awareness Month, and 21st Century C.A.R.E. encourages parents to vaccinate their children against HPV as part of their child's routine vaccination schedule. We also strongly encourage doctors to discuss the vaccine with their patients.

Questions about the HPV Vaccine

- **Is the vaccine safe?** Yes. More than 57 million doses of the vaccine have been given in the U.S. and there were no documented serious safety issues. As with any vaccine, the patient may experience pain in the arm where the shot was given, fainting, dizziness, nausea, and fever.
- **Does giving the vaccine make it more likely that my child will have sex?** No. Research has shown that getting the HPV vaccine does not make children more likely to be sexually active or start having sex at a younger age.
- **My child is not sexually active so won't be exposed to HPV for a long time. Why should I give him the vaccine now?** We want to vaccinate people well before they are exposed to the virus, as with other vaccines. This allows them to build immunity for when they are exposed to the HPV virus.
- **Is the vaccine effective?** Yes. In clinical trials of boys and girls, the vaccine was shown to be extremely effective. In addition, in countries that have introduced the vaccine there is a significant reduction in HPV infections.

Financial Assistance Program

Our ever popular financial assistance program has been growing by leaps and bounds! Starting in 2007 by providing financial assistance to 2 patients, we have now helped our 5,790th patient.

From gasoline cards to groceries, babysitting, medical supplies, travel expenses, and other similar needs, our goal is to help cancer patients with incidental expenses relating to their cancer care. That way, they can focus on what is important: fighting their disease and getting healthy.

Thanks to our generous donors, more than \$450,000 has now been spent on our financial assistance program. As we continue to provide help to those with cancer, we applaud and thank everyone who has raised funds for this program.

(Continued on page 3)

Financial Assistance Program *(Continued from page 2)*

FAQs About the Financial Assistance Program

Who is eligible for financial assistance?

- Patients must have a diagnosis of cancer within the past 6 months, have completed cancer treatment within the past 6 months, or be in need of cancer screening.
- Patients must reside in one of the following states: AL, AZ, CA, FL, IN, KY, MA, MD, MI, NC, NJ, NV, NY, RI, SC, WA & WV.
- Patients must be referred from a physician who must attest to the fact that he or she has cancer or needs to be screened for cancer, and is in need of assistance.
- Patients may be referred from any doctor familiar with his or her cancer diagnosis or need for screening. The doctor may be from any physician practice in the United States.
- A patient may undergo any kind of treatment including radiation therapy, chemotherapy, surgery, immunotherapy, etc.
- Must be working, disabled, a student, or retired.
- Must be a legal resident of the United States and have a social security number.

What type of assistance is provided?

- Transportation to and from treatment or follow-up doctor visits related to cancer care
- Childcare during treatment
- Education and support meetings
- Cosmetic aide and hygiene products
- Respite care services
- Temporary housing due to geographical distance from the treatment center or for homeless patients
- Food during treatment
- Medical supplies and equipment
- Cancer screenings
- Travel to specialty centers, if indicated
- Other supplies or services related to cancer treatment are evaluated on a case-by-case basis

What type of assistance is not provided?

We do not pay cash to patients for any reason. We do not pay utility bills, rent or mortgage payments, co-pays, treatment costs, prescription medications, or other similar needs.

Special Programs

We do have some programs for which special funds are raised and the requirements may be different than the general financial assistance program. An example of this is our Head & Neck program for patients in Southwest Florida. A special 5K run raises funds just for this program which pays for dental procedures for Head & Neck cancer patients, co-pays, and some treatment costs. Another example is our Scope for Hope program, also located in Southwest Florida, which provides free screening colonoscopies and attendant biopsies and follow up care for patients in need. For more information about these special programs, please contact our office.

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Financial Assistance Program *(Continued from page 3)*

How does a patient apply?

The patient or caregiver downloads the current application from the C.A.R.E. web site, or requests it from the C.A.R.E. office. Once completed, the patient's physician must sign the form. It is then sent by fax, mail, or e-mail to our office with all the required documentation (wage statements, social security card copy, disability information, tax return, as applicable).

What is the turnaround time?

Once an application is received, it is processed and the patient is telephoned within 2 days so we can ask him or her exactly what his or her needs are. For example, if they are requesting gasoline cards, we call to find out what gas stations are nearby so we can send the appropriate cards. The application then goes to the Financial Assistance Committee, which reviews each application individually and recommends approval (or rarely, disapproval) within 2 days. Once approved, the assistance is provided to the patient as soon as possible. In the case of gasoline or grocery cards, because of high demand, these are mailed out twice a month, on the 11th and 25th.

To assist us with a timely process, please be sure that the application is fully completed, both the applicant and physician have signed it, and all documentation is present. Otherwise, delays will occur as we will return the application to the patient for completion.

Casa Grande Support Center



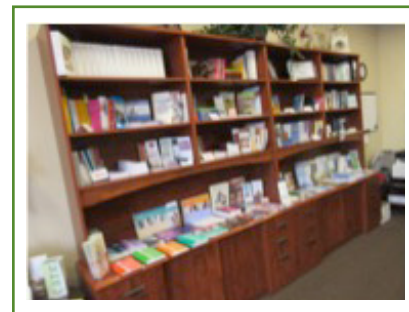
The Casa Grande Arizona Cancer Support Center (CSC) is a wonderful resource for cancer patients, cancer survivors and their caregivers which 21st Century C.A.R.E. is proud to support.

Open to anyone, the CSC provides educational information for various types of cancers, nutrition classes, support groups for patients and caregivers, survivor events and much more, including "free hugs". Its weekly Yoga Nidra, Yoga Gold and Tai Chi classes are relaxing and soothing and a must to energize the soul. In addition, supplies specifically targeted for cancer patients are available, such as wigs and mastectomy items.

For those wishing to quit smoking, an innovative 8-week "Freedom from Smoking" program is facilitated by certified instructors and supported by the American Lung Association.

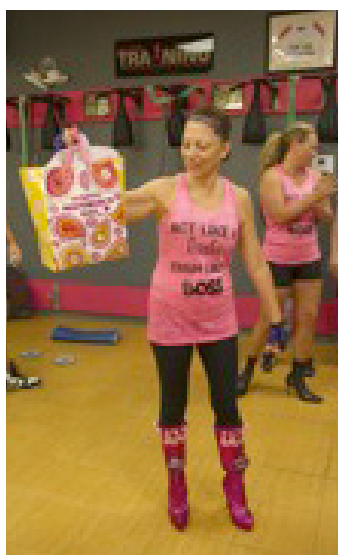
A very special program supported through the CSC is Loving Hands Loving Meals. Patients at the Cancer Treatment Services receive made-to-order meals or soups on the day they are receiving chemo or radiation therapy to eat while taking their treatment or to take home for dinner. For a special sweet treat while taking this journey, patients are offered homemade cookies, brownies or muffins to eat during their treatment each day.

The CSC is supported by donations from the community, including donations from the residents at Palm Creek Golf & RV Resort of more than \$15,000, the John Hemmings Foundation, Russell's 5K Run and many more.



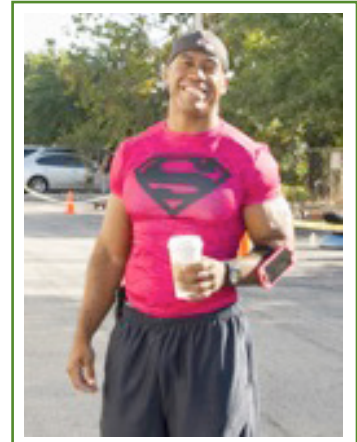
Kembly Mourelo, Center Director, says "this is a much needed resource for our community and we have many patients who take advantage of our services. Everyone is invited to come in and look around to see what we have to offer them." Its doors are open Monday through Friday from 9am until 1pm.

1st Annual Mother's Day Charity Bootcamp



Check out the boot contest winner!!!
Now those are boots made for walking all over cancer!!!

What a GREAT reason for a BOOTCAMP!!! On May 9, 85 mothers, daughters, sisters & friends worked out for a great cause! Thanks to Linda Vernon, Event Director, and Key & Charlene of Key 2 Life Training in Bradenton, FL, we raised \$2,900 for C.A.R.E. at our FIRST Annual Mother's Day Charity Bootcamp! Also in on the fun was our very own Dr. Dwight Fitch, Radiation Oncologist at 21st Century Oncology in Bradenton doing what he does best - cheering us on and making all the moms smile by handing out pink carnations after the workout. A boot contest and chance drawing rounded out the event. The winners of our wonderful donated prizes still look great after a grueling workout! We are all already looking forward to next year!!



Thanks Dr. Fitch for your support!

New Fundraising Cookbook

Thank you to all who contributed recipes or purchased the first edition of our fundraising cookbook! Due to the overwhelming success of the first cookbook, we are preparing our 2nd taste-tempting cookbook featuring favorite recipes from patients, staff, physicians, civic leaders and people in the local communities.

This cookbook will have all new recipes, new illustrations, new guides, and recipe pocket envelopes so you can store your own recipes, just to name a few new features. The sections will include Budget Meals, Kid Approved, Vegetarian Affair, You've Got Company, Sweet Tooth, Special Events, Kosher Recipes and more. The cookbook will be typeset in an easy-to-read format and professionally printed, and will have a hardback cover and be spiral bound.

Proceeds from cookbook sales will help provide financial assistance to cancer patients in need. Your help in contributing recipes will ensure that our cookbook will be success. We are asking you to submit 3 or 4 of your favorite recipes so you can be represented in this edition. Recipes can be submitted on-line at www.21stcenturycare.org.

We anticipate publication will be in Spring 2016 and if history serves to be correct, there will be a large demand for our cookbooks. If you would like to pre-order now you may do so on-line. You can reserve one or more copies for yourself and your family to be assured of receiving them. No payment is required at this time. You will be invoiced before shipment. We look forward to receiving your recipes!

Come Cruise with C.A.R.E. !

Are you planning a cruise for your next vacation? Come and cruise with C.A.R.E.! We are offering a 7-night Western Caribbean "Scope for Hope" fundraising cruise in April 2016, and for every cabin sold C.A.R.E. will receive \$100! Funds raised will be used for our colorectal cancer programs.

The MSC Divina is a beautiful ship with all the amenities. It was completed in 2012, and was built with luxury and elegance in mind inspired by Sophia Loren. It has two amazing Swarovski crystal staircases at the grand entrance to welcome you aboard, an aqua park with 150 fountains, a waterpark with waterslide, a F1 simulator, 4D cinema and video arcade for the kids, a disco for the teens, 8 restaurants, and outstanding entertainment with a 1,600 seat theater. Besides all that, we will have special events on board just for our group, including a Captain's cocktail party.

Sailing from Miami on April 2, 2016, there will be stops at Falmouth in Jamaica, Georgetown in the Cayman Islands, Cozumel, and Nassau. Throw your cares away and relax with us, knowing that while you contemplate the blue-green waters of the Caribbean you are also helping people in need undergo screening colonoscopies that may save their lives. We hope you will join us!



On Your Mark... Get Set... START YOUR BEDS!



The 2nd Annual Racing for Cancer Causes Bed Race was held on May 2, 2015 at Cape Harbor Marina and Resort in Cape Coral, Florida. Wait...a bed race? Event Director Marie Springsteen thought of this idea as a unique and fun way to raise money to support cancer research, patient assistance, education, screenings and awareness for all cancers. "Sharon and Ann thought I was crazy when I first suggested holding a bed race, but they agreed anyway and we are now planning our 3rd annual event for 2016!" says Marie, cancer survivor and self-described "Princess of Craziiness".

21st Century C.A.R.E. teamed up with Marie's 4 Words Foundation to host the event. Each team has five racers; one rider and four who push the bed. Teams were encouraged to dress up in the color of the cancer that has affected them the most, or in purple to support all cancers. Beds have to be at least three feet wide by five feet long, have four wheels and could not have any non-human propulsion. Creativity then kicked in, with teams decorating their beds such as a fire truck and superhero vehicle with matching costumes.

The course ran 200 feet, starting with a straightaway for the first hundred feet followed by a sharp curve around a traffic circle to the finish line. Awards were given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place race winners, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, best bed/team costume, and an award to the top fundraising team. Vendors, including the pink fire truck from Pink Heals, were also on site to support the event. A chance drawing added to the fun. Because of the unique nature of the event, it drew quite an interest from the media, including the local newspaper and coverage on several local TV stations.

With a new location, the 3rd annual event promises to be bigger than ever! The event is being held at Six Bends Harley-Davidson in Fort Myers on Saturday, May 7, 2016. For those who live in the Fort Myers area, it's not too early to get a team together, design a bed and help raise funds while having fun! All funds remain local to support cancer patients.



Fall Foliage Cancer Conference

It's time to make your reservations
for the 27th Annual Fall Foliage
Cancer Conference!

October 23 & 24, 2015

Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC



"Update on Lung Cancer"

Lung Cancer Prehabilitation

Andrea B. McKee, MD

EBUS for Staging and Restaging
In the Era Of Molecular Testing & Strategies
For Malignant Effusions

Michael A. Nead, MD, PHD

Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer:
A New Modality and a New Paradigm

Neal E. Ready, MD, PHD

The Pulmonary Nodule:
Advanced Endoscopic Diagnostics and
Emerging Endoscopic Therapeutics

Jennifer S. Mattingley, MD

SBRT for Lung Cancer

Brian D. Kavanagh, MD, MPH, FASTRO

Lung Cancer Screening Update

Mark R. Bowling, MD, FCCP

Update in Targeted Therapies
for Lung Cancer Patients

Edward S. Kim, MD

Smoking and Lung Cancer:
Clinical, Biologic, and Behavioral
Considerations

Graham W. Warren, MD, PHD

Lung Cancer: Surgical Management
of Early Stage Disease

Betty C. Tong, MD, MHS

**Please visit www.cceinc.org
for the conference web site.**

Fishing Tournament a Great Success!



The 6th Annual “Cast Away Cancer” fishing tournament was held on June 20 at Nanticoke Harbor, Maryland. Hosted by Chris Remo (21st Century Oncology Regional Administrator-Maryland), Jen Bunting (21st Century Oncology Physician Liaison-Delmarva), and dedicated volunteers Fred Morton, Anita Mulchay, Jeanette Jones, Jill McGuire, Ed McGuire, and Nicholas McGuire. The day started out hot as the fishermen (and women) boarded their boats and headed out into Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries to catch and claim a winning fish.

With cash prizes awarded for the biggest Rock, Catfish, Hardhead, Trout, and Perch, the anglers were eager to get out early! As the teams arrived back at the harbor they were treated to a fisherman’s dinner, which was generously donated and prepared by the staff from Longhorn Steakhouse in Salisbury, Maryland. Door prizes, tournament t-shirts, and a silent auction rounded out the event. A bake sale was hosted during the tournament for community members to purchase homemade baked goods donated by our staff and other friends of our fundraiser.



Once again, Delmarva’s local TV station WBOC-TV provided coverage of the tournament for their “Outdoors Delmarva” program which aired Saturday, July 11. The tournament raised \$2,630 for cancer patients in our community! The Big Fish Winners were David Jones Sr. (Rockfish), Sharon Malone (Perch), Brooks Bailey (Trout), and Robbie Noble (Hardhead and Catfish). As always, funds raised will be returned to the area in the form of patient financial assistance and other programs to benefit cancer patients in Maryland. We will be looking forward to next year’s tournament!

Who’s Who at 21st Century C.A.R.E.



Solomon Agin, D.D.
President & Chairman of the Board



Howard Sheridan, M.D.
Vice-President



Eduardo Fernandez, M.D., Ph.D.
Secretary & Treasurer, Medical Director



Leonardo Garcia
Board Member



Frank Mann
Board Member



Sharon Salenius, M.P.H.
Executive Director



Ann Francis
Operations Manager



Marilyn Skeens
Foundation Assistant

Calendar of Events

Comedy Night

August 12, 2015

McCurdy's Comedy Theatre, Bradenton, FL

Christmas Cuties for C.A.R.E. Porcelain Doll Auction

September 1 – December 1, 2015

On-line silent auction

Annual Omega Family Health Forum

September 12, 2015

Dunbar High School, Fort Myers, FL

This One's for the Boys & Girls 5K Run & Walk

September 19, 2015

UNLV Track & Field Stadium, Las Vegas, NV

Prostate Cancer Screening

September 19, 2015

Specialists in Urology, Naples and Marco Island, FL

Inaugural Road to Good Health Health Fair

September 26, 2015

St. Teresa Comprehensive Cancer Center,
Stockton, CA

27th Annual Fall Foliage Cancer Conference

October 22 & 23, 2015

Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC

2nd Annual Scope for Hope Country Western Hoe Down

Saturday November 7, 2015

Lexington Country Club, Fort Myers, FL

2nd Annual Scope for Hope Fashion & Trunk Show Luncheon

November 18, 2015

Colonial Country Club, Fort Myers, FL

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

December 12, 2015

Applebee's Restaurant, North Fort Myers, FL

Facial Hair for Cancer Causes 5K Run

January 9, 2016

Tara Woods, North Fort Myers, FL

Ken Doka lecture series

January 13-16, 2016

Sarasota and Fort Myers, FL

6th Annual Cruisin' for C.A.R.E. Car Show

March 6, 2016

21st Century Oncology Headquarters, Fort Myers, FL

6th Annual Scope for Hope 5K Run and 2-Mile Walk

March (date TBD), 2016

Hammond Stadium, Fort Myers, FL

Scottsdale Cancer Conference

March (date TBD), 2016

Marriott Camelback Inn, Scottsdale, AZ

Scope for Hope Fundraiser Cruise

April 2, 2016

Caribbean Cruise, departing from Miami, FL

4th Annual Head/Neck Cancer, A Hard Thing to Swallow 5K Run and 2-Mile Walk

April 30, 2016

Hammond Stadium, Fort Myers, FL

3rd Annual Racing for Cancer Causes Bed Race

May 7, 2016

Six Bends Harley Davidson, Fort Myers, FL