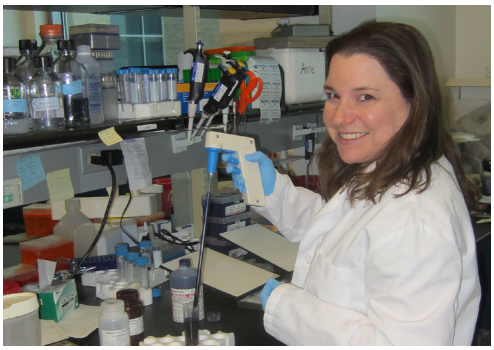
Cancer Program **Family Update**

Monday, March 4 - Sunday, March 17

Cincinnati Children's
Cancer & Blood Diseases Institute

Dr. Lisa Privette Vinnedge's Research on the Genetics of Improving Cancer Treatments



Thousands of cyclists participated in the annual Marlene Harris Ride Cincinnati event to raise money for cancer researchers like CBDI's Lisa Privette Vinnedge, PhD.

The grant awarded to Dr. Privette Vinnedge will be used to study the gene "DEK" which is associated with resistance to several types of cancer treatment drugs.

DEK's normal function is to repair DNA damage and promote cell proliferation. However, cancer cells often have too much DEK, which causes tumors to grow faster and become resistant to treatment.

The goal of Dr. Privette Vinnedge's research is to discover new ways to return DEK to its normal levels. A normally functioning DEK gene, it is believed, will improve a patient's response to chemotherapy and help prevent relapse.

To learn more about the cancer program, cancer research at Cincinnati Children's, or to make a contribution, please contact John Perentesis, MD, Director of the Division of Oncology, at (513) 636-8241 or cancer@cchmc.org

Medical Professional of the Year – Wanda Meriwether Honored by the Make a Wish Foundation

Wanda Meriwether, a social worker in the Cancer and Blood Diseases Institute, was recently honored by the Make a Wish Foundation of Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana as their Medical Professional of the Year.

According to Kim Pettingill of the Make a Wish Foundation, Wanda was chosen for several reasons.

"Wanda is always willing to help in any situation," Pettingill said. "She really takes our mission into her arms." The mission of the Make a Wish Foundation is to "grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy."

Thanks to Wanda's advocacy, more than seventy-five CBDI patients in the past year alone had, or will have, their wishes granted.

Wanda just celebrated her ten-year anniversary at Cincinnati Children's. Congratulations, Wanda, on this well-deserved award. Thank you for all you do.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Champions FORE Cincinnati Children's March 23, 8:30 AM - 7:30 PM, at the Shaker Run Golf Club in Lebanon, Ohio. Lunch, snacks and a hot dinner are provided. To sign up as a player, a volunteer, or to make a donation, contact Megan Boesing at (513) 636-1084 or megan.boesing@cchmc.org.

Events and activities on A5

Sunday, March 3	Dessert and Coffee All CBDI parents and caregivers welcome 3-5 pm in Parent Lounge near Elevators on A5	Contact: Your Social Worker
Wednesday, March 6	Lunch with Dr. Perentesis All CBDI parents and caregivers welcome 12:00 - 1:00 pm in A5 South Parent Lounge	Contact: Your Social Worker
Friday, March 8	Munch and Mingle All CBDI parents and caregivers welcome 12:00-1:30 pm in Parent Lounge near Elevators on A5	Contact: Your Social Worker
Thursday, March 14	Flashes of Hope Photography For all CBDI families by appointment only 5:00-8:00 pm in A6 Conference Room 290	Contact: Your Social Worker
Friday, March 15	Mom's Lunch All CBDI moms welcome 11:30 - 1:00 pm in Parent Lounge near Elevators on A5	Contact: Your Social Worker
	Let's Chat For BMT caregivers & parents 2:00 - 3:00 pm in the BMT Parents Lounge	Contact: Your Social Worker
Sunday, March 17	St. Patrick's Day Lunch provided by Max's Meals All CBDI parents and caregivers welcome 11:30-1:00 pm in A6 Conference Room 290	Contact: Your Social Worker

Child Life Activities

As a precaution during flu season, the activity center will have limited hours. Parents can get movies or activities for their children from 10:30 - 11:30 AM and 3:00 - 4:00 PM daily. Specialists can also bring activities to patients at any time. Contact your child life specialist for more information.

Attending Physicians

Monday, March 4 to Sunday, March 11

Michael Absalon, MD
Leuk/Lymph/Vascular
Attending Physician

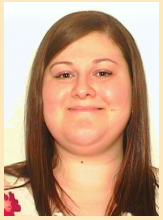
Rajaram Nagarajan, MD
Solid Tumor/Neuro-Onc
Attending Physician

Monday, March 12 to Sunday, March 17

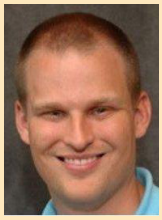
Maureen O'Brien, MD
Leuk/Lymph/Vascular
Attending Physician

Carrye Cost, MD
Solid Tumor/Neuro-Onc
Attending Physician

Clinical Hematology/Oncology Fellows



Nihal Bakeer, MD
Fellow



Andrew Bukowinski, MD
Fellow

Satheesh Chonat, MD
Fellow

Samantha Michaels, MD
Fellow

Ahmad Rayes, MD
Fellow

International Scholar

Hui (Eric) Li, MD
Shanghai Children's Hospital
Shanghai, China

Complimentary Breakfast for all families available weekdays 8:00 - 9:00 AM in the Parent Lounge, A5S. Please help yourself. Provided by the Katie Linz Foundation.

DAILY ROUNDS

8:15 - 9:00 AM **Chemotherapy Rounds** for scheduled chemotherapy admissions

9:00 - 11:00 AM **Acute Rounds** for new and ill patients