

March 2016

### [CancerCare Announces Findings of Lung Cancer Roundtable](#)

“This past October, CancerCare held a roundtable discussion titled “Improving the Quality of Life for Lung Cancer Patients” at its national headquarters in New York City. Celebrated lung cancer advocates and key opinion leaders in lung cancer treatment held a dialogue and gave presentations reviewing the significance of patient-reported outcomes related to patients with lung cancer in regards to: cancer-related weight changes; dietary recommendations; the role of exercise in rehabilitative medicine; and the use of social media in mounting a call to action in support of these causes.”

### [Local clinical trials help lead to new cancer drug](#)

“If you ever have the pleasure of meeting Paul Bean, you know truer words were never spoken. The jovial 81 year old from Fort Myers is an avid golfer with a charming demeanor that gives no indication he’s fighting stage four lung cancer.”

### [Increased Symptoms in Cancer Patients With Limited Finances](#)

“Cancer patients with limited finances are more likely to have increased symptoms and poorer quality of life, say the authors of a new study [published online](#) February 29 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.”

### [Significant Discovery Made in Immunotherapy Research](#)

“A team of scientists from University College London (UCL) have made a discovery that highlights the potential for personalized cancer treatments.”

### [Lung Cancer Foundation of America Partners to Fill in Funding Gap for Critical Research](#)

“Lung Cancer Foundation of America (LCFA) and International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) have joined forces to fund \$400,000 in lung cancer research grants to support two young investigators.”

### [High Glycemic Index May Raise Lung Cancer Risk Especially in Never Smokers](#)

“Glycemic index (GI) assigns foods an indexed value to show how quickly and how much carbohydrates in the food cause blood glucose levels to rise after eating and is a measure of overall carbohydrate quality. Glycemic load (GL) is a related measure that is calculated by multiplying Glycemic index by the amount of carbohydrates in grams in that specific food and by the amount consumed, then dividing by 100. Previous studies have investigated the association of GI and GL with certain types of cancer, including colorectal, stomach, and pancreatic cancer, but there has been limited research into the association with lung cancer.”

### [Scientists have discovered cancer's 'Achilles heel' State of the State KS](#)

“Study's lead researcher Charles Swanton from the Francis Crick Institute in London said that during the study they noticed that the patients have already launched immune reactions against their cancers.”

### ['Groundbreaking' cancer discovery holds promise for personalized therapy](#)

“We could be one step closer to personalized cancer vaccines; in what has been hailed a “groundbreaking” discovery, researchers suggest it could be possible to encourage the immune system to target and destroy cancer cells by identifying specific antigens on their surface.

### [Shut out for decades, veterans slowly gaining access to innovative cancer treatments](#)

“Veterans have less access to cutting-edge cancer treatments today than at any point in recent history, but a new initiative aims to change that.”

### [Are current lung cancer screening recommendations excluding some high-risk individuals?](#)

“Current smokers not meeting current criteria for lung cancer screening have over 45 times the risk of developing lung cancer of never-smokers. As a group, their risk of lung cancer is nearly as high as those who do meet screening criteria.”

### [America's \\$3 billion cancer drug problem](#)

“American consumers are familiar with the phenomenon of package-shrink, when food manufacturers pack less coffee or sugar into a container but charge the same price. What happens when that strategy is flipped on its head by a life-saving but costly industry?”

### [Caring Ambassadors: Empowering Patients to Control Their Illnesses](#)

“Empowerment. This is what patients seek before, during and after their diagnoses. As such, the Oregon City-based, nonprofit, Caring Ambassadors', mission is to help improve the lives of those affected by challenging health conditions through advocacy, information and support.”

### [FDA Approves Crizotinib for the Treatment of ROS1-positive NSCLC](#)

“The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved crizotinib (Xalkori), for the treatment of ROS1-positive tumors in patients with metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).<sup>1</sup> It is the only drug approved for patients with the ROS1 gene alteration, which occurs in approximately 1% of patients with NSCLC.<sup>2</sup>”

### [How Gut Bacteria Are Shaking Up Cancer Research](#)

“Top scientists at Roche Holding AG and AstraZeneca Plc are sizing up potential allies in the fight against cancer: the trillions of bacteria that live in the human body.”

### [Study Identifies Possible Marker for Lung Cancer Chemotherapy](#)

“The activity level of a particular gene in lung tumors might identify lung-cancer patients who will likely be helped by a particular chemotherapy regimen given to prevent recurrence after surgery. The finding comes from a study led by researchers at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center -- Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC -- James).”

### [Combination of Immune Checkpoint Blockers Shows Promise in Lung Cancer](#)

“Combination therapy with durvalumab and tremelimumab demonstrated antitumor activity in 23% of 102 patients with lung cancer in a phase 1b trial, and toxicity was manageable, according to a recent study.<sup>1</sup>”

### [NSCLC: Atezolizumab Improves Survival Compared With Docetaxel](#)

“Atezolizumab significantly improved overall survival compared with docetaxel and was well tolerated in patients with previously treated non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), a study published in the journal *The Lancet Oncology* has shown.<sup>1</sup>”

### [Scientists Discover Trick Used by Lung Cancer Cells to Hide, Charting a Course for Possible Treatment Strategies](#)

“In a new study, researchers at Rice University in Houston and the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center demonstrated for the first time that some aggressive lung cancer cells associated with difficult-to-treat diseases have lost immunoproteasome expression, which translates into significantly reduced antigen presentation and results in immune system evasion.”

### [Researchers find highly active gene in aggressive human lung cancer](#)

“Scientists believe that "conserved" genes—those found in life forms that range from bacteria to plants, insects and humans—perform vital biological functions across species. And limited research on one of those genes, Nitrilase 1 (Nit1), suggested it acts to inhibit cancer development.”

### [Protein increases signals that protect cancer cells, study finds](#)

“Researchers have identified a link between the expression of a cancer-related gene and cell-surface molecules that protect tumors from the immune system.”

### [U.S. Cancer Death Rate Continues to Fall](#)

“Overall rates of cancer and deaths from cancer in the United States continue to decline, a newly released report says.”

### [Gene may worsen cancer outcome by speeding metabolism of drugs](#)

“Some patients with breast cancer, lung cancer and leukemia seem to fare poorly after treatment because of the effects of a particular gene, a new study finds.

The gene, called CYP3A7, is normally only active in infancy, but in some people it continues to be switched on into adulthood, and over-activates their metabolism.”

### [Dietary Glycemic Index Associated With Increased Lung Cancer Risk](#)

“Consuming a diet with a high glycemic index, a marker of carbohydrate intake, was independently associated with an increased risk for developing lung cancer in non-Hispanic white persons, a study published in the journal *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention* has shown.<sup>1,2</sup>”

### [Fish Oil help in nonsmall lung cancer](#)

“A study published in *Cancer* suggests taking fish oil supplements helps patients with advanced nonsmall lung cancer”

### [A Brief History of the Drug That "Cured" Jimmy Carter's Cancer](#)

“Former president Jimmy Carter announced Sunday that he's stopping treatment for his brain cancer at the ripe age of 91. Inspiring as his story is, it's hard not to wonder: how'd he do it? Turns out Carter was being treated with Keytruda, a new and highly promising immunotherapy drug that was approved not long after Carter was diagnosed.”

### [Global Lung Cancer Coalition Fighting Disease on an International Level](#)

“For 15 years, and throughout 34 countries, the Global Lung Cancer Coalition (GLCC) has been effectively raising awareness for the disease through its wide network information, learning materials, and organizations.”

### [Lung cancer facts](#)

“The mission of the American Lung Association is simple – “A world free of lung disease.” Lung cancer is the No. 1 killer of American women, noted Shirley Cudabac, development director of the American Lung Association in Tennessee. She said the Lung Association is trying to make people more aware of lung disease. “More women are dying of lung disease because of second-hand smoke,” she said.”

### [Value of PD-L1 testing in NSCLC debated](#)

“Two viewpoint articles published in *JAMA Oncology* provide opposing opinions on the benefit of testing for programmed death-ligand 1 (PD-L1) expression in patients with non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) treated with checkpoint inhibitors.”

### [Importance of Molecular Testing in Lung Cancer](#)

“Treating Adenocarcinoma of the Lung.” Much progress has been made over the last decade in defining molecular subgroups of patients with adenocarcinoma of the lung. Many more studies are currently underway to further our understanding of how to use targeted therapies to personalize our treatment approach in these patients. In addition to targeted therapies, we also have several monoclonal antibodies at our disposal, including the recent addition of immune checkpoint inhibitors.”

### [Transgenomic Launches First Commercially Available Assay for Ultra Low Level Detection of EGFR C797S Mutations That Predict Resistance to Third Generation Kinase Therapies for Lung Cancer](#)

“Transgenomic, Inc. (NASDAQ: TBIO) today announced the launch of its *EGFR C797S* Mutation Detection Assay based on the company's ICE COLD-PCR™ (ICP) technology. This new test detects the presence of the *EGFR C797S* mutation that is associated with resistance to new third-generation tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) therapies in

development for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), one of the most common and deadly cancers in the US.”

#### [Roswell will submit its application to the FDA for lung cancer vaccine soon](#)

“Roswell Park Cancer Institute is getting closer to becoming the first cancer center in the U.S. to offer a clinical trial for a lung cancer vaccine.”

#### [Johns Hopkins scientists develop antibody to curb lung tumor cell growth, breast cancer metastasis](#)

“Johns Hopkins scientists report they have developed an antibody against a specific cellular gateway that suppresses lung tumor cell growth and breast cancer metastasis in transplanted tumor experiments in mice, according to a new study published in the February issue of *Nature Communications*.”

#### [Immunotherapy Drug Performs Better Than Chemotherapy in Lung Cancer](#)

“In global clinical trials, patients with advanced metastatic lung cancer who were treated with a targeted immunotherapy drug lived significantly longer and with fewer side effects than those who received standard second-line chemotherapy, according to a new Kaiser Permanente study published today in the journal *The Lancet*.”

#### [Necitumumab With Gemcitabine, Cisplatin Well-tolerated in NSCLC](#)

“Adding necitumumab to gemcitabine-cisplatin was well-tolerated and did not negatively affect health-related quality of life or toxicity in patients with stage 4 squamous non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), according to a study published in the *Journal of Thoracic Oncology*.”

#### [New Lung Cancer Therapy May Target Previously Untreatable Tumors](#)

“Although some lung cancer patients have benefited from developments in precision therapy, those with mutations in a gene called KRAS have not. Now MSK researchers are developing uses for a compound that targets a common KRAS mutation in lung cancer.”

#### [Therapy dogs help cancer patients heal](#)

“Going through cancer treatment is tough, but a Midstate facility is using pet therapy to make the process a little easier. Every day at the Sechler Family Cancer Center in Lebanon, dozens of cancer patients receive chemotherapy. Sandra Roeting is being treated for lung cancer.”

#### [Are You at Increased Risk for Lung Cancer?](#)

“Are you exposed to factors that elevate your risk?”

#### [Nit1 Gene May Contribute to Lung Cancer Development, Study Suggests](#)

“Recent research suggested that a “conserved” gene called Nitrilase 1 (Nit1) might contribute to lung cancer development. The findings were published in the journal *Oncotarget* under the title “Nitrilase 1 modulates lung tumor progression in vitro and in

vivo.” The study is the first to characterize Nit1’s contribution to the growth and progression of non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC).”

### Cancer treatment using nanotechnology tested with 'astounding' results

“A new cancer treatment that uses nanotechnology has shown “astounding” results in mice. “

### Researchers prepare to test Cuban lung cancer vaccine

“When the borders between the United States and Cuba opened, so did the door to collaboration, and now American researchers are optimistic about beginning clinical trials on a Cuban lung cancer vaccine.”

### Cancer-fighting strategy employs a potent tool: one’s own body

“After suffering from a cough for months, Michelle Lapp learned she has lung cancer. Chemotherapy and radiation made the cancer go away for a year. But it came back in 2014, giving the 56-year-old non-smoker from Sauk City an estimated 18 months to live. Two more rounds of chemo did little to stop it.”

### UW cancer doctors targeting cancer at the molecular level

“In a conference room overlooking Lake Mendota, pictures of tumors and lists of gene names flash on a screen. Doctors discuss treatments, not based on where in the body a patient’s cancer started but on genetic mutations in their tumors.”

### Negative Lung CT Could Lengthen Follow-Up For High-Risk Individuals

“People at high risk for lung cancer with a clean annual low-dose CT scan had a lower incidence of lung cancer and a lower risk of dying from lung cancer compared with all high-risk participants undergoing screening, according to the results of a study published in Lancet Oncology.”

### Technological Breakthrough for Early Detection of Lung Cancer

“Valley Regional Medical Center announces the use of a new electromagnetic bronchoscopy navigation system that supports physicians in the early detection of lung cancer. The minimally invasive alternative to surgery can benefit patients with small to detect and hard to reach lesions that traditional bronchoscopy technology could not effectively identify or reach. This system aids physicians in the early detection of lung cancer, which is the key to saving patients’ lives.”

### TB and lung cancer vital: No excuse for misdiagnosis!

“Early and accurate diagnosis is a public health imperative for both diseases of epidemic proportions in Asia Pacific: tuberculosis (TB) and lung cancer. But since TB of the lungs (pulmonary TB) imitates lung cancer in many aspects including risk factors, symptoms, signs and radiographic findings, often misdiagnosis has a serious public health consequence!”

### Researchers discover 'Holy Grail' of cancer treatment

**“Researchers are developing nanotech "smart packages" to target and destroy cancer cells more efficiently and reduce side effects. The smart packages, delivered with chemotherapy drugs, contain folate molecules that seek out and bind to cancer cells, which have lower pH levels than healthy cells.”**

### **[Scientists are developing an ultrasensitive 'Biosniffer' to detect diseases on your breath](#)**

**“For many diseases, early detection is the key to survival. But detecting the presence of a disease or infection before the symptoms present themselves can be really difficult, because where would a doctor even start? To address this problem, researchers in Korea are developing an ultrasensitive and highly selective gas sensor that can diagnose various diseases by analysing your breath.”**

### **[Lung Cancer Survivor Says Yoga Gave Her Back Her Breath-And Life](#)**

**“On any given evening, you can find two-time cancer survivor Janet McCarthy at Chakra Power Yoga—because this is where she learned to breathe again.”**

### **[Build Lung Cancer Screening Programs That Grow, Evolve](#)**

**“ Washington, DC — Radiologists can get “the right stuff” to build effective multidisciplinary teams and to advance the quality and effectiveness of lung cancer screening programs at ACR 2016 — The Crossroads of Radiology®.”**

### **[Antibody developed at Johns Hopkins slows growth of lung, breast cancer tumors](#)**

**“Johns Hopkins scientists have developed an antibody that suppresses the cell growth of lung tumors and breast cancer metastasis in experiments in mice, according to a new study published in the February issue of *Nature Communications*.”**

### **[Lung Cancer Alliance Campaigns to End the Stigma](#)**

**“The stigma surrounding lung cancer is very real and it has necessitated strong campaigning by the Lung Cancer Alliance to change people’s minds.”**

### **[Researchers find a genetic new target for most common lung cancer](#)**

**“Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) makes up around 8 in 10 cases of lung cancer but the outlook is bleak for many patients, who are often diagnosed at a late stage. For some there is the promise of targeted 'smart' drugs, but scientists have so far struggled to identify which targets to hit in the majority of patients.”**

### **[Health Experts: Joe Biden's Cancer 'Moonshot' Initiative Overlooks Prevention](#)**

**“Public health experts are taking issue with Vice President Joe Biden's "moonshot" initiative to speed up the cancer fight, saying the disease-fighting focus ought to be on prevention.”**

### **[What Causes Cancer? Three Main Culprits](#)**

**“WHY ME? WHY DID I GET CANCER? This is the most common question asked upon diagnosis — we naturally seek an explanation for big events in life.”**