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**Quick News & Links:**

- [Journal of Proceedings of the 2016 MCC Annual Meeting](#)
- [MCC Calendar of Events](#)

**2017 MCC Annual Meeting Highlights**

The MCC Annual Meeting took place November 8, 2017, and featured keynote speaker, Marcella Wilson, PhD, who spoke about [“A standard of care to treat social determinants of health”](#).



Marcella Wilson, PhD  
CEO & Founder of Transition to Success

Learn more about the event by viewing the links below:

- [MCC Inspiration Award Winner-Jessica Cash](#)
- [MCC Champion Award Winner- Connie Szaeapanek](#)
- [2017 MCC Annual Meeting Breakout Sessions](#)

**Save the Date! The 2018 MCC Annual Meeting will be held on November 7 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing!**



## Cancer Drug Starts Clinical Trials in Human Brain-Cancer Patients

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, November 2017*

A drug that spurs cancer cells to self-destruct has been cleared for use in a clinical trial of patients with anaplastic astrocytoma, a rare malignant brain tumor, and glioblastoma multiforme, an aggressive late-stage cancer of the brain. This phase Ib trial will determine if the experimental drug PAC-1 can be used safely in combination with a standard brain-cancer chemotherapy drug, temozolomide.

The trial is approved for patients who have seen their cancer progress after first-line therapy. This is an extension of an ongoing human phase I clinical trial of PAC-1 alone in patients with various late-stage cancers. Phase I trials are designed to test the safety of new drugs in human patients.

PAC-1 is unusual in that it is able to cross the blood-brain barrier, a formidable obstacle to most anti-cancer drugs. The drug targets procaspase-3, an enzyme that is overexpressed in many cancer cells, said University of Illinois chemistry professor Paul Hergenrother, who discovered PAC-1's anti-cancer effects more than a decade ago. After tests in human cell lines and rodents proved promising, Hergenrother and veterinary oncologist Dr. Timothy Fan, a professor of veterinary clinical medicine at Illinois, tested PAC-1 in pet dogs with a variety of naturally occurring cancers.

To view the full article follow this link: [Cancer Drug Starts Clinical Trials in Human Brain-Cancer Patients](#)

## An Important Moment in Tobacco Control

*Robert Croyle, Ph.D. and Michele Bloch, M.D., Ph.D., National Cancer Institute, November 2017*

Sunday, November 26, 2017, marked a unique moment in the history of public health in the United States. On this day, in major newspapers (online and print), the three major US tobacco companies issued the first in what will be a series of five "corrective statements" about their products..

Over the next year, the same statements will also run as TV spots during prime-time viewing hours.

Stemming from a 17-year legal battle, these court-ordered statements—which cover five different topic areas—will explain in plain language the reality of the harms inflicted by tobacco products and address many common misconceptions about cigarettes.

The corrective statements are the result of a federal racketeering lawsuit brought against the tobacco companies in 1999 by the Department of Justice (DOJ). The companies were initially ordered to publish corrective statements in 2006, but they have been delayed for more than a decade by legal appeals.

With the appeals finally resolved for the time being, the statements have now begun to appear. And it's safe to say that, as one of the largest supporters of research on the harm of tobacco products as well as on ways to prevent and control tobacco use, NCI made important contributions to this case.

The court-ordered corrective statements are just one component of a judgment entered against the tobacco companies—Altria; its subsidiary Philip Morris USA; R.J. Reynolds Tobacco; and Lorillard, whose brands are now sold by R.J. Reynolds and by ITG Brands.

To view the full article, follow this link: [An Important Moment in Tobacco Control](#)



## MCC Survivor Resource Documents are Now Available

*Audra Putt, Survivorship Workgroup Staff Liaison, December 2017*

The Michigan Cancer Consortium's Survivorship Workgroup has developed five patient resource documents to accompany the survivorship care plan that survivors receive following treatment for cancer. These documents provide helpful information and resources on healthy behaviors that can improve quality of life during survivorship. The topics of these resource documents include **physical activity, nutrition, fatigue, tobacco cessation, and healthy lifestyle choices**. After being focus tested by a group of survivors, they are available for download on the [MCC Cancer Survivorship: Provider Resources Page](#) and [Cancer Survivorship: Patient Resources Page](#).

## Alarming Rise in Cancer Rates Driven by Diabetes, Obesity

*Maria Cohut, Medical News Today, November 2017*

Researchers at several institutions worldwide — including Imperial College London in the United Kingdom and the International Agency for Research on Cancer of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Lyon, France — have recently established that cancers related to metabolic diseases, especially diabetes and obesity, have an increasingly high incidence.

According to the team's data, 5.6 percent of all cancer cases throughout the world in 2012 were linked to pre-existing diabetes and a high body mass index (BMI), which is defined as over 25 kilograms per square meter. Of this total, 3.9 percent of cases were attributable to diabetes — almost twice as many cases as were related to a high BMI.

Lead study author Dr. Jonathan Pearson-Stuttard and colleagues also worked out the estimates for the probable incidence of cancers related to diabetes and other metabolic disease in the next few years, and their prognosis is not encouraging.

The researchers' study findings were published in The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology journal.

### Diabetes, high BMI increasingly dangerous

According to reports published last year in The Lancet, around 422 million adults worldwide live with diabetes, and 2.01 billion adults are overweight or obese.

These numbers are particularly concerning, since diabetes and obesity are established risk factors for many different types of cancer, such as colorectal and pancreatic cancer, as well as cancer of the liver and gallbladder, breast cancer, and endometrial cancer.

The more prevalent these metabolic conditions, the more concerned specialists become that the risk of cancers related to them may also increase.

To view the full article follow this link: [Alarming Rise in Cancer Rates Driven by Diabetes, Obesity](#)

## American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) Update

*Andrew Schepers, Michigan Government Relations, December 2017*

ACS CAN has been working with key stakeholders on the national model language for oral chemotherapy fairness. For the past several weeks, a coalition team of ACS CAN, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the Michigan Society of Hematology and Oncology, and others have been working to educate these stakeholders on this issue. Look for more information in the coming weeks about this topic. If you have any questions or are interested in this issue please don't hesitate to reach out to Andrew Schepers ([andrew.schepers@cancer.org](mailto:andrew.schepers@cancer.org)) or Matt Phelan ([matt.phelan@cancer.org](mailto:matt.phelan@cancer.org)).



## WEBINAR: Radon Awareness for Healthcare Providers and their Patients Webinar

There are ways to prevent certain types of cancer. Being aware of cancer risk factors allows patients to make informed decisions about their health and take action to prevent the disease. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer deaths in the United States, however its rarely discussed in clinical settings. Join the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Cancer Control and Prevention Section and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for a presentation on recommendations around radon testing, and ways to encourage the dialogue about radon exposure between patients and physicians.

**Tuesday, January 16, 2018      2:00 PM – 3:00 PM EST**

[Register Here](#)



### 2018 MCC Meetings

**Board Meetings (12 pm- 3 pm):**

Wed, March 28

Wed, June 27

Wed, September 26

**Annual Meeting (Lansing):**

Wednesday, November 7

*For more information: 877-588-6224*

### MCC Website

Be sure to visit the [MCC website](#) to find provider and patient resources

### Health Equity Corner

#### **New HHS Widget Provides Health Disparity Data**

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion and the HHS Office of Minority Health are pleased to announce the release of a new health disparities data widget. The widget provides an easy way to find health disparities data related to the Healthy People 2020 objectives for the Leading Health Indicators (LHIs). LHIs are critical health issues that when addressed will help reduce the leading causes of death and preventable illnesses.

For more information about how to add the widget to your website, visit

[Health Disparities Widget](#).