Melanoma Walk

The Skin Cancer Institute (SCI) is hosting our 7th annual Melanoma Walk on Saturday, November 5th. Join us for a truly inspiring afternoon. Build a team, walk with a friend, or just come out to show your support. We hope to see you there!

NOVEMBER 5, 2016
EVENT OPENS AT 3:00 PM • WALK STARTS AT 4:30 PM
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA MALL
WWW.FIGHTMELANOMATODAY.ORG

Take steps to fight melanoma by walking in our family- and pet-friendly walk!

FREE for Children 6 and Under • $15 Ages 6-12 years • $30 Adults
$100 Become a "Skin Cancer Prevention Friend" and receive ONE FREE registration
• Free skin cancer screenings
• (By appointment only from 1-4 pm. See website for scheduling information)
• Fundraising prizes and giveaways
• Silent auction
• Fun activities for the kids
• Great Food

RESEARCH NEWS:

The Prevention of Skin Cancer Program Project Grant was submitted on Sept 20th by SCI Doctors Clara Curiel, Dave Alberts, and a team of scientists from the UA, as well as collaborators from the Hormel Institute, UCSF, and George Mason University. The overall goal of this 5-year Project is to use novel technologies to develop targeted chemoprevention strategies to reduce squamous cell carcinomas (SCC) of the skin. Reducing the incidence of these dangerous skin cancers will help ease the nation’s healthcare burden by decreasing the number of surgical/medical procedures associated with SCC, while also decreasing overall SCC incidence. The proposed grant includes research on promising skin cancer prevention drugs. This is an exciting time for skin cancer research and prevention!

On June 11th, we joined the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum (ASDM) as part of the "Cool Summer Nights" program. Visitors learned how to be more sun safe and live in harmony with the desert sun. Our sun safe mascot "Ray" welcomed visitors, and we had informational tables on sunscreen and skin cancer, fun kids activities, and skin analyzer machines that show sun damage under the skin’s surface. As usual, the event was a success! This was our 11th year partnering with the ASDM, and we hope to have many more years.
Dr. Andrew Kurtzman has joined the clinical teams at Banner-UA Medical Center. He was recruited from Brigham and Women’s Hospital/Harvard Medical School, where he completed a fellowship in Dermatology and Rheumatology. Prior to that he was attending physician and staff dermatologist at the VA Boston Healthcare System and earlier, chief resident and resident in dermatology here at the UA Division of Dermatology. Dr. Kurtzman earned both his medical degree, and his bachelor’s degree in molecular and cellular biology from the UA. He has collaborated with UA principal investigators in topics such as skin cancer, metastatic melanoma and gastrointestinal stromal tumors. Dr. Kurtzman is specializing in autoimmune skin disorders like psoriasis.

A native of China, Dr. Vivian Shi comes to the UA from the University of California-Davis, where she was chief resident and a resident in the Dermatology Residency Program at UC Davis Medical Center. Before that, she completed an internship in internal medicine at University of Chicago/NorthShore University Health Systems. She earned her medical degree from the University of Chicago, where she also completed a Medical Student Research Fellowship with the American Dermatological Association. Dr. Shi has taken part in numerous community service activities, including travels to Nepal and Shanghai to provide care to earthquake victims. Dr. Shi is specializing in eczema and atopic dermatitis.

We welcome both to our team! For an appointment call: 520-694-CURE (2873)

New Projects

The Marshall Foundation granted the SCI $5,000 to record a sun safe puppet show as an extension of project SASS (Students Are Sun Safe). The video will relay sun safe information in terms that children ages 3 to 6 can understand, and be used in classrooms to educate youth on how to protect themselves from the dangers of sun exposure.

Dr. Lois Loescher won a $50,000 grant from the Arizona Area Health Education Centers (AZAHEC) for her proposal: ‘Students Training Students in Healthy Lifestyles: Project SASS as a Model to promote Sun Safety in rural Arizona Communities’. The project aims to study the feasibility and efficacy of training high school students to become peer educators for a youth-oriented skin cancer prevention program in their local communities. This is an extension of the ongoing Project SASS (Students are Sun Safe) education program that is a for-credit class where UA students are trained to present to local schools.