The Skin Cancer Institute (SCI) is hosting our 2nd Annual Skin cancer Prevention Friends (SPF) luncheon on Monday, May 9th. This is an opportunity to learn more about The SCI and skin cancer prevention.

### Special Event

**Skin Cancer Prevention Friends’ Spring Luncheon**

**Monday, May 9, 2016 • 12-2 P.M.**

Hacienda Del Sol Guest Ranch and Resort
5301 N Hacienda Del Sol Road • Casa Feliz Room

**Guest Speaker**

Sancy Leachman, MD, PhD
Professor & Chair, Department of Dermatology • Director, Melanoma & Skin Cancer Program
Knight Cancer Institute • Oregon Health & Science University

**Menu Options**

- Topo Baked Salmon • Grilled Vegetable Lasagna • Chicken Pesto Melt Sandwich

- $35 for SPF Memebers • $45 for Non-Members

RSVP with your menu selection by May 2 to igale@uacc.arizona.edu or 520-626-1074

*If you are not already a member, you can join with a $100 donation (50% will be considered tax deductible) and your lunch will be included*

*Make checks payable to UACC/SCI and mail to The Skin Cancer Institute, 1505 N. Campbell Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85716*

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**May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month!**

Throughout the month of May, people are doing their part to raise awareness about skin cancer. The key to avoiding skin cancer is prevention (avoiding too much sun, covering up, using sunscreen). Early detection is the next best step. When skin cancer is caught early, it is usually very treatable.

**Dates to remember:**

- **Melanoma Monday, May 2:** Start the month off by raising awareness about this deadly disease. Melanoma is an aggressive form of skin cancer that when left untreated can spread rapidly to other areas of the body.

- **Don’t Fry Day, May 27:** Overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun and tanning beds causes skin cancer. The National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention has designated the Friday before Memorial Day as “Don’t Fry Day” to encourage sun safety awareness, and to remind everyone to protect their skin while enjoying the outdoors.

Join the SCI in celebrating the month of May by protecting and checking your skin!

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**CLINIC NEWS:** We're happy to announce Jason DuPont, MD, and Duane Whitaker, MD have joined the University of Arizona Cancer Center team as Mohs surgeons on the North Campus.

Micrographic (Mohs) surgeons are specialists in dermatology, surgery, and pathology. With their extensive knowledge of the skin, and special skin pathology skills, they are able to carefully remove mainly diseased tissue, while preserving healthy tissue. Mohs surgery makes it possible to remove all cancerous tissue on the skin while leaving healthy tissue intact. This minimizes the cosmetic impact of skin cancer removal.

A warm welcome to our new team members! For an appointment, call: 520-694-CURE (2873).
Georg T. Wondrak, PhD, is an associate professor of pharmacology and toxicology at the College of Pharmacy and the University of Arizona Cancer Center, and serves as the president elect for the American Society for Photobiology (ASP). He is also a member of our SCI Executive group.

Much of Dr. Wondrak's research examines the role of oxidative stress in skin damage caused by ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun. His laboratory focuses on identifying and developing small molecules in hopes of discovering agents with photoprotective and skin cancer prevention properties.

He recently co-authored a study in *Free Radical Biology and Medicine* on the photo-protective properties of bixin, a compound found in annatto, which is derived from the seeds of the achiote fruit. Annatto has been used as a dietary pigment and spice by human populations of the Americas since pre-Columbian times. In the study, one group of mice was treated with bixin and another group was not treated. Both groups were then exposed to UVR. The mice in the bixin treatment group had significantly less UVR skin damage and sunburn after exposure.

Much of skin cancer prevention currently relies on external strategies to protect skin from UVR. Dr. Wondrak’s findings may offer a prevention strategy that involves protecting skin cells from the inside out! Bixin has the potential to arm cells from ever getting the initial cell damage that leads to skin cancer.

We know that healthy eating leads to a healthier body on the inside. In the future, people may be able to eat their way to healthier skin.

Reference: System Administration of the Apocarotenoid Bixin Protects Skin against Solar UV-Induced Damage through Activation of Nrf2

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**Melanoma Walk 2016**

We don’t have the date yet, but we’ll keep you posted!

**Featuring:**

- 1.5 mile walk to benefit skin cancer research, prevention and outreach
- Educational booths
- Free skin cancer screenings (by appointment only)
- Kids educational activities
- Lots of food and fun!